

**REDRESS**

Red dresses were hung from trees around the Bowl and in the windows of the Agriculture, Arts, Education and Geology Buildings Sept. 17 as part of The REDress Project by artist Jaime Black. The installation, on campus until Oct. 5, is an aesthetic response to the reported cases of missing and murdered Indigenous women across Canada.



KRIS FOSTER

# Lord of the rings

## Discovering the stories trees have to tell

KRIS FOSTER

Trees can be good storytellers; their rings report history that can help predict the future, and forests are filled with chapters of information on the environments in which they grew.

Colin Laroque, a dendrochronologist at the U of S, spends his time discovering all the stories trees have to tell.

“If you’ve ever sat around a campfire and looked at the rings of a piece of fire wood, or counted rings on a near-by stump and said ‘this tree was this old,’ then you’ve scratched the surface of what dendrochronology is all about,” said Laroque, a professor in the College of Agriculture and Bioresources and the School of Environment and Sustainability. “We look at individual tree rings and they each tell us a story about the environment that the trees grew in.”

Using a hand-held auger

about the length of a forearm and slightly smaller in diameter than a dime, Laroque and his team of students have collected tree samples from coast to coast. With a library of samples numbering in the thousands, Laroque searches for answers

about history, climate change and different types of industrial development.

Holding a radial piece of pine, Laroque points out the varying widths of the rings. “Basically, we look at how wide the rings are. The wider

the ring means the better the growing environment was that year, narrower means a poorer growing environment.”

Each tree species, he continued, is like a unique individual with specific likes and dislikes: some prefer lots of water others less, some like heat, some not so much.

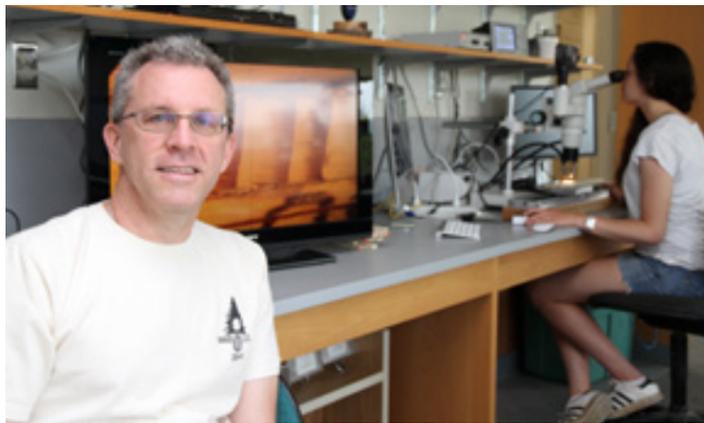
“Trees let us go back in time because their stories are locked into their ring patterns. So I can ask 100 trees about something that happened 50 years ago in their environment, and if I get the same answer from each tree, I can be pretty sure about what the conditions were like. The trees can help tell us about past temperatures, flooding events, insect cycles, etc.”

On the same cross section of pine, he pointed to the lighter coloured rings toward the outside and darker rings

closer to the middle of the disc. “The lighter rings are newest, where the sap is still flowing and nutrients are still being transported in these rings. In the darker rings in the heart of the tree, the sap has stopped flowing; these rings are now mainly used for support for the tree.”

The sapwood system also transports chemicals that are introduced into a tree’s growing environment through industrial development. This means by pinpointing the existence and concentration of chemicals within the rings, Laroque can determine the extent of degradation specific industrial activities have had on the environment. And because these chemicals are not transported beyond the lighter rings, he can accurately connect chemical levels with

See *Laroque’s*, Page 2



Colin Laroque, professor in the College of Agriculture and Bioresources, and the School of Environment and Sustainability.

KRIS FOSTER

# Laroque's expertise sought about all things wood

From Page 1

peaks and dips in industrial production cycles over recent history.

"We are doing some big stuff in Northern Saskatchewan and have discovered that the oil sands production in Alberta is depressing forest activity downwind in Saskatchewan. It's like a slow cancer growing in Saskatchewan. It is correlated to production levels; the more the industry produces, the more the forest accumulates, and the sicker our forests get."

Laroque and his team collected tree samples in Saskatchewan and continued for another 400 km as they travelled down the Clearwater and Athabasca Rivers. "We asked permission of the Clearwater River Dene Nation to start on their traditional lands to examine the damage. Trees, berries, moose, fish are all important parts of their environment and are being affected," he explained. "We thought we might be able to detect some affect, but not as deep into Saskatchewan as what we found."

Laroque's findings were recently submitted for publi-

“ Oil sands production in Alberta is depressing forest activity downwind in Saskatchewan. It's like a slow cancer growing in Saskatchewan.

Colin Laroque

cation in the *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*.

With colleagues in the College of Agriculture and Bioresources, Laroque is also working to determine the economic benefit of the Shelterbelt Program, which until cut by the federal government in 2013, subsidized planting trees and shrubs on farmland to prevent erosion.

"We are looking at how shelterbelts grew in the past, how they will grow in the future, and the benefits including carbon sequestration, warmth in winter, wind protection and water control. Many farms are currently ripping out their shelterbelts, but we want to show the economic benefits of shelterbelts."

Laroque's expertise of all things wood is frequently sought out for a variety of projects. "We deal with a lot of artifacts and

date items for archaeologists and historians."

He was involved in dating the Moffatt Stick, a hockey stick that, after four years of investigation, was determined to be the world's oldest. "The Moffatt Stick is from 1838. Previous to that, the oldest was the Rutherford Stick made in 1852 and reportedly sold for over \$2 million U.S."

PBS also called upon Laroque for its television program *History Detectives*. The case was to determine the origin of a piece of ship railing and "it turned out to be from the Titanic."

All of this work falls under something Laroque calls history mysteries.

"Trees can help us figure out what happened in the past, so we can try to avoid some of the same mistakes and plan better for the future." ■



A rendering of Preston Crossing with new construction shown in salmon colour.

SUBMITTED

## Preston Crossing building continues

University of Saskatchewan officials have signed a long-term lease agreement with Ronmor Developers Inc. that paves the way for construction of a new phase of Preston Crossing.

Judy Yungwirth, director of Corporate Administration at the U of S, said the nine-acre parcel west of Old Navy and bordered by Preston Avenue that is covered by the lease will virtually complete Preston Crossing, a large retail development on university land.

"Ronmor Developers Inc. is a new partner for us at Preston Crossing," said Yungwirth, "(but) we know they bring the kind of expertise that people have come to expect with our retail developments."

The first retail outlets at Preston Crossing opened their doors just over 10 years ago. Since then, Preston Crossing has grown to include stores of various sizes along with food outlets that occupy about 690,000 square feet of space on 57 acres. Yungwirth said income from the development provides \$1.79 million annually in student scholarships, with \$12 million to date awarded to undergraduate and graduate students.

Site preparation is already underway and construction is expected to begin in the spring of 2015 with a completion date set for spring of 2016. No announcement has been made about the store brands that will occupy the new space. ■

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VIDO-INTERVAC COMMUNITY LIAISON COMMITTEE

### VIDO-InterVac Community Liaison Public Meeting

Tuesday, October 14, 2014  
7:00 PM

McNally Robinson Bookstore  
REFRESHMENTS TO FOLLOW

You are invited to a public meeting sponsored by the VIDO-InterVac Community Liaison Committee. InterVac is a bio-containment Level 3 (CL3) facility where scientists study certain diseases and develop and test vaccines. The term CL3 describes the type of safety measures and equipment needed within the facility to ensure the safety of workers and the community.

