



MUSIC MONDAY

Grade 6, 7 and 8 students from Brunskill School under the direction of Michael Kurpjuweit celebrated Music Monday with a concert in front of the Peter MacKinnon Building on the U of S campus. And because it was May 4 (may the fourth be with you), Kurpjuweit donned a Wookiee jacket and the band kicked off its performance with the *Star Wars* theme. Launched in 2005 by The Coalition for Music Education, Music Monday is a Canadian event dedicated to raising awareness for music education.



KRIS FOSTER

A year of rebuilding

GSA president wants full financial transparency

COLLEEN MACPHERSON

Rajat Chakravarty was elected president of the U of S Graduate Students' Association (GSA) on an ambitious platform, and he intends to build on every plank.

The PhD student in mechanical engineering took over May 1 as head of an organization that has been through a tumultuous year marked by disagreement, conflict and allegations of wrongdoing, some of which are under police investigation. Chakravarty said it was inappropriate to comment on the details of what may or may not have happened except to say the new GSA executive fully supports the investigation. He does acknowledge that serving as vice-president of student affairs last year "was a huge learning experience for me. Now we have the chance to rebuild something that has crashed and burned."

Going into the new year, Chakravarty believes the top priority for the organization has



Rajat Chakravarty, president of the U of S Graduate Students' Association (GSA)

COLLEEN MACPHERSON

to be transparency. "There is an asymmetry of information about the GSA," he said, particularly when it comes to its financial position and operations. His commitment is to provide members with regular financial updates and ensure the GSA books are open to all.

At the organization's annual

meeting April 28, members gave approval to proceed with a financial audit and also discussed the need for a second review to ensure financial dealings are in compliance with GSA policies, said Chakravarty. Work still needs to be done to determine if a compliance audit could be done at the same time as the financial

audit. "They might be one and the same," he said, adding the university, particularly the College of Graduate Studies and Research, has indicated willingness to provide monetary support for the process.

The college has also offered to pay for a governance expert to assist in a review of the GSA policies and constitution, said Chakravarty. A 10-member grad student committee is already in place and working to "clean up" those policies.

"There's a lot of ambiguity," he said, "a lot of room for bad faith or subjective interpretation. That ship has sailed. We want to really tighten it up. To operate effectively and transparently, we have to be able to explicitly say what's legitimate and what's not."

The second plank in Chakravarty's election platform and another priority for 2015-16 is upping the level of grad student engagement in the organization.

"A lot of grad students are confined to labs and any interactions they have happen within departments. We have to look for more opportunities for them to interact, things that go beyond departmental boundaries."

Chakravarty said those opportunities include events, conferences, lectures, information sessions and workshops on topics like filing tax returns. He also believes a multicultural focus is key to grad student engagement. "That's what I concentrated on as VP and it paid off," with students celebrating their various cultures at a number of social gatherings. "We want to make sure students don't just eat the food and leave."

Collaboration is Chakravarty's third priority, particularly where efforts are duplicated across the university.

"The GSA does the exact

See Full, Page 2

College of Medicine ready for accreditation visit

LAURA HERMAN

It is go time for the College of Medicine's next accreditation visit, and according to Dean Preston Smith, "we're ready."

"We've crossed our T's and dotted our I's," he continued. "Our documentation is submitted, the planning is complete, and we're as ready as we can be."

The undergraduate medical education (UGME) program has been on probation since November 2013, after previous accreditation visits noted deficiencies with 13 of the 139 accreditation standards for Canadian medical schools.

"We're not unlike any medical school across the country" said Smith. "Every school struggles with accreditation standards at some point. Here in Saskatchewan, our challenges have resulted from structural issues and not always ensuring the right number of teachers deliver the program."

A four-member survey team from the Committee on Accreditation of Canadian Medical Schools (CACMS) and the Liaison Committee on Medical Education (LCME) will be in Saskatchewan May 10-13 meeting



Smith

with educators, administrators and students in both Saskatoon and Regina to review and evaluate the college on each standard in question.

Smith is confident the college is ready to demonstrate improvement since the last visit in March 2013.

"We've made significant progress on many fronts. Stable, permanent leadership is now in place. More importantly, the college has brought together a team of people, including the vice-dean, associate and assistant deans, and key administrators, to fully support the planning and

delivery of our undergraduate medical education program and our students."

Smith calls accreditation a team sport, and he credits the work and expertise of many in the college who have prepared for the visit. "Dr. Athena McConnell, Dr. Sheila Harding, our department heads, Kevin Siebert, Darla Wyatt, and the entire UGME office have really pulled together to make this visit happen."

Mock run-throughs of meetings with the survey team were held to ensure everyone knows where they are going amid construction in Health Sciences. Even the closure of the University Bridge was factored into the survey team's transportation schedule.

The college will not be informed of official results until fall 2015 at the earliest, and Smith will not speculate about the outcome.

"Accreditation is an eight-year cycle. My experience at Dalhousie suggests it's common for accreditors to complete two survey visits before changing the program's status (and) I am certain Saskatchewan's medical school is on the right path."

A full survey visit for the College of Medicine will be in 2017. ■

Laura Herman is communications officer in the College of Medicine

Full agenda for 2015-16

From Page 1

same thing as a lot of other independent bodies on campus," he said, orientation being one example. There is also the need for a graduate student voice in policy development work in areas like child care and sexual assault. Chakravarty is part of a coalition advocating for a sexual assault policy for the U of S "and it would be unfortunate if there is no grad student perspective" because in university residences that accommodate grad students with spouses and children, "the dynamics of sexual assault can look very different."

