



CAREER JUMP START

The Aboriginal Career Start (ACS) program, the first of its kind at the university, was recently launched to provide Aboriginal graduates paid training and workplace experience at the U of S. ACS is designed to serve as a stepping stone to a long-term career at the U of S. A few students who are part of the first ACS cohort attended the April 6 announcement. Read the full story on Page 3.



DAVID STOBBE

International focus for Fu

Incoming USSU president ready for new role

HENRYTYE GLAZEBROOK

For Kehan Fu, winning the University of Saskatchewan Students' Union (USSU) presidency was the only option.

"I was constantly nervous. I was always anxious at the possibility. But I never had a plan B," Fu said.

"You could call it a bit of arrogance, but I see it as a degree of commitment. I went into it putting everything—100 per cent."

Fu managed to pull a win out of his campaign, and will soon trade offices from his current position as vice-president student affairs as he enters his new role as USSU president.

He described this last year as a great opportunity for learning the finer details of the USSU, and looks to the well-worn path of past presidents as a good example

to follow as he transitions into his new role.

"I think people often also forget that mentorship and

"I think there needs to be a better system within both administration and within campus culture in general of understanding the nuances of the different cultures that are actually represented under that international banner."

Kehan Fu

legacies are things that we as students all want. At the end of your academic career, you realize how fast those four years were."

Fu hit a snag early on in his election run when some critics accused his campaign—which

took shape as a cross-cultural blur of flashy posters, social media hubbub, special events and "Fu Dynasty" branding—of emphasizing style over substance, of being, in his own words, "all sizzle, no bacon."

Though the negative feedback was somewhat worrisome, Fu said he remains proud of all the promotional materials his team strategically chose to represent him.

"A lot of the campaign and its influences come from personal passions, but also from parts of my identity that I want to promote, that I want to express. There's a very evident Asian theme in there—we talked not just about Fu, which is my family name, but we also used Asian characteristics, the emphasis on the noodles



Fu

as an Asian cuisine that I love," Fu said.

"People often forget that this is something you might not have seen on campus even five years ago, to see a candidate who's not only not visibly white, but an

immigrant running a campaign that's very culturally different from what normally happens. I'm very proud of that."

His campaign was built on a multi-issue platform of big-picture themes: celebration, sharing, hospitality, home, flavour, memories and vision. These seven ideas acted as an umbrella for more targeted issues, including campus connectivity, continued support of indigenization and greater alumni engagement.

Fu plans to take particular interest in issues of internationalization on campus, both in pushing for expanded research opportunities, bringing with it more opportunities for undergrads, and helping campus to better understand the vast diversity that exists within the blanket term "international

See *Building*, Page 3

Challenging designs

LESLEY PORTER

Rick Retzlaff believes good design should solve a problem. The mechanical engineering professor practices this ethos in his classes in the College of Engineering, where community and industry partners reap the benefits.

The first class, Introduction to Mechanical Engineering Design, is a second-year class that guides students through the mechanical design process—from defining a problem to building a prototype. Last year, Retzlaff met with Dave Hunchak, a former colleague at the U of S

who is now president of the Children's Discovery Museum. The museum, set to open in 2018 in the old Mendel Art Gallery space, was looking for exhibits for its current home in Market Mall.

"We sat down last year and decided, 'hey, let's turn this into a second-year design class,'" said Retzlaff.

Child's play

Student groups were tasked with creating simple, durable play stations using various physical phenomena—such as light, sound, shape, texture and colour—to captivate children aged three to five. However, there were some constraints in place. The units had a size limit, and had to be attached to a slotted wall with hardware. As these are being presented in a public space for children, ruggedness, cleanliness and aesthetics were important factors during the design process as well. Additionally, the exhibits had to conform to Health Canada's industry standards for toys, which Retzlaff described as "just a phenomenal exercise



Daniel O'Reilly, a third-year mechanical engineering student, uses the computer numerical control mill machine to design parts for his group's can crusher.

for the students to go through." Moreover, the small bureaucratic feat ensured overall safety for the young users.