The Community Liaison Committee, chaired by Susan Lamb, is a diverse group of citizens including experts in emergency measures as well as citizens at large. The CLC is an independent committee established by the University of Saskatchewan to ensure communication on safety issues related to InterVac is open and transparent. The CLC continuously seeks information on activities of community concern, as well as monitors issues related to safety and any incidents of potential public interest. This is especially timely as operations have recently begun.

Dr. Andrew Potter, CEO and Director of VIDO-InterVac, and some of his senior staff will make a presentation with questions and refreshments to follow.

*In Memoriam*

Wilfred T. Finn, July 5

Augustine C. Varewyck, Facilities, July 6

Irene L. Partridge, Dean of Medicine's office, July 31

### CN Publishing Schedule

No.	Issue Date	Deadline Date
4	Oct. 10, 2014	Oct. 2, 2014
5	Oct. 24, 2014	Oct. 16, 2014
6	Nov. 7, 2014	Oct. 30, 2014
7	Nov. 21, 2014	Nov. 13, 2014
8	Dec. 5, 2014	Nov. 27, 2014

# The best experience possible

## Project identifies opportunities for improvement

COLLEEN MACPHERSON

For Jeff Dumba, customer experience is paramount.

“We always want to ensure students have the best academic experience possible and part of that is to focus on their customer experience on campus,” said the associate vice-president of financial services and controller. “I think we can do a better job of marketing our brand to our customers” and creating a better customer experience.

Dumba is heading up an initiative that is studying all forms of university sales—merchandise, food, parking, residences—and looking for opportunities to both improve service and increase revenues. There are 90 merchants on

campus, he said, all using different systems and processes to sell their products. “That’s a really expensive model because it’s so complex,” he said. “Is there a better way?”

The steering committee, which includes Quintin Zook, head of Consumer Services, and Monisha Shukla from Information and Communications Technology, has done an in depth study of three “merchants” as pilots, he said—the Edwards School of Business executive education program, store operations for books and computers, and student registration and admissions. The findings point to significant opportunities “if we come at this from a customer or stake-

holder experience perspective.”

In the case of Edwards, which generates about \$1.5 million annually from executive education, Dumba said online registration has technical and administrative issues that result “in a protracted process when students try to register. There’s a big opportunity for Edwards to really streamline the process, but we have to make sure what we design and build is great for our customers.” The result, he predicted, could be as much as a three-fold increase in the Edwards program revenue and an opportunity to refocus on generating more business rather than administration.

Better still, amalgamating current processes for



Dumba

“The focus must be on making it easy for students as well as staff and faculty, and their experience has to be a priority.”

Jeff Dumba

all colleges and schools that offer continuing education onto similar platforms could increase gross revenue by as much as \$20 million a year. “But that’s just one piece,” said Dumba.

Campus merchandise and book sales also need an overhaul. One example Dumba gave is that “students should be able to select their books as they register for classes. And if they’re in residence, the day they arrive those books should be sitting on their bed with a big green bow on them.” He added that Consumer Services started a pilot project this fall to provide book pick-up options for students.

Improving book and computer sales could generate an additional \$3-5 million a year. “Then we can take the same experience design and roll it out to food and parking and every other service we provide on campus.”

Turning to the student registration and admissions process, Dumba said information disconnect between the systems means there are 18 different steps students have to

navigate “and all 18 probably require 80 per cent of the same information.” The focus must be on “making it easy for students as well as staff and faculty, and their experience has to be a priority.”

Dumba admits these are not easy situations to solve but he advocates taking a four-step approach: decide what the customer experience should be; look for technology to create that experience; establish administrative processes; and determine the human skills needed to support customers. “If you’re not coming at it in all four steps, you’ll never create the full experience. It will be a field of dreams and they’ll never come.”

The project leaders are preparing to take a business case to the Board of Governors as information in October, and will follow up with a request for financial support in early 2015. Dumba said improving the customer experience across campus will take five to seven years and several millions in technology but the resulting increases in revenue will make that investment well worthwhile. ■

## Researchers receive national honours

The accomplishments of a number of U of S researchers have earned national recognition recently, including two who were named fellows of the Royal Society of Canada (RSC), the country’s highest academic honour.

Jim Waldram, professor of psychology and medical anthropologist, and Ajay Dalai, engineering professor and Canada Research Chair in Bioenergy and Environmentally Friendly Chemical Processing, were among 90 new fellows named to the RSC in mid September. In a media release, Interim President Gordon Barnhart described them as two of the university’s “most active and passionate researchers.”

Waldram joined the University of Saskatchewan in 1983 and, over the past three decades, has become an international authority in Aboriginal mental health issues and the cultural bases of treatment and healing in various contexts. His work has included groundbreaking ethnographic studies of therapeutic programs for criminal offenders, as well as of Aboriginal health and mental health policies, both within Canada and around the world.

Dalai has been a professor at the University of Saskatchewan since 1996. His research program has earned him an international reputation as a leader in renewable energy, heavy oil and gas processing, and catalytic reaction engineering. His work has resulted in numerous patents



Waldram

and alternative fuels, including environmentally friendly diesel fuel substitutes made from organic compounds.

Three of the universities most promising young researchers were also honoured nationally, this time as part of the inaugural cohort of the RSC’s College of New Scholars, Artists and Scientists. They are historian Erika Dyck, computer scientist Regan Mandryk and political sociologist Daniel Béland. Their areas of study are the history of medicine, video games and human behaviour, and policy change, respectively.

And an additional three researchers were recently elected fellows of the Canadian Academy of Health Sciences. They are kinesologist Larry Brawley who investigates physical activity, Jo-Anne Dillon from the Department of Microbiology and Immunology who looks at sexually transmitted infections, and Dr. Ivar Mendez, unified head of surgery, who explores the use



Dalai

of remote-presence robots in health care. ■

### FROM THE ARCHIVES

## President’s pen pals

*That in everything ye are enriched by Him in all utterance, and in all knowledge.*

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Hangchow city.  
CHINA.

Harry Pan  
Jennie C. Fan



PATRICK HAYES, UNIVERSITY LIBRARY, UNIVERSITY ARCHIVES AND SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

UASC, RG 2069.

This week’s image is taken from an autograph album presented by the “overseas students” to the University of Saskatchewan’s second president J.S. Thomson in the spring of 1949. The book was recently listed on Ebay. It was purchased and donated to the university by a friend of the University Library, University

Archives and Special Collections. It contains photographs of individuals and groups as well as notes of thanks to Dr. Thomson. Students from China, Trinidad, South Africa, India, Norway, Greece, Switzerland, Czechoslovakia and New Zealand are represented in its pages. ■

## LETTER

# The meaning of dresses

*Editor's Note: This letter was written Sept. 16, before Ms. Matheson had any information about the dresses being part of The REDress Project.*

After a cold snap we are enjoying fall. A real fall, all warm and yellow and blue and breezy like a caress. And red dresses.

I saw the first one as I biked past Arts. White and red, like a dress from the Wizard of Oz, colour come out of the black and white sequences. Light on the wind, it swayed. It was hanging from the tall elms of the avenue of elms that lead to the Bowl. Then I saw another, and another.

The first was the only one with white. All the others were red, bright, deep, black, silk, linen, rayon, cotton, smooth, rough, embroidered, beaded, long, short, wide skirted, slim, open backed, high necked. All adorning hangers strung with fishing wire from the trees and swaying in the breeze. What do they mean, asked a young co-worker. What do you think they mean? She wasn't sure.