Having detailed his agenda for the coming year, Chakravarty added that he will soon face a comprehensive exam and has a thesis that needs to be written. It will be a busy time for the GSA president, "but it's a huge opportunity."

Joining Chakravarty on the GSA executive for 2015-16 is David Bennett as VP finance, Natalia Terekhova as VP external, Jebunnessa Chapola as VP academic and Hardi Shahadu as VP student affairs. ■

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Grad student employees vote to unionize

COLLEEN MACPHERSON

University of Saskatchewan officials and representatives of the Public Service Alliance of Canada (PSAC) will soon begin talks that will culminate in a first-ever collective agreement for graduate student employees at the U of S.

The student employees voted 96 per cent in favour of unionizing in a ballot held March 27. It was “a strong message to the university,” said Cheryl Carver, acting associate vice-president of human resources, adding “while we certainly respect the right of this group to organize ... one of the first things on the agenda in our talks with PSAC will be making sure we’re clear on who’s

in the union, and who’s not.”

Initially, PSAC listed some 1,400 eligible student employees compared to the about 1,000 on the U of S list but even before the votes were counted, the Canadian Union of Public Employees (CUPE) filed an application for intervener status with the Saskatchewan Labour Relations Board claiming it should be the bargaining unit for the employee group. When that application was subsequently withdrawn, university officials met with the board and PSAC lawyers, ultimately agreeing that 473 of the votes cast qualified to be counted, explained Carver. Of that total, 455 supported unionization.

Carver said discussions will continue with PSAC to finalize which employees will be part of the bargaining unit, a process she expects will be neither contentious nor complicated.

Even before the vote count, Carver said consultations were held with various leaders across campus to determine what issues will be relevant in the bargaining process. “We were anticipating this (vote) outcome,” she said, “but there is still a lot of work to do,” including looking at collective agreements governing student employees at other Canadian universities. In an earlier interview, Carver said the U of S

was one of very few post-secondary institutions in the country where graduate student employees are not unionized.

While the certification order from the labour board requires the two parties hold an initial meeting within 20 days, Carver said there is no time limit on negotiating a first contract. “We’re coming in with a completely blank slate. We’ll be talking about everything related to terms and conditions of employment but because PSAC represents other grad student employees across the country, I expect they will have a well thought out template for a contract and we’ll have the same

for what makes sense from our institutional perspective.”

The first attempt at a collective agreement, she added, “is usually the most important.”

One challenge will be fitting the talks with PSAC into an already full schedule. Carver said university officials are currently negotiating with or in discussions with the Administrative and Supervisory Personnel Association, the Professional Association of Interns and Residents, CUPE Local 3287 representing sessional lecturers, and the U of S Faculty Association.

“We’ll just have to determine how best to utilize our resources,” she said. ■

Council subcommittee reviewing policy on low-enrolment programs

KRIS FOSTER

The number of classes at the U of S with fewer than five students is on the rise and what to do with low-enrolment programs is a topic that needs to be discussed, according to the chair of Council’s Planning and Priorities Committee.

“We know that about 10 per cent of the classes offered at the U of S have fewer than five students enrolled,” said Lisa Kalynchuk. “It is an issue that University Council is ideally suited to address; it falls exactly within Council’s mandate to lead academic programming.”

To examine the issues, an enrolment subcommittee has been formed and charged with updating a Council-approved policy from 2007 that addresses programs with low enrolment.

“We need to update this document, identify key metrics and determine if it still reflects current thinking about program enrolment,” said Kalynchuk, a professor of neurology in the College of Medicine. She added there is a sense that the number of low-enrolment programs at the U of S is disproportionately high, so the subcommittee’s first step will be to determine the magnitude of the situation.

While the number may be high, some low-enrolment programs are offered for good reason, continued Kalynchuk, who chairs the subcommittee. “Some of these are offered because they support the provincial knowledge economy; some programs historically have outstanding students year in and year out and are prestigious;



Lisa Kalynchuk, chair of Council’s Planning and Priorities Committee.

KRIS FOSTER

some support valuable research enterprises. Maybe we want to keep offering these programs with low enrolment, but we need to have the discussion and engage Council members to see what their thoughts are.”

Chief among the issues to consider around low enrolment, she continued, are resources, student experience and how comparator institutions deal with similar classes. The job of the subcommittee is to determine the landscape outside of the U of S, and to gauge how students feel about these programs and their experience in them.

“We are trying to find out how comparator institutions in the U15, like Dalhousie and Queen’s, and regionally, like University of Calgary and University of Manitoba, deal with low-enrolment programs.”

The subcommittee will also look at a few institutions that focus on undergrad programs “to see if it’s different at a less research-intensive institution.”

Playing perhaps the most important factor in this, she

continued, are the students and their perspectives on smaller

programs. “We want to talk to them and see how they feel about it—why they went into the programs, why they didn’t go into the programs. We want to know how they would rate their experience in big versus small programs.”

There is a sweet spot, an optimum number, for student enrollment, continued Kalynchuk. “We’re not talking about 500 students in every class, but also not three or four. Can we reach equilibrium of 20 to 30 students in second, third and fourth years and avoid classes

with fewer than five? What’s the optimum number?”

The educational experience for students is really driving this process right now, she said, using her own experience as an undergrad as an example. “I had a lot of students in my program and really benefitted from that. It contributes to a vibrant student cohort; students support each other and develop friendships.”