Retzlaff explained that it is important for each of the play stations to allow the physical manipulation of objects. This helps teach children about the physical phenomena in an open-ended and creative way.

"It's very much a design



Third-year engineering student Layla Bekkaoui demonstrates her group's can crusher on April 7.



Engineering student Lauren Zary finishes her group project for the Children's Discovery Museum in the fabrication laboratory.

problem," he said. "It's all about human factors and strength and making sure nothing comes off. They need to draw things, come up with working models, then we manufacture it."

Many of the groups (there were 20 in total) also incorporated some aspect of Indigenous knowledge into their design. For this purpose, Matthew Dunn, Indigenous initiatives co-ordinator in the College of Engineering, was involved in the design process.

Canned design

Retzlaff's other class, Collaborative Design and Manufacturing, is also about solving engineering

design problems. However, there is a greater emphasis on group work for this third-year class.

A common piece of feedback from industry, Retzlaff explained, is that students need more experience working together in large groups to accomplish tasks.

"So we worked with that in mind and came up with this new class," he said. "It's all about groups working together to build a more complicated device—something complicated enough so that everyone needs to communicate and talk and work to put this thing

See *Class*, Page 9



Retzlaff

2015-2016
Spinks Lecturer
Dr. Prashant Kamat

Rev. John .A. Zahn, C.S.C., Professor of Science, Department of Chemistry and Radiation Laboratory, University of Notre Dame, Indiana; concurrent Professor in the Department of Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering

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General Lecture: Thursday, April 28, 2016

Nanostructure Architectures for Light Energy Conversion

3:45 p.m., 107 Physics Building

Specialist Lecture: Friday, April 29, 2016

Beyond Plasmonics, Light Harvesting Properties of Metal Nanoparticles and Clusters

3:45 p.m., 107 Physics Building

PRASHANT V. KAMAT is a Rev. John A. Zahn, C.S.C., Professor of Science in the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry and Radiation Laboratory at University of Notre Dame. He is also a Concurrent Professor in the Department of Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering. He earned his doctoral degree (1979) in Physical Chemistry from the Bombay University, and postdoctoral research at Boston University (1979-1981) and University of Texas at Austin (1981-1983). He joined Notre Dame in 1983. Professor Kamat has for nearly three decades worked to build bridges between physical chemistry and material science to develop advanced nanomaterials that promise cleaner and more efficient light energy conversion.

He has directed Department of Energy funded solar photochemistry research projects for the past 30 years. In addition to large multidisciplinary research programs, he has actively worked with industry-sponsored research. He has served on many national panels on nanotechnology and energy conversion processes. He has published more than 450 scientific papers that have been well received by the scientific community (45000+ citations). Thomson-Reuters has featured him as one of the most cited researchers in 2014 and 2015.

He is currently serving as the deputy editor of the Journal of Physical Chemistry Letters and is editor-in-chief of ACS Energy Letters. He is a member of the advisory board of several scientific journals (Research on Chemical Intermediates, Journal of Colloid & Interface Science, and Applied Electrochemistry). He was awarded Honda-Fujishima Lectureship award by the Japanese Photochemical Society in 2006, CRSI medal by the Chemical Research Society of India in 2011 and Langmuir lectureship award in 2013. He is a Fellow of the Electrochemical Society (ECS), American Chemical Society (ACS) American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) and Pravasi fellow of the Indian National Science Academy.

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President announces priority initiatives at annual address

✍ KRIS FOSTER

At his first address to the General Academic Assembly (GAA) on April 8, President Peter Stoicheff announced his commitment to three key initiatives related to reconciliation, sustainability and examining the feasibility of the Emma Lake Kenderdine Campus.

Stoicheff said the Emma Lake Kenderdine Campus has been top of mind for him since it was temporarily closed in 2012.

"I will sponsor the development of a site plan and vision for the campus," he said, adding that a site plan and vision for the campus are necessary steps to any potential re-opening.