We were at an art gallery last week, which displayed and explained its display of paper glued together in blocks. Left me cold. But red dresses hanging in the daylight, every variation of women: red, texture, passion, death, bleeding, restriction, beauty, strength, silent, loud, brilliant, flexible, tethered, but moving. This has meaning. And through this meaning walked students and profs, the small colourful people from the daycare, the green velveteed University Choir. And me. ■

A.E. Matheson, University Library



# Council rescinds vision approval

COLLEEN MACPHERSON

How did this happen?

That was the question John Rigby asked Sept. 18 as he led off a discussion about the motion he brought forward June 19 asking University Council to rescind a previous motion approving *Vision 2025: From Spirit to Action*. The institutional vision document was presented to Council for approval in April by former president Ilene Busch-Vishniac after months of consultation both on and off campus.

Rigby, head of the Department of Management and Marketing in the Edwards School of Business, said his intent in bringing forward the motion to rescind was “narrow and specific”—he did not want to bind the institution, the interim president or any future president to a vision “championed by a president who, a short while later, ceased to be president.” The intent was not, he said, a judgement about whether it “was a good or useful statement.”

But the discussion had expanded to the point where some were using support of the motion to express displeasure at other events and activities, including the TransformUS program prioritization, he said. For that reason, Rigby told Council he could not support his own motion and would be voting against it. Despite the withdrawal of support from the motion's original mover, Council ultimately voted 39-27 in favour of rescinding the Vision 2025 approval motion.

A number of members spoke in favour of reversing Council's support for Vision 2025, suggesting there had not been enough consultation with Council and that it would be appropriate to start from scratch on a new vision. “If turning a page is a good idea, this is a good page to turn,” said English Professor Len Findlay.

Council Chair Dr. Jay Kalra read a petition he received calling on the university to revert to its 1993 mission statement until a new president is in place. About 380 people signed the petition.

David Parkinson, vice-dean of humanities and fine arts in the College of Arts and Science, noted controversy also swirled around the 1993 mission statement, and that a specific reference to Aboriginal engagement “was excised” before the document was narrowly approved. He suggested Council members “think carefully about



Rigby

turning away from a clear statement about Aboriginal engagement” in Vision 2025.

Council visitor David Pratt, vice-president of the Indian Teacher Education Program Student Council, urged Council members to support the motion, saying a new document was needed and it required consultation with Aboriginal students.

Jim Greer from the University Learning Centre pointed out Council originally approved Vision 2025 by a wide majority and that reversing that decision would be “an odd flip-flop for us to make at this time.”

Kathleen James-Cavan, associate professor of English, described Vision 2025 as a planning document more than a mission statement. “It's time for us to make our own mission statement for the future,” she said.

The debate concluded with comments from Lisa Kalynchuk of the Neuroscience Research

Cluster and seconder of Rigby's motion. She stressed the motion had nothing to do with TransformUS and that its spirit had been taken out of context. “I can't support an alternative interpretation of the motion,” and said she too would vote against it.

Following the meeting, Interim Provost and Vice-President Academic Ernie Barber said the university is not without a vision, referring to the 2002 *Renewing the Dream* in which the institution “made conscious decisions” to be more outward looking and research intensive. “That document has informed our last three integrated plans,” he said, noting Council approved or endorsed all plans and the *Renewing the Dream* document.

Even with Council rescinding its approval of Vision 2025, “you can't put those ideas back in the box. They're out there. The discussions happened and it's going to inform us.” Aspects of the vision document are also found elsewhere, he said, pointing to the recent announcement that advancing the university's commitments to Aboriginal engagement is a priority.

“We absolutely can honour and respect our sense of place and we absolutely can want a place of influence, respect and honour on a national scale,” he said. “The university has to keep evolving and our vision has to evolve as well.” ■



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*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*.

Editor: Colleen MacPherson

Writers: Kris Foster, Michael Robin

Designers: Brian Kachur, Pierre Wilkinson

Editorial Advisory Board: Patrick Hayes, Sharon Scott, David York, John Rigby, Sandra Ribeiro, Fiona Haynes, Steve Jimbo



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MARKETING AND COMMUNICATIONS  
501-121 RESEARCH DRIVE SASKATOON, SK S7N 1K2

Email: [communications@usask.ca](mailto:communications@usask.ca)

# Lessons learned

## Ron Cuming shares classroom wisdom

✍ SARAH TREFIK

Ron Cuming began his career as a professor at the College of Law 48 years ago, before many of us were born, but his teaching techniques are anything but old school. This spring, he was honoured with the U of S Master Teacher Award, a special recognition for faculty members who make outstanding contributions to the learning and working environments of the university.

So what exactly can we learn from this Master Teacher?

### 1. Wake up early

Cuming wakes up at 5:30 am each day ready to take on his role as professor at the College of Law. "If at all possible, I schedule my classes for 8:30 am," he said. "It helps me organize the day and then I'm free afterwards to meet with students and carry out research."

But he admits that not everyone shares his early-bird-gets-the-worm mentality. "Many students have told me they would love to take my class, but they just can't do 8:30 am."

### 2. Be the facilitator

"I respect my students as adults who have invested a great deal of time, hard work and financial resources into acquiring a legal education," he said.

It is that respect that has led Cuming to take on more of a facilitator role in the classroom. "The hard work and dedication to the task must come from them, but at the same time I do my best to create an open, non-threatening atmosphere in all my relationships with students. I tell every class at the first meeting that no question is a bad or foolish question."

### 3. Bring along your enthusiasm

You may not be able to name many people who find the nature of contemporary Canadian and international law intellectually stimulating or challenging, but if you need to know the name of someone who does, it's Ron Cuming.

"I attempt to bring my enthusiasm and fascination with law and its role in society into the classroom. My experience is that some of this enthusiasm is adopted by my students."

### 4. Technology: If you've got it, flaunt it

Cuming takes a lead role at the College of Law when it comes to using podcasts and Blackboard to enhance the learning experience for his students. "All of my course materials including cases, statutes and supplemental materials are available to my students via Blackboard." He also records all of his lectures as podcasts. "If students have been sick or away I will give them access to the podcasts and then three weeks before the final, everyone is given access to all of the recorded lectures."

### 5. Go beyond the text

Most of the areas of law addressed in Cuming's courses are statute based, but he encourages students to look beyond the strict wording of a statute to the social and economic conditions it was designed to address.

"Law in a modern, democratic society is a social science that reflects the history, culture and hopes of the society that adopts it. It cannot be under-



Ron Cuming, professor at the College of Law and master teacher.

DAVID STOBBE

stood in the absence of an appreciation of these factors, so I encourage students to think about the adequacy of the law in addressing contemporary social and economic needs of society. In this process we consider what changes are needed if these needs are not being met."

### 6. Teach what you learn

Law reform at the provincial, national and international levels

has been an important aspect of Cuming's academic career as he has had the opportunity to participate in the development and modernization of most of the areas of law he teaches. "As a result of my law reform activities, I am able to bring into the classroom information with respect to not only the factors that prompted an examination of a particular area of the law, but also the processes involved in

bringing a proposal for change to the stage of enacted law."

And Cuming's final thought on receiving the Master Teacher Award: "It's a great honour to me to be recognized for doing something I love to do. I consider myself to have one of the best jobs in the country." ■

Sarah Trefiak is communications and alumni officer in the College of Law.

## New degree stepping stone to a PhD

✍ KRIS FOSTER

A new master's degree in marketing is ready to launch at the Edwards School of Business.