Kalynchuk is clear that what the subcommittee hopes to present to Council this fall will

See *Policy*, Page 7

FROM THE ARCHIVES

Tending the gardens



PATRICK HAYES, UNIVERSITY LIBRARY, UNIVERSITY ARCHIVES AND SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

MG 387

This issue’s image is one of 279 slides of campus taken by Dieter Martin in 1966 and 1967 and housed by the University Library, University Archives and Special Collections. Martin was a respected horticulturist and landscape contractor who worked as a landscape architect on campus in the mid 1960s. He also supplied

many of the plants on campus from the Dieter Martin Greenhouses, Langham. This image is typical of those in the collection; they are taken from the perspective of a landscaper. There are before and after pictures of flower beds, tree moving, parking lots and various university staff at work on the campus grounds. ■

VIEWPOINT

Move province forward with renewable, not nuclear power

Neil Alexander's story seems quite familiar to my own, except I would use exactly the same arguments to promote efficiency, conservation, renewables and building sustainable communities that present all sorts of entrepreneurial opportunities to move this province forward.

In my case, I started out as a geologist involved in exploration for uranium in the Athabasca Basin. However I grew up in the era of the Cold War and the weapon connection was something that has always bothered me. I turned, instead, to promoting efficiency and renewable power and continue to do so. Then, I was thinking of the bomb. Now I would also have to include the use of depleted uranium in armor piercing artillery and missiles as a nuclear weapon, considering the radioactive debris that is left on the battlefield. I would also have to consider the large amount of radioactive mine waste that is basically left on the surface that will eventually be exposed to erosion and reintroduced into the environment.

The really big one—how to take care of the reactor waste indefinitely, or the reactors themselves, without creating a problem for future generations to deal with. It is morally wrong to create such dangerous wastes without a proper way of disposing of it first. Surely he (Neil Alexander) must be aware that at least one of the reactors at Fukushima suffered a core meltdown and a very highly technological society in Japan is struggling with how they are going to clean it up, perhaps having to put off cleanup for

hundreds of years. Meanwhile Japan is generating zero nuclear power. Another highly industrialized state, Germany, is also phasing out its nuclear plants and going green.

Yes, we have to stop using fossil fuels and to avert catastrophic climate change we need to be almost totally phased off of fossil fuels by 2050—a very short time. However, replacing it with nuclear power seems to be like trading one bad choice for another, a very expensive choice. I really don't know where he gets his figures on safety margins from. If it is tripping over workplace hazards, that can be worked on. They surely have nothing to do with radiation in the global environment.

My governing philosophy for making decisions is, 'Have respect for future generations to come and all life on this planet.' Current renewable technologies are up to the task and can deliver their energy at competitive prices: www.irena.org/publications - go down the list to Jan 2015 "Renewable Power Generation Costs in 2014". 120 gigawatts renewables was added globally in 2013 and numbers are expected to be similar for 2014. Renewable energy accounted for 22 per cent of global electricity generation and 19 per cent of total final energy consumption in 2013.

Residential customers pay SaskPower 12.346 cents per kwh. Tesla has just announced a storage battery for 2 cents per kwh, installed wind is down to 2.5 and solar to reach 4 cents. Britain just released cost on proposed (2023) new nuclear unit at 16 (cents)—more than

double renewables. With this in mind, it might be time for a shift in research priorities at the University. Research such as nuclear medical research will still have value but it doesn't require nuclear reactors. The world is on the cusp of evolving to renewable energies and energy efficiency, including the electrical power, transportation, building, and industrial sectors.

For reasons of social, economic and environmental benefit and speed of implementation, sustainable communities using green renewable technologies will deliver a clean, thriving, healthy, socially just global society that is in tune with our global environment. We really need to commit! ■

Steve Lawrence,
U of S Alumnus, Prince Albert



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VIEWPOINT

SMRs a non-starter

The much hyped “nuclear renaissance” seems over before it began, certainly in the Western World. That's because of plentiful low-cost natural gas, shifting energy demand, staggeringly large new nuclear plant costs, concerns about nuclear's unique safety, security, waste, and environmental contamination challenges, and the surprisingly rapid growth of high-tech renewable energy and energy storage technologies.

It's puzzling then why the Fedoruk Centre's Neil Alexander so enthusiastically promotes taxpayer-funded research and development into small modular nuclear reactor (SMR) technology.

Consider the following:

- In May 2012, *Forbes* magazine noted that there is no demonstrated market for SMRs, partly because they simply cannot compete with low emission gas-fired power plants.
- SMRs by their small nature are inherently less efficient and more expensive than large reactors per unit of power produced, because they lose the economies of scale, highly speculative economies of modular design notwithstanding.
- Safety parameters for these devices are unknown. Regulations for exclusion zones, emergency evacuation zones, legal liability insurance,

terrorist and criminal security standards, arms proliferation risks, and earthquake regulations would all have to be re-written to suit the nature of SMRs. This could very likely slow down commercial licensing prospects, perhaps for decades, and thus discourage investors

- Unlike conventional models, many SMR designs situate the reactor core underground, aggravating the problems of groundwater contamination, flooding, earthquake vulnerability, and also limiting accessibility in case of emergency and subsequent fuel removal.
- In a scenario with numerous small decentralized nuclear power units, spent fuel management and security would be more complex and expensive. Numerous small units rather than a few big plants add security concerns by supplying more potential targets for terrorist attacks.