"The Kenderdine campus offered a number of great experiential learning opportunities for our students and was also a great way to engage with the larger community," he continued. "A vision and a site plan will allow us to attract financial support and partnerships to ensure the campus is sustainable and that it suits the university's academic mission."

Sustainability was another topic Stoicheff said is important to his presidency and an area that needs to be strengthened at the U of S.

"There are a number of sustainability initiatives on campus of which we can be

“A vision and a site plan will allow us to attract financial support and partnerships to ensure the (Kenderdine) campus is sustainable and that it suits the university's academic mission.”

Peter Stoicheff

proud," he said. "But there is always more that we can do in this area. My office will continue working with our excellent Office of Sustainability to



President Peter Stoicheff at the April 8 GAA.

JEFF DRAKE

determine which campus-wide initiatives are priorities we can support."

The president said he aims to support opportunities for students to work on sustainability issues on our campus and in our communities.

The third project Stoicheff highlighted was a campus-wide Truth and Reconciliation forum aimed at building on the momentum from

November's National Forum on

Building Reconciliation hosted by the university. The U of S forum will identify what is being done on campus to address the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's recommendations, and what future initiatives will include.

Since being installed as president, Stoicheff has talked extensively about the importance of narrowing the educational gap between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal people.

"We are committed to this across our institution and we will strengthen our efforts to ensure the success of our Aborig-

inal faculty, staff and students," he said. "This is imperative to the success of our communities in Saskatchewan, Canada and beyond."

The GAA is composed of the president, vice-presidents, registrar, deans and directors employed by the university or an affiliated or federated college, as well as all full-time faculty members and a number of U of S students. This annual, public meeting is held to hear the report of the president regarding the state of the university and any other matters that the president considers appropriate. ■

Building on the USSU legacy

From Page 1

students."

"Just because you have one student from China and another from Nigeria, that categorization of international students is still a very artificial one, and I think there needs to be a better system within both administration and within campus culture in general of understanding the nuances of the different cultures that are actually represented under that international banner," he said.

With only one year of experience with the organization, alongside three prior terms with the Arts and Science Students' Union, Fu is somewhat of a greener leader than the USSU has seen in recent years. Fu said he wants to make sure he does not lose track of the people who were confident enough to help him get to this point despite his comparative inexperience.

"That's probably one of the driving forces of what I want to be as a president: somebody who's constantly aware of why I got this job and the people who could have had this job, but chose not to and are still supporting."

Though he has no plans to run for re-election in 2017, Fu said he hopes that whoever takes his place can similarly learn from his own time in office and continue where he leaves off.

"I'm going to be gone after this year from this student position, but I don't want all the work that we've done as a team, that I've done, to not just be forgotten, per se, but to slide away and for people to have to re-learn the mistakes and successes that we've made," Fu said.

"That's what the dynasty would represent: the idea that every year is a continuation and that every year is going to be better than the last one." ■

Aboriginal career start

✍ ZAHEED BARDAI

More than 160 guests attended the April 6 launch of the Aboriginal Career Start (ACS) program at the U of S, which will help graduates from partner institutions gain some practical on-the-job training and experience.

As part of the program, the first of this kind at the U of S, Aboriginal graduates from the Saskatchewan Indian Institute of Technology and the Gabriel Dumont Institute of Native Studies and Applied Research will be provided paid training and an immersive workplace orientation at the U of S.

"This program is a great opportunity for recent graduates from partner institutions in our community to learn skills that will serve them well in their careers, whether that is here at the university or in the community," said Peter Stoicheff, U of S president.

Participants, 16 in total, will receive on-the-job training in university departments, including Financial Services and Human



Cheryl Carver, associate vice-president of human resources.

DAVID STOBBE

Resources, and will benefit from professional guidance and mentorship, and develop valuable interpersonal, management and teamwork skills. ACS is designed to develop necessary financial and administrative skills to serve as a stepping-stone to a long-term career at the university.

"They'll learn about institutional policies and procedures, as well as integral business processes," said Cheryl Carver, associate vice-president of human resources.