With the first classes set to begin in fall 2015, applications will be accepted until the end of March 2015, explained

Barb Phillips, a professor in Edwards who helped design the curriculum of the new graduate program.

"This was created by Edwards marketing faculty as a PhD-readiness program," said Phillips, who will be one of

seven instructors involved with the program. "This is directed at intelligent and motivated individuals who already have a marketing degree, but want to explore an academic career path in marketing further."

So Phillips and her

colleagues set out to create a program that focuses on the theoretical and academic, rather than the applied, like a typical MBA.

"Students will learn about research process and design, the academic side of consumer

behavior and marketing theory, as well qualitative and quantitative methods," she said, adding that the first year is dedicated to course work, with the second year solely focused

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# The model student athlete

## Brennan Bosch's prescription for success

✍ MICHAEL P.J. KENNEDY

Throughout the 100-year existence of the College of Pharmacy and Nutrition, the demands on its students have been extensive. For student Brennan Bosch, former captain of the Huskie men's hockey team, these demands have been met with extraordinary success.

The 26-year-old Martensville native has balanced his academic obligations at the college with rigorous on-ice practices each school day afternoon and weekend games in the Canada West Universities Athletic Association, half of them on the road. Pre-season contests, league playoffs and participation at the Canadian Interuniversity Sport University Cup also demand a commitment to preparation, travel and performance, all while maintaining his scholastic responsibilities.

Successful in his admission to the college and successful during his years of study, Brennan Bosch has demonstrated well the student-athlete model as a means of developing well-rounded, academically sound graduates. Dedication, hard work, competitive spirit and leadership are qualities exemplified by Bosch at the rink and in the classroom.

Bosch's devotion to hockey began early. At the age of seven,



Brennan Bosch, Huskie hockey player and pharmacy student.

HUSKIE ATHLETICS

he was a standout performer who, at 16, was drafted by the Medicine Hat Tigers of the Western Hockey League (WHL). He and his teammates were WHL champions who went on to achieve runner-up status at the Memorial Cup in 2007. In his second year playing at the

major junior level, he was named winner of the George Parsons Trophy for Sportsmanship at the Memorial Cup. In 2008-09, he received the team leadership award, community service award and players' choice award. Brennan Bosch used his skill, work ethic and tenacity to be

successful on the ice.

After a successful junior career, Bosch explored opportunities to play at an elite level while developing as a student to prepare for a professional career. University of Saskatchewan head hockey coach Dave Adolph, who has coached a Canada West record 700 regular season games, was impressed with the Medicine Hat recruit from the outset. "When I met Brennan Bosch as a 20 year old, he knew what he wanted to do. He wanted to go to a school that had a good pharmacy program and he knew the difficulty of getting into pharmacy, yet he never backed off. He was determined."

Bosch acknowledges that when he first began university "it was a big transition." However, one of the benefits he gained from his four years of WHL experience was that he "learned how to face challenges" and he also drew upon his "competitive spirit" which directed him continually to "try to do well." As a first-year student-athlete, he "saw what one has to do to be successful" both on and off the ice. "It was tough at the start," he admits, "but once I saw that I could do it, it felt good."

Now in his final year of pharmacy, he can look back with pride at his academic achievements. Indeed, he has earned CIS Academic All-Canadian status three times as well as a place on University of Saskatchewan's All-Academic First Team. He is also a two-time winner of the Dennis and Sharon Johnson Family Pharmacy and Nutrition

Scholarship in recognition of his contributions to the Huskie team and in recognition of his accomplishments as a student.

Bosch was named captain of the Green and White hockey team in part because he was an effective player. During his five years with the Dogs, two of which he was captain, he accumulated 50 goals, 61 assists, and 111 points in 131 regular season Canada West games. His contributions to the team extend far beyond the numbers to include attitude, work ethic and leadership. Coach Adolph says: "He leads by example." Veteran Huskie Andrew Bailey, who first met Bosch in summer hockey at the age of 12 or 13, has played on a Huskies line with him for several years: "I always knew what we were going to get from him as far as work ethic and skill. He is probably one of the most competitive guys I have ever met. He works hard to do the best he can and it is clear in his academics and on the ice."

Defenceman Chad Suer was impressed with Bosch from the outset: "He was small, had speed, and skill. Size didn't matter. He's a guy who will do everything out there for the team." Derek Hulak who recently signed a contract with the Texas Stars, played with Bosch for four years: "He's such a clutch player. If there's ever a guy you need to score a goal in a tight game, he's the guy."

Brennan Bosch recognizes the link between his hockey and his preparation for his pharmacy career: "I think you can learn so many things that can help you moving forward. In our profession, so much is changing to work collaboratively with other health-care professionals. Just being on a team and learning the different things you have to go through in a season, facing a lot of adversity can help you." As in pharmacy, "... in the game of hockey, you are faced with a lot of tough decisions, requiring you to critically evaluate what is going on around you."

He has combined hockey at an elite level with his demanding academic work in the College of Pharmacy and Nutrition most effectively. As he moves closer to convocation, it appears that he will continue to build on his skills and attitudes to be successful as a pharmacist, demonstrating how the combination of athletics and academics can be a prescription for success. ■

Michael P.J. Kennedy teaches in the Department of English and is working on his next book, *Scholars on Ice: A History of Canadian University Men's Hockey*.



### To the Wall: The Last Stand for Academic Freedom

Wednesday, October 1, 2014

3:00 – 5:30 p.m.

Room 241 Arts Building, Neatby-Timlin Theatre

#### 3:00 p.m. "The Contested Terrain of Academic Freedom"

Dr. James Turk (former Executive Director of CAUT) and Distinguished Visiting Professor, Ryerson University

#### 4:00 p.m. Panel Discussion: "Academic Freedom in an Age of Conflict"

Dr. Robin Vose, President of Canadian Association of University Teachers (CAUT)

Dr. Carolyn Sale, University of Alberta

Dr. Toni Samek, University of Alberta

Izabela Vlahu, U of S, President, Graduate Students' Association

Dr. Howard Woodhouse, U of S, Department of Educational Foundations

All Sessions are Free and Open to the Public

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## BIRTHDAY BASH

It was pizza, pop and cupcakes for everyone Sept. 16 when the Edwards School of Business marked the start of its centennial year with an outdoor celebration in the fall sun. A number of other events are planned for the year to mark the school's 100th birthday including a gathering of alumni scheduled for June. ■



LARRY KWOK

# Medication Assessment Centre offers second set of eyes on drug regimes

LESLEY PORTER

The advantage of having a second set of eyes isn't just for proofreading—it now applies to your prescriptions.

The College of Pharmacy and Nutrition has officially launched its Medication Assessment Centre to provide patients with a professional and comprehensive look at their drug regimens while affording students the opportunity to gain valuable clinical experience.

The centre started in 2010 as a pilot project. The hypothesis, said Derek Jorgenson, director and faculty member, seemed simple enough: would patients come to a clinic like this and would doctors refer their patients to a consultation centre?

The centre was offered free space at the Saskatoon Co-op grocery store on Eighth Street, which was ideal for connecting with patients in the community, said Jorgenson. However, it was not a permanent solution.

"We wanted to be closer to our students," he said. "The whole point of this is to involve students."

Over the course of the 18-month pilot, more than 20 family physicians participated, referring about 50 patients in total. On average, five medication changes were recommended per patient, and feedback was overwhelmingly positive. That success prompted the creation of a full-time service, now offered through, and located in, the college. The official launch was Sept. 16.