Prominent American physicist Edwin Lyman, Senior Scientist in the Global Security Program of The Union of Concerned Scientists, recently dismissed this technology by stating that SMRs are all in the “stage of fantasy” and characterized the public discussion of them as “irrational exuberance.”

In 2013, the respected Washington-based Institute for Energy and Environmental Research (IEER) published a

highly critical report on several light water SMR concepts. Report author nuclear engineer Dr. A. Makhijani, PhD, stated in the summary, “SMRs are a poor bet to solve nuclear power's problems...”

In 2014, large American nuclear vendors Fluor Corp., Babcock & Wilcox (B&W), and Westinghouse announced drastically reduced development funding for their SMR designs citing poor economics and no foreseeable markets. Westinghouse even laid off 100 workers in its SMR division.

In a 2014 online MIT journal article, *Small Modular Nuclear Reactors and the Future of Nuclear Power*, Mark Cooper, PhD, of Vermont Law School, Yale University, concluded that SMRs are all but dead as demonstrated by the major players B&W and Westinghouse's scale backs, the technology's poor economics, and the general lack of customer interest.

Saskatchewan taxpayer's money should not be wasted on this folly, because the signs are clear—small modular reactors are a non-starter. ■

David Geary
U of S Alumnus, Saskatoon

CORRECTION

In the April 24 issue of *On Campus News*, Tracy Walker was incorrectly identified in a photo. We apologize for this error.



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

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Patience pays off in research and in publishing

COLLEEN MACPHERSON

For non-scientists, Dr. Terra Arnason's latest published work has a daunting title—*The SNF1 Kinase UBA Domain Restrains its Activation, Activity and the Yeast Lifespan*. But when she explained it in layman terms, the paper is revealed as a story of important research focused on human health benefits, and a tale of perseverance, payoff and future potential.

Arnason, a practicing endocrinologist with a particular interest in diabetes research, has been working on this paper since she joined the U of S College of Medicine in 2008. With help from PhD students, post-docs, lab technicians, and summer and honours students, she has been looking at an enzyme that is turned on and off in cells in response to energy levels in the body. When energy levels are low, as they are when a person is fasting, dieting or exercising, Arnason said the enzyme switches on and goes to work creating energy by burning body fat, using fat from the liver and

stopping cholesterol production.

People with diabetes, she explained, often have difficulty losing weight, have cholesterol production that is unregulated and suffer from high blood glucose, all of which would be helped by the enzyme being switched on. "If I can figure out how to turn on this enzyme in people with diabetes, I think you'll see real health benefits."

But to do her research aimed at helping humans, Arnason studied the on-off enzyme function in yeast. "In yeast, there are three possible forms of this enzyme," she said. "In humans, there are 12 and they vary by tissue type and are regulated by hormones which yeast don't have. Yeast is so simple it lets us look at the fundamental processes."

Her focus was on a particular string of amino acids, called a motif, which exists in the enzyme and is found in organisms from yeast and plants up to and including human liver, fat and muscle cells. By manipu-

lating the motif, Arnason showed that it actually puts the brakes on the enzyme's ability to turn on, thus negating the benefits for diabetics. Her research also established the motif has the potential to enhance the ability of cells to withstand stress and aging "which I fully expect to be applicable to human health."

"It's the result I was hoping for seven years ago; it just took me a long time to get there. My longest-term goal is to find a drug that targets and blocks the motif, and activates the enzyme, resulting in health benefits."

Arnason said she first sent her paper to a scientific journal in September of 2014. It was rejected; too specialized, the editors said. Other submissions and rejections followed, but she remained optimistic. "I've had papers go through half a dozen journals until I found one that was just the right fit. And yeast is not very sexy."

Finally the editors of the *Journal of Biological Chemistry* realized its potential. And along



Arnason

with its acceptance for publication came its selection as a paper of the week. That means the editorial board determined it to be in the top two per cent of the more than 6,600 papers the journal will publish this year based on significance and overall importance.

"It's a huge honour," said Arnason. "When I read the email, I was happily shocked. Who said you can't study diabetes in a yeast cell?"

The paper is already on

the journal's website and will appear in print in June. The journal editors also offered to consider using an image from the research on the cover but "yeast is not very photogenic," she said with a laugh. "We have before and after shots, but they're identical."

For Arnason and the paper's first author, PhD student Rubin Jaio, the long road to publication has ended, but there may well be many more chapters to be written in this story.

In addition to seeing her findings offering significant health benefits to diabetics, Arnason has recently turned her mind to how manipulating the amino acid motif in plants could enhance resistance to stressors.

"I haven't even talked to anyone about this yet but imagine if we could come up with crops that could better resist drought, or elevation, or if we could drain a salty marsh and grow something edible, all by mutating a single amino acid in an enzyme." ■

Provost Awards

The Provost's College Awards for Outstanding Teaching and the Provost's Themed Teaching Awards are presented annually to recognize outstanding teaching across campus.