With respect to the individual and personal growth of participants, Carver continued,

"they will also be given guidance and mentorship, and develop valuable interpersonal, management and teamwork skills."

The program, expected to cost the U of S around \$50,000 per year with the partner institutions subsidizing wages, is part of the university's commitment to Aboriginal engagement.

"We think that it's important to run a program like this," Stoicheff said. "We would hope that we can build and expand on this." ■

Zaheed Bardai is a Communications Specialist with Human Resources

NEW TO US


Marla
Mickleborough

Marla Mickleborough's migraine research is a combination of design and coincidence. Like many young people, the assistant professor in the Department of Psychology was unsure of career direction when she arrived on campus from Rosetown.

Initially, she signed up for a commerce degree, but took a year off when she found it was not a good fit. As she cast about for alternatives, she started reading up on migraines—a familiar topic, as she has lived with the condition since she was eight years old.

"I started to learn a bit more about the brain and thought, 'wow, who gets to do this as a job?'" she explained. "I discovered neuroscience."

She returned to the U of S to complete a BA in psychology, then went to Western University in Ontario for her masters, where she looked at pain perception in patients with post-traumatic stress disorder. From there, she travelled to the University of British Columbia, where she completed her PhD looking at how migraineurs—those who suffer from migraine headaches—process visual stimuli.

As Mickleborough explains it, migraineurs appear to have a limited ability to focus on just one thing in their visual field, although it is uncertain how this might be connected to their condition.

"When you're attending to something, you're suppressing the rest of the visual field," she said. "Migraineurs aren't suppressing the rest of the visual field as well as someone without migraines."

Certain things, like a tightly striped pattern on a colleague's shirt or an escalator's stairs can set off an attack. Fluorescent lights are a common culprit (her own office has alternative lighting).

Depending on the person, consequences can range from mild discomfort to a full-blown attack, with partial loss of vision, excruciating headache, nausea and vomiting. Remedies are few: the migraineur must retreat to a dark, quiet place where they can lay down.

"Because of sensitivity to light, sound and movement, laying still in bed is what's needed," she said. "I'll add to that, in a meditative state, because thinking about things can actually hurt too, which sounds crazy—but it's trying to just dull everything."

Mickleborough, who started as an assistant professor in March 2015, purposely steered her career back to the University of Saskatchewan, both to be closer to home and because of the local research community.

"For me, the Prairies are beautiful and the University of Saskatchewan is just an excellent university with really good neuroscience people," she said. "It's just the right size where people are willing to collaborate and work together. I think we can do bigger things with that."

Top dogs

Huskie Salute honours student athletes



Left to right: Lisa Thomaidis, Jordon Cooke, Kiera Prior, Dalcyce Emmerson, CJ Gavlas, Laura Dally and Jared Olson.

Top Huskie athletes were honoured April 1 at the annual Huskie Salute, with the Canada West Outstanding Athletes of the Year awards going to basketball player Laura Dally and hockey player Jordon Cooke.

Dally, Canada West women's basketball MVP, helped lead the Huskie women's basketball team to its first ever Canadian Interuniversity Sport (CIS) championship. The kinesiology student from Bright's Grove, Ont. averaged 17.2 points per game and was named a tournament all-star at the CIS Final 8 in addition to her appointment as a CIS First Team All-Canadian.

Cooke, the nation's top goaltender also received the award for the conference's most outstanding player after helping the Huskies win a Canada West championship. The second-year arts and science student from Leduc, Alta. was named the CIS championship's top goaltender after being honoured earlier as the CIS Goaltender of the Year and a First Team All-Canadian.

Huskie Athletics handed out five other major awards.

A pair of CIS Rookies of the Year also earned the Huskie Athletics Rookie of the Year trophies.

CJ Gavlas, who hails from

Saskatoon, was awarded the Howard Nixon Trophy for Male Rookie of the Year after helping the men's volleyball team earn a Canada West silver medal. The arts and science student was awarded the Canada West and CIS Rookie of the Year awards and was named to the all-rookie team at both the conference and national level.