Typically, patients are referred to the centre by their family doctor, community pharmacist or nurse practitioner, but self-referrals are becoming more popular, said Jorgenson. While certain patient groups—those on multiple medications or those with complex conditions that require regular medication—may benefit most from the service, it is available to anyone.

"We open it up to anyone who feels they might benefit from sitting down with a pharmacist to discuss their medications," said centre co-ordinator Eric Landry.

Landry meets with each

patient. Their medical and prescription histories are reviewed and he answers any questions the patient may have about their medication.

After the consult, Landry follows up with the patient's primary prescriber and sends them a copy of the assessment and potential recommendations. This information is also sent to the patient's community pharmacist, so they are aware of any possible changes to come. It is vital to keep the communication channels open, said Landry, because it is hard to make recommendations without knowing the patient's history.

"I think that (the doctors) appreciate any insight we can offer and help them to manage the medications for their patients," he said.

Of course, having the centre located in the college provides a unique experience for hands-on student participation. Since February, two students have participated in supervised patient consultations and Jorgenson anticipates that



Derek Jorgenson, left, director of the Medication Assessment Centre, and Eric Landry, centre co-ordinator.

LESLEY PORTER

number to increase.

Pharmacy students have said they would like more time in a supervised clinical environment early in their program, he said. Ideally, this would involve a first- or second-year student working alongside a senior student who is leading the patient consultation.

"That was the big goal behind creating a clinic like this where we could have

real patients coming into the college for consultations with our faculty and staff, and then having the students involved," said Jorgenson. "We're expecting this to be very popular with students because they're asking for this sort of opportunity." ■

Lesley Porter is communications co-ordinator in the Office of Health Sciences Deans.

## Restructuring in non-credit programs underway

By May of next year, students enrolled in non-credit professional development and community education programs at the University of Saskatchewan will be taking class through the college that offers related degree-credit programming.

Patti McDougall, vice-provost of teaching and learning, said work has started on moving non-credit programs into colleges as part of organizational changes announced in the spring for the Centre for Continuing and Distance Education (CCDE).

"The university has been examining for some time whether there are other models of delivering non-credit programming that might fit well for our campus at this time in our history other than a central structure like CCDE or

the Extension Division before that," said McDougall. "Tremendous value exists in positioning non-credit programming and staff more closely with the work of colleges where degree-credit programming is housed and where research activity thrives."

The U of S has a long history of offering professional development and community education to the people of the province, she continued, a commitment that has distinguished it in the

See *Focus*, Page 9

# Focus on program delivery, student experience priorities

From Page 8

area of continuing education. “The university views itself as part of the local community and recognizes that universities matter to local and professional communities.”

Non-credit offerings will continue uninterrupted as work proceeds on transitioning various programs. In fact, the first move is complete with the Business and Leadership Program now housed in the Edwards School of Business. Another move will see seniors programming relocated to the College of Arts and Science. McDougall said the transition is being made in consultation with the organization Saskatoon Seniors for Continued Learning. McDougall said that over the coming year, she will work

with the Colleges of Education, Engineering, Agriculture and Bioresources, and others “to identify novel ways of offering non-credit programming from within a college environment.

“With close alignment to the academic mission of a college and thoughtful attention to financial sustainability, our non-credit programs will be offered in a highly effective and efficient manner providing expanded opportunities for those audiences for whom these programs are so important.”

The university is developing mechanisms to ensure the continued quality of the current non-credit programs, she said. This includes providing services like registration support to colleges running non-credit programs as well as ensuring a web presence so that community

members have a central way of finding out what non-credit activity is available.

McDougall added the two remaining units of CCDE—the U of S Language Centre and the Distance Education, Off-Campus and Certificate Program—will remain in her portfolio.

Other changes are underway in Educational Media Access and Productions (eMAP). As of Sept. 1, the equipment services unit moved into Information and Communication Technology (ICT) Client Services while the new media unit is now part of ICT Web Applications. Both groups moved intact, she said, while a third eMAP unit—Media Production—will continue to report to her office.

“In the case of new media, the move brings together staff charged with meeting the online needs of the campus. As the university looks to enhance its web presence, bringing together the two web services groups makes good sense. And combining equipment services with computer technologies in ICT will make future integration and support much easier.”

A third reorganization is taking place in conjunction with the University Library. McDougall said she is working with Vicki Williamson, dean of the University Library, to move student-learning programs operating within the University Learning Centre (ULC) into the Library’s organizational structure.

“Most of the programs are physically located in the Murray Library,” she said, “so this restructuring will help clarify roles and responsibilities, and bring a stronger focus on program delivery and the student learning experience.” ■

## NEW TO US



Lifeng Zhang

Growing up in China, Lifeng Zhang worked with his family to harvest wheat by hand: cutting with a sickle, drying the grain in the sun and threshing it to loosen the hulls. But it was winnowing—throwing the grain into the breeze to separate the chaff from the kernels—that fascinated him.

“I didn’t understand the mechanism,” said Zhang, who joined the College of Engineering as assistant professor in July 2013. “How does the wheat separate from the hulls? Now I understand: it’s based on density. That’s kind of what I’m doing here, working with particles, powders and so forth.”

Zhang is working to improve performance of fluidized beds, used extensively in pharmaceuticals to, for example, create powders that dissolve in water, or add coatings to unpleasant-tasting drugs. He is looking at triboelectricity—charges created when objects rub against each other, like socks against a carpet. In fluidized bed dryers, these charges increase as the mixture dries. He hopes to use them in processes to reduce energy consumption.

Zhang studies proton exchange membrane fuel cells that produce electricity from hydrogen with water as a byproduct. A key challenge is to manage this water since it interferes with performance.

Zhang came to Canada in 2002 to complete his PhD at the University of Waterloo. After a postdoc at the University of British Columbia, he was working for an engineering consulting firm in Vancouver when he saw a chance to work with colleagues in his areas of interest at the U of S and the Canadian Light Source.

With his first full year of teaching under his belt, he said he strives to pass on both knowledge and tools for independent learning.

“Deliver the lecture and make sure students understand it. Give them the tools so that afterward, they can put together the rest of the pieces by themselves.” ■

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](mailto:ocn@usask.ca)

“Our non-credit programs will be offered in a highly effective and efficient manner providing expanded opportunities for those audiences for whom these programs are so important.”

Patti McDougall



Patti McDougall, vice-provost of teaching and learning.

KRIS FOSTER

# Individual mentorship key

From Page 5

on learning how to develop an independent thesis that can be used as a stepping stone into a PhD program.

The U of S program, she continued, is only the fifth such graduate degree in all of Canada, but features two unique aspects.

“One of our strengths will be individual mentorship; each student will have an individual faculty supervisor,” said Phillips, going on to point out that enrollment will be capped at seven students in each year.

Another major advantage offered by the Edwards program, Phillips said, is the connections the marketing faculty at the U of S have with other marketing PhD programs



Phillips

across North America.

“We can help our students get into the best marketing programs to match their interests in Canada and the U.S.,” she said, stressing that pursuing a PhD is not the only

option following completion of the master’s program.

“I tell people: ‘Try this and see if you like academia. If not, you still get a great education and a degree that is highly sought after by industry.’ But because we are after a very specific student, we really think that after completing two years here, they will definitely want to go onto do a PhD and become a professor.”