The 2015 recipients of the Provost's Awards for Outstanding Teaching, which are put forward by each college on campus, are:

Hugo Cota-Sanchez, Biology, College of Arts and Science

Fiona Buchanan, Animal and Poultry Science, College of Agriculture and Bioresources

Brenda Kalyn, Curriculum Studies, College of Education

Gary Entwistle, Accounting, Edwards School of Business

John Moffatt, Graham School of Professional Development

Nancy Gyurcsik, College of Kinesiology

Sarah Buhler, College of Law

Dr. Regina Taylor-Gjevre, College of Medicine

Don Leidl, College of Nursing

Adil J. Nazarali, Pharmacy, College of Pharmacy and Nutrition

Dr. Matthew Loewen, Biomedical Sciences, Western College of Veterinary Medicine

The 2015 recipients of the Provost's Themed Teaching Awards, which are selected by a committee of faculty, USSU and GSA representatives, are:

Provost's Award for Excellence in Aboriginal Education recognizes a teacher who makes an exceptional contribution to Aboriginal learning at the U of S: **Mary Longman**, Art and Art History

The Provost's Award for Outstanding Graduate Teaching recognizes a teacher who demonstrates excellence in teaching courses at the graduate level: **Dr. Cheryl Waldner**, Western College of Veterinary Medicine and School of Public Health

The Outstanding Graduate Student Teacher award recognizes graduate students who show outstanding promise and strong commitment to reflecting, documenting and improving their teaching skills: **Alexandra Stoddart**, Kinesiology

Master of Physical Therapy receives full accreditation

The Master of Physical Therapy program at the U of S has been awarded full accreditation until April 30, 2021.

The accreditation was granted following a review by Physiotherapy Education Accreditation Canada (PEAC), which oversees the status of all physiotherapy programs in Canada. In a

media release, Stephan Milosavljevic, director of the school, said accreditation "recognizes the School of Physical Therapy's quality of education, research and community support, not to mention a legacy of strong leadership and collaboration."

In its written review, PEAC noted a number of strengths in

the master's program including inter-professional initiatives and cultural competence, and encouraged school officials to share its comprehensive program evaluation plan with other education programs.

The school graduates 40 students annually, and is part of the U of S College of Medicine. ■

Susan Walker

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Learning to be an academic

MEAGAN HINTHER

“Do high quality work and publish early and often. It’s that simple.”

That is how Jeffrey McDonnell began his presentation to a full classroom of PhD students, postdoctoral fellows and research associates from colleges and schools across campus eager to learn how to set themselves up for a career in academia.

Simple in theory maybe, but certainly not easy in practice.

The one-day workshop, offered through the School of Environment and Sustainability by professors McDonnell and Maureen Reed, looked at how young researchers can position themselves as successful academics, how to get the elusive assistant professorship and how to thrive once landing a coveted place in an institution.

“Students are training for an academic position, but they aren’t sure quite how to get one,” said Reed. “The competition is fierce. The bar is getting higher for all the things that one has to do. You just can’t get a PhD and then get a faculty job,”

The workshop was billed as a ‘casual, candid and (brutally) honest’ look at academia. Newer faculty members from various



Jeffrey McDonnell and Maureen Reed.

MEAGAN HINTHER

disciplines led breakout sessions and shared their perspectives and experiences. With the high level of interest and the struggles of trying to fit it all into one day, school administrators are now exploring the possibility of turning the workshop into an annual three-credit-unit course.

When asked if it all comes down to publish or perish, Reed and McDonnell nodded in unison, but added that there are

many things students can do to distinguish themselves from the pack.

“I think that other than the physical logistics of publishing, the main challenge that they are up against is defining themselves,” said Reed. “And making their work sound important and relevant to society,” added McDonnell. “How to communicate that to someone outside your discipline can be a struggle.

I think more and more students are realising that these soft skills are critical to their success both in their departments and beyond. This is something that has changed since us ‘old guys’ got our PhDs.”

In addition to learning how to brand themselves, the participants were told to make the most out of conferences by convening sessions and networking as much as possible, to visit labs and researchers that are leaders in the field, and to treat a postdoctoral fellowship like an apprenticeship.

“The post-doc is the chance to transition from a worker bee to an idea generator. Take full advantage of this,” said McDonnell.

Above all, Reed and McDonnell agree that the number one ingredient for success is time management.

“Like in any profession, students need to think strategically and be organized. Time is precious,” said Reed.

“The researchers I’ve seen that really succeed are the ones that can be highly effective,” said McDonnell. “They may not be the smartest, they may not have the strongest soft skills, but they’ve just found a way to have traction.”

Overall, the participants

were pleased with the workshop and said that few people have talked to them before about the factors needed to be successful in academia and that they feel more armed now for the road ahead. For others, it was a wake-up call. “We had a student in one of the breakout sessions say ‘This is awful ... I don’t want to go down this road. This is not what I thought it was.’ And my reaction was that it’s helpful to figure that out now,” said McDonnell.

As for how a young researcher can weather those days when she feels utterly discouraged, Reed offers this advice:

“You’re going to have those type of days in research and in life. Everyone’s had a paper rejected. Students need to figure out where they are within that – how they can be resilient and use criticism constructively. How can they be the kind of academic that they want academia to be populated with? How can they model that behaviour? It’s really not that different from other professions when it all comes down to it.” ■

Meagan Hinthier is communications specialist in the Global Institute for Water Security and the School of Environment and Sustainability

Girl Guides more than the cookies

LESLEY PORTER

With a great shirt, comes great responsibility.

Such is the case whenever Sharla Daviduik wears her Girl Guide uniform in public.

“I actually have been stopped by total strangers while carrying cookies in a parking lot,” she said with a laugh, “and I’ve been told by people, ‘I can trust you because you’re a Brownie leader.’”

An administrative officer in the School of Environment and Sustainability (SENS)—and a former Brownie herself—Daviduik joined the Girl Guides of Canada as a leader 13 years ago. At the time, she was working for the USSU and looking for volunteer experience, but was not sure where. She was walking through the Arts tunnel one day

and noticed the Girls Guides had a table set up. Intrigued, she signed up and, after an intake interview and initial screening, was soon placed as a leader for a group of Brownies, comprised of girls aged 7 and 8.