Kiera Prior earned the silver medal at the CIS wrestling championships and was named the CIS Female Rookie of the Year. Prior's silver medal was in addition to her silver medal at the Canada West Championship. The arts and science student from Saskatoon finished no lower than fourth in any tournament all season.

Basketball player Dalcyce Emmerson was the winner of the Valerie Girsberger Trophy handed to an upper-year female all-round athlete. The men's version of the award, the Rusty MacDonald Cup, went to track and field's Jared Olson.

A two-time Canada West champion, and now CIS

champion, Emmerson capped off her historic career in style. Emmerson was a three-time CIS All-Canadian and leaves the program second in rebounding, third in scoring and the all-time blocked shots leader. The kinesiology student from Prince Albert, Sask. was named a conference all-star and appeared at the CIS championship in four of her five seasons. Emmerson was the Canada West MVP and Defensive Player of the Year in 2013. Emmerson, an all-academic for the Huskies, volunteers at various events in the community such and was a coach with the Junior Huskies program.

Jared Olson was the 2016 CIS and Canada West men's 60m hurdles champion. Olson shared the title of CIS and conference champion with his 4x200m relay teammates. Olson has also been a steady veteran presence away from the track, helping tutor and mentor younger teammates. The Saskatoon native volunteers with many community track and field events and is always quick to step up and volunteer for his squad. Olson has served on the Huskie Athletic Council for the past two seasons.

The Colb McEwon Trophy for Coach of the Year was handed to women's basketball coach Lisa Thomaidis. In her 17th-year at the helm, Thomaidis led the team to its first ever CIS Championship. Thomaidis was named the Canada West Coach of the Year for the fifth time after guiding the team to an 18-2 record and their fourth conference title. Thomaidis has taken the Huskies to seven of the last eight CIS Championships.

More than 350 athletes, fans, sponsors, alumni and supporters gathered at TCU Place to celebrate the special event. ■

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Reading room renovations

Donation improves heart of business school

Edwards School of Business alumnus Larry Moeller and his family donated \$500,000 to rejuvenate the dedicated student space in which he and his classmates studied during the 1970s.

On March 29, the Moeller Resource Room was unveiled at the U of S with the extended Moeller family in attendance, to celebrate with students, faculty and staff.

The university matched the Moeller donation for a total of \$1 million to support extensive changes both to the Reading Room and to other student spaces.

The former Commerce Reading Room was a heavily utilized space for students for decades, but it had become tired and shabby.

"When I first saw it, it reminded me more of a Dickensian orphanage than a place for 21st century students to mingle and work," recalled Daphne Taras, dean of Edwards School of Business, who described the space as "the heart of the school," where students hit the books, play cards, socialize, and attend career fairs and networking events.

Now refurbished, the Moeller Resource Room has group-work tables, multi-level seating and break-out rooms for project work. There are dozens of electrical plugs to charge the students' portable computers, complete audio-visual capabilities, and a student lounge and eating area. With the potential for catered events to take place in the space, the school can host numerous student competitions.

Born in Humboldt and raised in Meadow Lake, Moeller attended the U of S College of



The Moeller Resource Room in the Edwards School of Business.



DAVID STOBBE

Commerce, graduating in 1980 to become a chartered professional accountant. He and Murray Edwards, the school's namesake, became close friends during university, and since 1994 Moeller has been working side-by-side with Edwards. Moeller is vice-president finance of Edco Financial Holdings and sits on the board of directors for Magellan Aerospace Corporation and Imperial Metals Corporation.

Moeller is an active member of the Edwards School of Business Dean's Advisory Council and said this gift is one of the ways he intends to stay

engaged with his alma mater.

"For decades this room has served as the nucleus of daily student life at the Edwards School of Business," said Moeller.