Daphne Taras, dean of the school, offered congratulations to those involved in developing the new master’s degree in marketing. “The Edwards School continues to show that it is innovative and that our professors are keenly interested in providing exceptional opportunities for top students,” she said. ■

## Around the Bowl



Kushwaha

The International Society for Terrain-Vehicle Systems (ISTVS) has selected **Lal Kushwaha**, professor emeritus at the College of Engineering, as the recipient of its Bekker-Reece-Radforth Award for 2014. The award, established in 2002, honours exceptional research and/or industrial achievements in engineering practice of the principles of terramechanics.

**Sean Maw** has taken up the position of Jerry G. Huff Chair in Innovative Teaching in the College of Engineering. He joins the U of S from the engineering faculty at Mount Royal University in Calgary. As Huff Chair, he will expand opportunities for student participation in hands-on engineering design projects and will ensure they and faculty are up to date with advances in engineering education and technology.



Maw



Calver

**Sandy Calver** has been promoted to the position of associate secretary, academic governance in the office of the University Secretary. In this role, Calver will be the lead support to University Council, the co-ordinator of Council’s Planning and Priorities Committee and the resource person to the chair of Council and Council’s Co-ordinating, Governance and Nominations Committees.

The School of Public Health and Health Sciences (SPHHS) at the University of Massachusetts Amherst will honour its graduate **Nazeem Muhajarine** Sept. 27 by presenting him with the SPHHS Award for Significant Contributions to the field of public health and health sciences. Muhajarine, who is acting executive director of the U of S School of Public Health, is a social epidemiologist and principal investigator for the Smart Cities Healthy Kids initiative.



Muhajarine

# Coming Events

## ■ Seminars/Lectures

### Gairdner Foundation Lectures

- Oct. 22, 9:30 am, Dr. Harold Dvorak, 2014 recipient of the Gairdner Foundation International Health Award, will be presenting two Gairdner Foundation lectures: high school lecture in the VIDO theatre at 9:30 am and a faculty lecture at 3 pm in B450 Health Sciences.

### Bilson Lecture

- Oct. 7, 6 pm, Battleford Ballroom, Bessborough Hotel, Anne Kelly Knowles, professor of geography, Middlebury College, will present the bi-annual Bilson Lecture titled Vision in History.

### Biology Lectures

- Sept. 26, 3:30 pm, Room 125 Biology Building, Arunika Gunawardena, professor of biology at Dalhousie University, presents Programmed Cell Death: Lessons Learned from Luce Plant.
- Oct. 3, 3:30 pm, Room 125 Biology Building, Tony Fox, professor of water-bird ecology, Department of Bioscience, Aarhus University, Kalø, Denmark, presents Requiem for the Yangtze? Recent Changes in the Natural Wealth of China's Greatest River.

### Fine Arts Lecture Series in Music

- Oct. 8, 12:30 pm, Quance Theatre, Education Building, Gyula Csapó, professor of composition and music theory, U of S Dept. of Music, presents Musical Expression Versus Global Connectedness: Investigations Into Context and Understanding.

### Pro Bono Lecture

- Sept. 29, 12:00 pm, MLT Lecture Theatre, Room 150 College of Law, Michelle Ouellette, Q.C. presents The Privilege of Being a Lawyer – Giving Back to the Community through Pro Bono.

### Philosophy in the Community

- Oct. 8, 7-9 pm, The Refinery, 609 Dufferin Ave., Avi Akkerman, Department of Geography and Planning, presents Philosophical Urbanism.

### JSGS Lectures

- Oct. 7, 1:30-3:30 pm, Five Trends Changing Our World: Are we ready for them? With speakers Kevin G. Lynch, BMO Financial Group; Louise Greenberg, Ministry of Advanced Education; Harold MacKay, MacPherson Leslie & Tyerman LLP; Ron Styles, SaskTel.
- Oct. 10, 12:30-2 pm, Built Environment, Transportation Systems, and Public Health with speaker Daniel Fuller, CIHR-funded post-doctoral fellow in the Department of Community Health and Epidemiology.
- Oct. 17, 12-1:30 pm, How Ottawa Mandarins Planned Canada's Post-World War II Peace, featuring Peter Neary, professor emeritus and adjunct professor, university of Western Ontario's Department of History.
- Oct. 17, 12:30-2 pm, Health Care Regionalization in Alberta: The Good, the Bad and the Ugly, with speaker John Church, associate professor, University of Alberta's Department of Political Science.

### Imaging Therapy

- Oct. 24, 8:15 am-1:30 pm, Graduate Student Commons, the One Health Imaging Research Group presents the symposium Imaging Therapy Research Using Animal Models of Disease. Featured speaker is Johnathan Wall, director of amyloid and preclinical molecular imaging laboratory, University of Tennessee. RSVP to 306-966-1417.

### Academic Freedom

- Oct. 1, 3-5:30 pm, Neatby-Timlin Theatre, the U of S Faculty Association is hosting To the Wall: The Last Stand for Academic Freedom, featuring The Contested Terrain of Academic Freedom, an address by James Turk, distinguished visiting professor at Ryerson University, and a panel discussion entitled Academic Freedom in an Age of Conflict.

## ■ Courses/Workshops

### Continuing Professional Learning Medicine

For more information call 306-966-7787 or go to [www.usask.ca/cme](http://www.usask.ca/cme)

- Oct. 3 and 4, Essentials of ECG
- Oct. 17-18, Saskatchewan Emergency Medicine Annual Conference, Regina
- Nov. 1-2, Advanced Cardiac Life Support Provider and Renewal Course
- Nov. 21 and 22, Practical Management of Common Medical Problems

### International Workshop

A group of scientists and engineers from three continents will gather at the Canadian Light Source and in the Physics Building Nov. 7-10 for the international workshop of Laser Compton Scatter Gamma Rays at Electron Storage Rings. Details can be found at <http://physics.usask.ca/~physdept/LCS2014/index.html>

### University Library Workshops

The University Library is offering two workshop series this term. All sessions are free and no registration is required. For information, go to [libguides.usask.ca/LibraryResearcherSeries](http://libguides.usask.ca/LibraryResearcherSeries)

### Library Researcher Series

- Sept. 30 - Literature Searching for Systematic Reviews, 12-1 pm, Murray Library Collaborative Learning Lab, Rm 145
- Oct. 2 - What is Plagiarism?, 12-1 pm, Murray Library Collaborative Learning Lab, Rm 145
- Oct. 9 - Why and How to Do a Comprehensive Literature Review – Part A, 12-1 pm, Murray Library Collaborative Learning Lab, Rm 145
- Oct. 16 - Why and How to Do a Comprehensive Literature Review – Part B, 12-1 pm, Murray Library Collaborative Learning Lab, Rm 145
- Oct. 20 - What is Plagiarism?, 1-2 pm, Delta Lab, Engineering Building, Room 2B04
- Oct. 21 - Keeping Current with the Literature, 1-2 pm, Delta Lab, Engineering Building, Room 2B04
- Oct. 23 - Finding and Using Open Resources for Teaching and Research, 12-1 pm, Murray Library Collaborative Learning Lab, Rm 145
- Oct. 30 - Getting the Most Out of Google, 12-1 pm, Murray Library Collaborative Learning Lab, Rm 145
- Nov. 6 - An Introduction to Critical Appraisal: How to Read a Research Paper, 12-1 pm, Murray Library Collaborative Learning Lab, Rm 145
- Nov. 20 - Creating your Scholarly Identity Online, 12-1 pm, Murray Library Collaborative Learning Lab, Rm 145
- Nov. 27 - Indigenous History Resources, 12-1 pm, Murray Library Collaborative Learning Lab, Rm 145