In her role as leader, Daviduik plans thematic activities for her Brownie unit to participate in each week that encourage interaction and creative thinking. They range from biology and the living world to fine arts and active living. Other modules look at community building, building self-esteem and respecting others.

“I basically see it as good citizenship training,” said Daviduik. “A lot of activities for kids, they’re focused on one thing, like a sport or dancing. In

Guiding, they get to try a lot of different things.”

For a past session on science, technology, engineering and math (STEM), Daviduik brought in SENS graduate students and faculty to talk about what it is like to work in a scientific environment. “It’s good to be at SENS where you have access to excellent female role models for the girls,” she said.

It is a sense of discovery in the girls that she finds rewarding about being involved with Brownies. “It’s neat when they figure out how to do something they thought they couldn’t do,” she said, recalling one girl who recently transplanted her first potted plant after thinking she could not do it. “(She) had never taken a potted plant out of the



Daviduik

little green pot it comes in. I showed her how to do it and she did it all by herself. When you’re seven—or any age—that’s a huge moment.”

She also had the opportunity to see one of her former

troop members, now 19, stay on with the organization. “She was one of my Brownies early on, and she’s one of the leaders in the unit now. She stuck with it all the way through.”

Daviduik enjoys leading girls at the Brownies level. “They’re old enough that they can do a lot,” she said, adding that though they are young, they are bright and motivated. “It’s not just me and the other leaders imparting our knowledge on the girls. They’re smart and they’re creative and they think of stuff that I never would have.”

And her cookie of choice?

“I like the vanilla sandwich cookies the most. They’re just so delicious. I mean, all the cookies are delicious, but those ones are the best.” ■

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Coming Events

■ Courses/Workshops

Gardening at the U of S

For more information see gardening.usask.ca or call 306-966-5539 to register.

- May 9, 9 am-4 pm, Communications with U of S Master Gardener Program Co-ordinator Vanessa Young, \$67.95 plus GST
- May 10, 9-noon, Botanical Latin, with U of S Master Gardener Program Co-ordinator Vanessa Young, 44.95 plus GST
- May 10, 1-4 pm, Hypertufa Pots with Angie Skiba, U of S Master Gardener, \$55.95 plus GST (includes materials)

Food Environments

The Food Environments in Canada: Symposium and Workshop takes place May 22-23 at Station 20 West. The event begins with a free public talk at the Roxy Theatre by keynote speaker Dr. Steven Cummins, professor at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, London, UK. The symposium continues May 22 and 23 at Station 20 West with other speakers from across Canada and a methodological workshop. Online registration is available at www.foodenvironments2015.ca For more information contact Tracy Ridalls at 306-966-2237.

Edwards School of Business, Executive Education

For information call 306-966-8686, email execed@edwards.usask.ca or visit edwards.usask.ca/execed

- May 11-13, Digital and Social Media Program: Strategy and Tactics
- May 14, Digital and Social Media for Senior Managers
- May 21-22, Operational Excellence Certificate: Process Mapping and Process Improvement
- May 25-26, Operational Excellence Certificate: Analyzing and Improving Office and Service Operations (Lean Office)
- May 29-June 5, The Effective Executive Leadership Program – Waskesiu
- June 3, Technical Writing
- June 15-17, The Project Management Course - Regina

Languages and the Arts

For more information, visit learnlanguages.usask.ca or call 306-966-4351

- Multilingual Conversational Language Classes June 7-Aug. 27:
- French levels 1 to 3: \$210 (GST exempt)
- Spanish levels 1 to 3: \$220.50 (GST included)
- Textbooks and workbooks are extra.

French Voyageur for Real Beginners

- Aug. 14-16; ideal for the traveller who has little or no French-speaking skill, 20 hours over 2.5 days, cost: \$280 (GST exempt) textbooks and workbooks are included.

One-Week Intensive French Immersion

- Aug. 17-22; for those who wish to quickly advance their language skills, 35 hours over 5.5 days; cost: \$550 (GST exempt) materials and final luncheon provided.

Four-Day Intensive Cree Immersion

- Aug. 17-21, for those who wish to quickly advance their language skills, 20 hours over 4 days; cost: \$400 (plus GST) course materials provided.

Community Arts, USCAD/AYAP

- Visual Arts Survey I, May 28, June 5-7 and 12-14
- 2D Design I, May 22-24 and 29-31
- Drawing II & III, May 22-24 and 29-31
- Drawing and Painting the Portrait - Mon/Wed May 4 to June 17
- Painting I, Tues./Thurs., May 6-June 16
- Expressive Strokes: Exploring Experimental Touch II, Mon./Wed., May 4-June 17
- Creative Digital Photography I, Mon./Wed., May 4-June 17
- Advanced Photography II, Tues./Thurs., May 5-June 16
- Photoshop III, Mon./Wed., May 4-June 17
- Pinhole Photography and Alternative Process I, June 20 and 21
- Off the Wall: Mixed Media Sculptural Wall Pieces, June 5-7 and 12-14

Community Music Education

The Community Music Education Program offers classes in Music in Early Childhood, Suzuki Early Childhood and Parenting with Music along with private lessons in traditional guitar, Suzuki guitar, traditional piano, Suzuki piano and violin. On-line registration for fall classes is now open, as is registration for Music Around the World Camps. For more information contact Nicole Wilton at 306-966-5625 or visit ccde.usask.ca/community-music