"I trust that this gift will enhance the student experience and make it a richer period of education and development for all students who utilize this space. By

making this gift I wanted to inspire, support and encourage all students in their journeys to become leaders in business and in society at large." ■

Remembering Kaplan



Greg Marion, head of the Department of Music, holds up a plaque that will be mounted outside the David Kaplan Instrument Collection Room (Education 1038).

The Department of Music held a short ceremony on April 6 in Quance Theatre to commemorate the one-year anniversary of former professor David Kaplan's passing.

During this ceremony, it was announced that the construction of two authentic replicate First Nations drums in the Plains Style have been commissioned using memorial donations made in Kaplan's name. The drums will be completed at some point during the 2016/17 academic year.

A plaque to go outside the David Kaplan instrument collection room was also unveiled by Greg Marion, head of the music department, and Glen Gillis, a professor of music. ■



Moeller

REMAI MODERN PRESENTS...

INDIGENOUS VIEWS OF THE OTHER

A Lecture by Gerald McMaster



Haida Sea Captain, Collection of the Art Gallery of Ontario.

Representations of Indigenous Americans by Europeans is a well-travelled, yet one-way street. The practice of Indigenous artists representing Europeans is, on the other hand, an untravelled road. In this lecture, Gerald McMaster will present works from all regions of Canada and the northern United States in order to explore the various visual strategies Indigenous artists use to represent this interface with their European other.

Gerald McMaster's lecture is part of Remail Modern's Museums 3.0, an innovative program which brings leading figures to Saskatoon to engage with staff and inform the gallery's direction-setting programs. He is a ground-breaking curator, a professor of Indigenous Visual Culture and Critical Curatorial Studies at OCAD University (Toronto), and is currently Canada Research Chair in Indigenous Visual Culture & Curatorial Practice.

For more details, visit remaimodern.org/prelaunch or visit us on Facebook. Presented by Remail Modern Museums 3.0



- Monday, April 18, 2016
- Lecture at 6:30 pm (Doors open at 6 pm)
- Admission is FREE

BackStage Stage Remail Arts Centre (Home of Persephone Theatre)
Reception to follow, cash bar

Remail Modern gratefully acknowledges funding from the City of Saskatoon, Sask Arts Board, SaskCulture, and Canada Council for the Arts.

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Balancing economy and environment

 HENRYTYE GLAZEBROOK

There is tension between economic growth and the push for environmental sustainability. These tensions are more pronounced in natural resource based economies. U of S researchers examine how to balance these seemingly opposing ideals.



If you ask Philip Loring about the balance between sustainability and economy in Canada, he will tell you about arctic entryways.

The concept is one he became familiar with while living in Alaska. Homes built in these kinds of severe cold climates are designed with a small impasse between the exterior and interior, in which two sets of doors create a stopgap between the harsh environment outside and the warm comfort of home to help prevent heat from needlessly escaping as people come and go.

In practice, arctic entryways are just one example of what Loring, an assistant professor at the U of S School of Environment and Sustainability (SENS), refers to as “mundane changes”—small adjustments in behaviour that can add up to big impressions in environmental stability.

“There are a lot of these changes that people will do. They just need to be nudged. It doesn’t require a fundamental change in values, but it’s just not what they do right now,” he said, adding that

there are both small and medium changes that could be implemented right here in Saskatchewan.

“Our houses are too big, they’re too far apart and our behaviours in them are not as efficient as they could be. I think we could dramatically change the energy economy if people used space better and more efficiently.”

In Loring’s experience, these kinds of changes are precisely the

sort that can be made on the ground level in order to create a more environmentally friendly future without creating too heavy of a burden on Canada’s economy.

Tipping the scales

The question is a common one among researchers: How do you balance the scales between environmental sustainability and economic growth without creating instability?

Since Canada is in many

ways fuelled by its natural resource sectors—the products which are spread out beyond their initial extraction and into transportation, sales, exports and other industries both nationally and internationally—a shift of any kind could create widespread ripples in the country’s economic health.

According to data held by Ken Coates, Canada Research Chair in Regional Innovation at the Johnson-Shoyoma Graduate School of Public Policy, natural

resources account for 19 per cent of the Canadian economy.