### Managing References Series

- Oct. 7 - RefWorks, 12-1 pm, Murray Library, Rm 161
- Oct. 14 - EndNote Web, 12-1 pm, Murray Library, Rm 161
- Oct. 20 - RefWorks, 3-4 pm, Delta Lab, Engineering Building, Room 2B04
- Oct. 21 - EndNote Desktop, 12-1 pm, Health Sciences Library, Rm 1430
- Oct. 28 - RefWorks, 12-1 pm, Murray Library, Rm 161
- Nov. 4 - Mendeley, 12-1 pm, Murray Library Collaborative Learning Lab, Rm 145
- Nov. 18 - Zotero, 12-1 pm, Murray Library Collaborative Learning Lab, Rm 145
- Nov. 25 - RefWorks, 12-1 pm, Murray Library, Rm 161

### Centre for Continuing and Distance Education

For more information, visit [www.ccede.usask.ca](http://www.ccede.usask.ca) or call 306-966-5539 University of Saskatchewan Language Centre

### Part-time English Classes

- Pronunciation: Thursdays, Oct. 9 - Dec. 4
- Spoken English: Tuesdays and Thursdays, Oct. 6 - Dec. 1
- Graduate-Level Writing: Mondays and Wednesdays, Oct. 6 - Dec. 1
- Reading Skills: Tuesdays, Oct. 7 - Dec. 2
- Listening and Note Taking Skills: Thursdays, Oct. - Nov. 27
- English for the Workplace: Saturdays, Oct. 18 - Nov. 29

### Spanish Weekender for Real Beginners

- Oct. 17-19, 20 hours over 2.5 days, cost: \$294.00 (GST included), textbooks and workbooks are included.

### Nature and Ecology

Call 306-966-5539 for information or to register

- Southern Africa: 21-Day Northern Explorer Ecological Safari (Feb. 1-21, 2015)
- There is a public information night Oct. 1 from 7-8:30 pm at Room 224/225 Williams Building, 221 Cumberland Ave.
- Churchill, MB Polar Bear Ecology Tour Nov. 6-13

### Fall 2014 USCAD Art Classes

- Painting Towards Abstraction II: Oct. 17-19/24-26
- Painting Towards Abstraction III: Oct. 17-19/24-26
- Digital Photography weekend: Oct. 3-4/17-18
- Glass Stained Glass I: Oct. 3-5
- Glass Fusion I: Oct. 18-19
- Glass Fusion II: Nov. 1-2
- Silversmithing I: Oct. 24-26
- Advanced Silversmithing II: Nov. 14-16
- Off the Grid: Exploring Texture, Colour, Shine and Design: Nov. 21-23/28-30

### Community Music Education

Music in Early Childhood, Suzuki Early Childhood and Parenting with Music: classes begin in September. Private lessons in traditional guitar, Suzuki guitar, traditional piano, Suzuki piano, and violin also begin in September. For more information contact Nicole Wilton at 306-966-5625 or visit [ccde.usask.ca/community-music](http://ccde.usask.ca/community-music)

### Governance Essentials

The Johnson-Shoyama Graduate School of Public Policy and Brown Governance Inc. are offering Public Workshop: Governance Essentials Nov. 6 and 7 in Regina. This workshop will cover the basic elements of board governance. For more information and to register, visit [www.schoolofpublicpolicy.sk.ca](http://www.schoolofpublicpolicy.sk.ca).

### Edwards School of Business, Executive Education

For information call 306-966-8686, email [exceed@edwards.usask.ca](mailto:exceed@edwards.usask.ca) or visit [edwards.usask.ca/exceed](http://edwards.usask.ca/exceed)

- Sept. 30 - Oct. 2, The Business Analyst's Course
- Oct. 8 - 10, Team Leadership Skills for Project Managers
- Oct. 15 - 17, The Project Management Course
- Oct. 20 - 21, Certificate in Essentials of Modelling and Problem Solving: Course 1 - Regina
- Oct. 21 - Nov. 25, Leadership Development Program
- Oct. 21, 2014 - March 21, 2015, The Masters Certificate in Project Management - Regina
- Oct. 22, 2014 - April 11, 2015, The Masters Certificate in Project Management
- Oct. 30 - 31, Process Metrics, Management and Controls
- Nov. 3 - 4, Master Clinic on Solving Tough Problems
- Nov. 6, Women of Influence Breakfast
- Nov. 26 - 28, Digital and Social Media Program: Metrics, Measurement and Analytics
- Dec. 2 - 4, Certificate in Essentials of Modelling and Problem Solving: Course 2 - Regina

- Dec. 3 - 5, What the Non-Financial Manager Needs to Know About Financial and Managerial Accounting

## ■ The Arts

### Milne Exhibit

*A World Closely Observed: The photography of Courtney Milne* is on view in the Link Gallery in the Library until the end of the calendar year.

### Gordon Snelgrove Gallery

Continuing until Sept. 27 is *Liminality: A Transient Gaze*, work by Aminah Jomah. There will be a reception from 7-10 pm on Sept. 26. An exhibition of work by Chiaka McNaughton opens Sept. 30 and continues until Oct. 9.

### Expedition: Arctic

The Diefenbaker Canada Centre is hosting an exhibit from the Canadian Museum of History produced in collaboration with the Canadian Museum of Nature entitled *Expedition: Arctic*. Images and artifacts help visitors explore the goals, successes and drama of the Canadian Arctic Expedition of 1913-18, one of the world's last great journeys of discovery before the age of modern communication and airborne reconnaissance. The exhibit will be on view until January 2015.

### Elixir Ensemble

The Elixir Ensemble begins its season Oct. 19 at 2:30 pm in Convocation Hall with a performance of a Beethoven piano quartet, Mozetich scales and a Paul Joun piano quartet. Visit the Elixir website for details and tickets.

### STM Gallery

*Georgian Bay: Three Takes* featuring work by local artists Bridget Aitken, Nicki Ault and Jacqueline Faye Miller continues until Oct. 31. The exhibition pieces were inspired by the artists' trip to Georgian Bay in southern Ontario in the fall of 2013.

### Kenderdine Art Gallery

Continuing until Dec. 5 is *In Between History*, an exhibition of work by a number of artists whose work blurs the lines between familiar and fictive, allowing alternative readings to emerge. The show, curated by Leah Taylor, includes work by Vikky Alexander, Allyson Clay, Chris Cran, Paul Fournier, Angela Grossman, Mary Longman, Jayce Salloum, Tony Scherman and Douglas Walker.

### College Art Galleries

Opening Sept. 26 is *Ursula Johnson: Mi'kwite'tmn (Do You Remember)*. The exhibition examines ideas of ancestry, identity and cultural practice through Johnson's creation of non-functional forms from Mi'kmaw basketry.