■ Conferences

Sallows Fry Conference

The 2015 Sallows Fry Conference entitled A Canadian Crisis: Criminalization and Imprisonment of Indigenous Women and those with Disabling Mental Health Issues takes place May 21-22 in the College of Law, hosted by Kim Pate. The two-day conference features a number of sessions and a panel discussion entitled Dying from Improvement: Inquests and Inquiries into Indigenous Deaths in Custody. For information, go to usask.ca/law

Highlights in Medicine Reunion Conference

The College of Medicine is holding its 30th annual Alumni Conference and Reunion June 24-27. The event includes

1.5 days of CME credited workshops, special keynote addresses about new trends in research and integrative medicine, a dean's welcome reception, a reunion banquet, tours of the university campus, and more. The event honours all classes that graduated before 1957 and the honoured class years of 1960, 1965, 1970, 1975, 1980, 1985, 1990, 1995, 2000, 2005 and 2010. There will be special class activities.

■ The Arts

College Art Galleries

Opening May 22 with an 8 pm reception and continuing until Aug. 1 is the Amalie Atkins exhibition we live on the edge of a disaster and imagine we are in a musical. The exhibition highlights the Saskatoon artist's expansion of her practice from film and video to installation. The exhibition tour is co-organized by the College Art Galleries, the Southern Alberta Art Gallery and the MacKenzie Art Gallery.

Gordon Snelgrove Gallery

Until May 19 is Break on through to the Other Side, an exhibition by Patricia Shiplett, a prolific multi-media artist, specializing in sculpture and mixed media. There will be a reception in the gallery May 10 from 1-5 pm.

Bumper Crop VI

The U of S Jazz Ensemble will perform June 13 at 7 pm in Quance Theatre to launch its CD Bumper Crop VI: Continuation. The CD represents the performance activities of the ensemble over the four academic years and features a mix of classic arrangements, new music and Canadian guest artists.

Amati Concert

The Amati Quartet presents Celebrate Spring May 16 at 7:30 pm at Knox United Church. The concert includes Haydn's String Quartet in C major, Op. 20, No. 2, Mozart's String Quartet in B flat, K.458, 'The Hunt', and Debussy's String Quartet in G minor, Op. 10. Tickets are available from the Remai Arts Centre, 306-384-7727, or visit www.amatiquartet.usask.ca

1812 Exhibit

The Diefenbaker Canada Centre presents 1812 One War: Four Perspectives, a travelling exhibition produced by the Canadian War Museum. The exhibition continues until June 21. Check the centre website for opening hours.

■ Miscellany

Tech Venture Finale

The Industry Liaison Office's 2015 Tech Venture Challenge finale and the Wilson Centre i3 Idea Challenge finals take place May 20 at the O'Brien Event Centre. Eight finalists in the two business competitions will be pitching for over \$100,000 in cash prizes. Tickets are available at www.picatic.com/Finales2015

50th Anniversary

The U of S School of Physical Therapy celebrates its 50th anniversary Sept. 11-12 with a number of activities and events that celebrate education, professional scholarship and research. Register for events on the School of Physical Therapy website.

University Club

For information about upcoming events, visit usask.ca/uclub or call 306-966-7775

- May 10, Mother's Day Brunch
- May 30, Dinner and a Show with Tommy Banks
- June 5, Sonoma Wine Dinner
- June 12, Annual Seafood Extravaganza
- June 21, Father's Day and First Day of Summer BBQ
- June 26

Jazz Festival Kick-off BBQ and Patio Party with Live Music by Styles Montreux and Shelley Ewing

Ongoing Events:

- May 20, June 3, June 17, 5-7 pm, Barbecuing on the Patio,
- May 29, June 26, Aug. 28, Fiesta Fridays featuring Mexican lunch

Retirement Party

There will be gathering June 5 from 4-6 pm at the Graduate Student Commons to

mark the retirement of Dr. Bruce Reeder from the College of Medicine where he spent 28 years. For more information, contact kathy.evans@usask.ca or call 306-966-7945.

■ Seminars/Lectures

Literature Matters

- May 13, 7:30 pm, Social Hall, Grace-Westminster United Church, Will Brooks, director of Shakespeare on the Saskatchewan, and Ron Cooley, professor in the Dept. of English, will discuss Othello and Shakespearean translation, adaptation and drama of race relations. This year's Shakespeare on the Saskatchewan production of Othello is a contemporary adaptation where the lead character is a highly esteemed First Nations business executive. For more information, contact the Dept. of English at 306-966-5486 or english@usask.ca

Happiness

- May 15, 7 pm, Broadway Theatre, world-renowned graphic designer Stefan Sagmeister, with a client list that includes the Rolling Stones, HBO, the American Institute of Graphic Arts, the Guggenheim Museum and Time Warner, presents a talk entitled Happiness. Included will be a sneak peek at his new documentary *The Happy Film*. Sponsored by the Edwards School of Business and presented as part of the Graphic Designers of Canada (GDC) Elevators Speaker Series. More information and tickets at picatic.com/gdcskn

■ SUBMIT Coming Events

Next OCN: **Friday, May 22**
Deadline: **Thursday, May 14**

Email ocn@usask.ca

Policy review timely

From Page 3

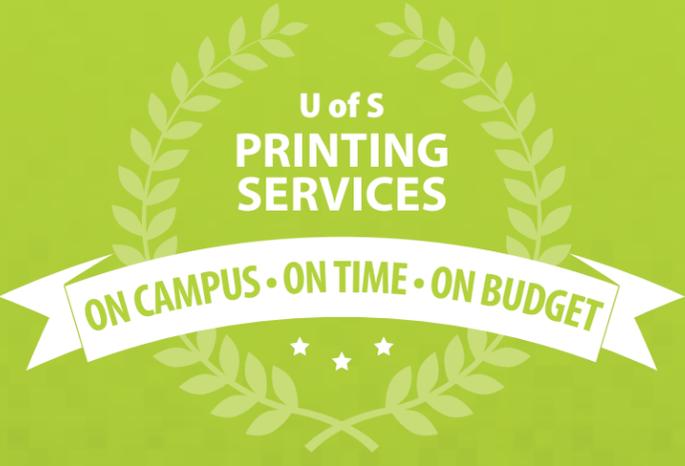
be "guidelines and principles that can help deans and department heads make decisions about these programs. This will not be prescriptive, but it will tell them what issues to think about to inform their decision making."

The subcommittee hopes to get a policy endorsed by Council this fall so that it can start being used by deans and department heads in the upcoming year.

"This is a timely discussion to have and Council can help decide what kind of academic experience we offer students. We have limited resources and the more classes we offer with five students means the more

classes we have to offer with hundreds of students. So let's make it about academics and student experience before it becomes about finances," said Kalynchuk, adding that a new Council-endorsed policy will prove especially important once Transparent, Activity-Based Budget System (TABBS) rolls out to college and departments.

"TABBS will tell them (deans and department heads) what a breakeven number of students is for a class to be feasible. What the cost is for a full professor to teach a three-credit unit course. Each college and department will be responsible for all those costs and that could make decisions more focused on finances." ■



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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.

History of history

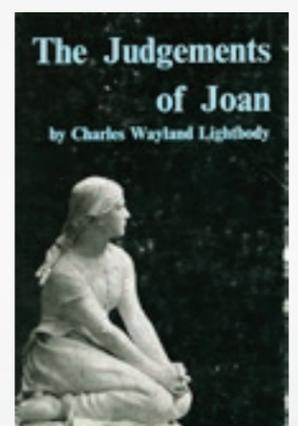
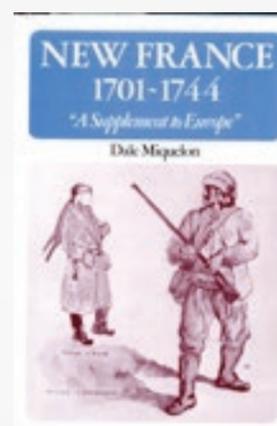
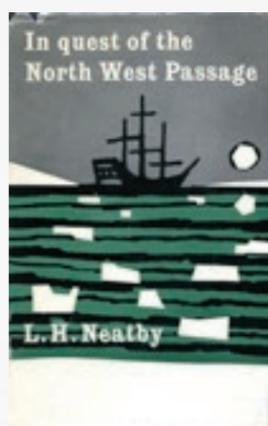
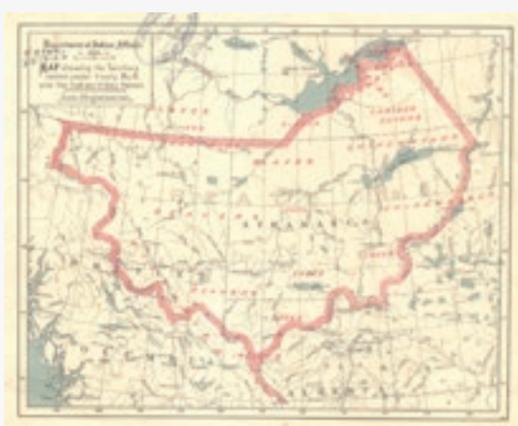
Faculty from the history department became the focus of archival research recently, in a project that may well have made use of more individual collections than any other single study this year.

Professor Keith Carlson and Professor Emeritus Michael Hayden are literally mapping the intellectual history of the University's history department, with the help of student Eric Story. They have looked at history faculty hired prior to 1980 to determine first, where they received their degrees, and then the temporal and geographic coverage of their MA and PhD thesis topics. From there, they are analyzing the degree to which faculty publishing and teaching topics shifted over the course of people's tenure at the U of S. The result will be a historical atlas of scholarship and teaching in the department.

Story's task was to locate some of the basic data: not as easy as it might seem, particularly for many early faculty members. Sources he consulted included the personal papers donated by 15 faculty members, the faculty authors, offprints and biography collections, correspondence in the early records of the president's office, university calendars, and the annual reports from the department, to name a few.



Story



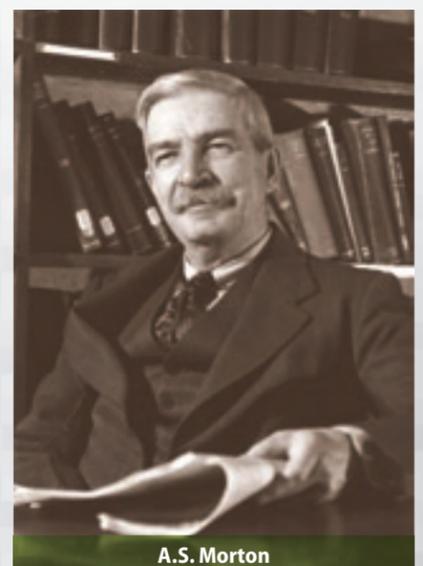
Hilda Neatby



Frank Underhill



Jean Murray



A.S. Morton