### Amati Quartet and Friends

The U of S Amati Quartet will be performing a range of works with a number of local musicians in a concert entitled Amati Quartet and Friends Oct. 13 at 2 and 7:30 pm in Knox United Church. Tickets are available from the Remai Arts Centre. More information is available at [amatiquartet.usask.ca](http://amatiquartet.usask.ca)

## ■ Huskies @ Home

### Football

- Oct. 4 vs. UBC
- Oct. 23 vs. Alberta

### Men's Soccer

- Oct. 3 and 5 vs. Alberta
- Oct. 11 and 12 vs. Winnipeg

### Women's Soccer

- Oct. 3 and 5 vs. Lethbridge
- Oct. 18 and 19 vs. Regina

### Cross Country

- Oct. 4, Sled Dog Open

### Wrestling

- Nov. 22, Huskie Invitational

### Women's Hockey

- Oct. 17 and 18 vs. Alberta
- Oct. 24 and 25 vs. Calgary
- Nov. 14 vs. Regina
- Nov. 21 and 22 vs. Lethbridge
- Nov. 28 and 29 vs. MRU
- Jan. 16 and 17 vs. UBC
- Jan. 23 and 24 vs. Manitoba
- Feb. 14 vs. Regina

### Men's Hockey

- Sept. 26 vs. Regina
- Oct. 3 and 4 vs. UBC
- Oct. 10 and 11 vs. Manitoba
- Nov. 7 and 8 vs. MRU
- Nov. 15 vs. Regina
- Jan. 3 and 4 vs. Lethbridge
- Jan. 9 and 10 vs. Calgary
- Jan. 29 and 30 vs. Alberta

### Volleyball

- Oct. 17 and 18 vs. Alberta
- Nov. 7 and 8 vs. Calgary
- Nov. 28 and 29 vs. UBC
- Jan. 9 and 10 vs. Brandon
- Jan. 23 and 24 vs. Manitoba
- Feb. 6 and 7 vs. TRU

### Basketball

- Nov. 14 and 15 vs. Winnipeg
- Nov. 21 and 22 vs. Victoria
- Jan. 16 and 17 vs. Regina
- Jan. 30 and 31 vs. TWU
- Feb. 13 and 14 vs. Calgary

## ■ Miscellany

### Call for Papers

The *University of Saskatchewan Undergraduate Research Journal* has issued a call for submissions of research articles, reviews and papers written by undergraduate students in all disciplines and professional colleges. The deadline for submissions is Sept. 30 for the March 2015 issue of the journal. For more information, go to [usask.ca/urj](http://usask.ca/urj) or email [usurj@usask.ca](mailto:usurj@usask.ca)

### University Women

The Canadian Federation of University Women (CFUW) Saskatoon Inc. is holding its fall coffee party and membership registration Sept. 28 from 2-3:30 pm at the W.A. Edwards Family Centre, 333 4th Avenue North. There will also be a scholarship awards night Oct. 6 at 7:30 pm, also in the W.A. Edwards Family Centre. The association of present, former and retired women faculty and spouses or partners of other faculty members meets monthly and includes a number of special-interest groups. It actively promotes education for women and awards over \$20,000 annually in post-secondary scholarships. New members are welcome.

### MPH Practicum Poster Fair

The School of Public Health will host its annual poster fair showcasing the master of public health student practicum projects undertaken in 2014. The program runs from noon-3:30 pm Oct. 24 in the Health Sciences D Wing Atrium. Visitors are welcome.

SUBMIT  
**Coming Events**

Next OCN: **Friday, Oct. 10**  
Deadline: **Oct. 2**

Email [ocn@usask.ca](mailto:ocn@usask.ca)

# The numbers man of Canadian football

COLLEEN MACPHERSON

Want to know the chances the Saskatchewan Roughriders will finish first the CFL's west division this season? As of Sept. 22, it's seven per cent, largely thanks to a Sept. 21 Rider victory over Ottawa and Calgary losing to Montreal.

And to find out how the odds are calculated, you only have to go as far as the Edwards School of Business.

Keith Willoughby, associate dean of research and academics in the school, is the designer of the results simulation model the CFL is now hosting on its website. For Willoughby, it is a labour of love.

"I've always been a football fan," he said, recounting family trips from Melfort to Regina to watch the Riders. And in the lean years, "it was more exciting to eat at McDonald's than go to the game." Willoughby dreamed of playing football but after joining his high school team, that dream was foiled "by a combination of genetics and an unwillingness to get the snot kicked out of me."

Turning instead to an academic career, Willoughby developed a second passion—building spreadsheet models to quantify outcomes. They come in handy in the courses he teaches about business analytics

and in 2013, he decided to apply the same principles to professional football.

Here is how the model works. Teams are assigned a strength value based on their win-loss record, the margin of victory or loss in all games played, the opponents each team has already played and whether the win or loss occurred at home or away, and the remaining games in the season and whether those games are at home or away. Each Monday, Willoughby inputs the results of weekend games. The model then simulates the remainder of the season 10,000 times and recalibrates each team's strength value and the likelihood of finishing first in the division.

And certain scenarios can significantly change the value, he explained. "If Saskatchewan beats a good team, say Edmonton or Calgary, it would boost Saskatchewan's strength value. And if they beat that team on the road, then the Riders get an even bigger boost. All things being equal, winning on the road is better."

Another strength booster is a wide margin of victory, he said. Unfortunately, this season the Riders have been winning by a little but losing by a lot which isn't helping their cause.



Keith Willoughby, associate dean of research and academics in Edwards School of Business.

COLLEEN MACPHERSON

Willoughby expects the model to show greater accuracy as the season progresses because it has more real data to work with; it is more likely to correctly predict to the end of the season after teams have played 14 of 18 games than after they have played only four.

He did a test run of the model in the 2013 season and then offered it to the CFL. The league started posting the spreadsheet results at week 10 of the season.

Improving the model is something Willoughby is already thinking about. Next year, he would like to adjust the spreadsheet so it assigns more

weight to more recent games rather than equal weight to all games in the season. "This would help take into account things like a team losing its starting quarterback," he said.

But what about predicting the Grey Cup winner? That, he said, "is the one 'yeah, but.' If you could predict the second- and third-place finishers, you could project to the Grey Cup but the possible combinations are astronomical. If I could figure out a way of doing that efficiently, it would add a lot more realism."

Willoughby presented his spreadsheet model at a meeting of the American Statistical

Association this summer and plans to prepare a paper about it for submission to an academic journal. But he has even more plans.

"It would really great to build a spreadsheet that would help a football team determine within a game the optimal strategy at a certain time. Say you're third and one on the five-yard line—what's the best thing to do?"

He would also like to build a model "to help fans determine when to turn off the TV when their team is losing. When is enough enough?"

After he figures that out, Willoughby has an even bigger project in mind. Pointing to the premise of the movie *Moneyball*, he imagines developing a model that can quantify each player's contribution to the team. "It would help teams make decisions about who to draft and how to work within the salary cap."

Unlike in the movie though, where a single batter is pitted against a single pitcher, football is a team sport and it is much more difficult to determine a single player's value. Such a spreadsheet is years down the road but, again referring to the movie, Willoughby is already imagining himself as "the Brad Pitt of the CFL." ■

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# discover US

This year's back-page feature explores the hidden treasures from University Library, University Archives and Special Collections, and the people who use them.

## Into the past

Natasha Miller is a second year master's student in sociology working under the supervision of Elizabeth Quinlan. Her research involves the historical exploration of the creation of sexual assault policies and procedures at the University of Saskatchewan.

In order to fully understand the university's current policies and procedures, Miller said it is necessary to engage with the past, piecing together the efforts of the key players and examining influential events. Her work revolves around four pertinent questions:

- 1) How did the University of Saskatchewan get to the point where sexual assault was recognized as a problem on campus?
- 2) How are the institutional policies and practices developed at the University of Saskatchewan?
- 3) How did women's experiences at the University of Saskatchewan shape the discourse on sexual assault?
- 4) What were the power relations that affected the development of sexual assault policies?

"In Archives and Special Collections I have found a number of key documents, like the Reinventing Our Legacy report, that provided me with pivotal pieces of information," she said. "In the Archives, you are able to step into an unknown world and make sense of the worldviews and how they affected people's experiences and actions."