And in the middle of the country’s Prairies lies Saskatchewan, a province Coates refers to as “a natural resources shopping centre.”

“We have a huge number of opportunities and possibilities here, and all you have to do is spend five minutes driving around Saskatoon and you’ll see how integrated that natural resource sector is to the provincial economy,” he said, noting that recent dips in areas like potash, iron, ore and uranium have led to common fears that the current economy is entering a tailspin.

To Coates, balancing those scales means finding a place where people can comfortably live off of the resources at their disposal without causing undue harm to the ecosystem.

Part of this concept lies in proper regulation—an area where Coates said Canada is among the world’s leaders—but also in careful consideration of undervalued ideas such as envi-



Loring



Coates



Bruneau



ronmental assessment, evaluation and reclamation, and the involvement of Indigenous People therein.

“Natural resources are a huge part of our economy. We should develop them carefully and thoughtfully. We didn’t always do that. We turned things over to companies a long time ago, we weren’t very careful and we’ve had damage going on for decades as a consequence of bad planning 50, 60, 70 years ago when things like downstream oil pollution wasn’t a part of our vocabulary,” he said.

Part of what makes this planning so enticing to Coates, if executed correctly, is that turning Canada into a reclamation powerhouse has the potential to simultaneously create a wealth of jobs in an increasingly uncertain working climate.

“My view is that the resource sector, on hyper-environmental sensitivity, would actually create more jobs than we have now because we’re actually losing the mining jobs on account of technology. But we have to have proper assessment, proper monitoring. We have to turn reclamation into an exportable, national skill. We can be the world leaders in reclamation for mining, forestry, whatever,” Coates said.

“I think we need to realize that how we work and how much money we’re earning while working is pretty much a central preoccupation for everybody, everywhere.”

Looking to the future

To Joel Bruneau, associate professor of economics at the U of S College of Arts and Science, environmental caretaking is less about setting out to create a healthier planet and more about ensuring overall long-term quality of living.

He follows the Brundtland model of sustainable development, which, explained at the most basic level, strives to meet the needs of the present while leaving future generations no worse off.

“That doesn’t mean they inherit an identical Earth, but they inherit sufficient resources—and it can be a different mix of resources—so that they’re no worse off.”

Bruneau looks to the use of renewable resources as a means of filling gaps made by a shift away from non-renewables such as potash, gas, coal, oil and even old-growth forest, which he

includes based on the length of its regrowth cycle.

“By definition, using non-renewable resources is not sustainable in an ecological context. You’re taking it, you’re changing it, it doesn’t grow back—at least not in a time frame that’s relevant.”

The goal when moving to renewable resources is to ensure people do not become over-reliant in any area.

“This is a little bit about the trade off between using those natural resources for human benefit and preserving those natural resources for later human benefit,” he said.

“When we think of renewable resources like fisheries, trees, agriculture, we recognize that we can overexploit those. It’s important to maintain the integrity of

“ We’ve come to teach ourselves that what we do is cause problems in the environment, and I don’t think that’s the case. I think what we do is we innovate in nature and solve problems.

Philip Loring

ecological systems so that you can maintain this flow of services going forward.”

In the short-term, Bruneau sees government-mandated carbon tax, which would have companies involved in carbon-heavy business practices paying fees on the amount of carbon produced, as the best immediate step forward in a shift toward renewables.

The result, he said, would be companies purposely moving toward options that are more sustainable as a means of improving bottom line.

“The first thing you’ve got to do is a carbon tax. It might actually be the only step you need. Once you make carbon really expensive, then Sask Hydro is going to say, ‘Screw this coal stuff. I’m going into non-coal production,’” Bruneau said.

“You don’t need to tell them to get out of coal. They’ll tell themselves.”

Meeting halfway

For Loring, the issue of environment versus economy is not as black and white as favouring one side over the other. Instead, he

thinks the best path forward lies somewhere in the middle.

“On one hand I would like to think that we’ve moved past the either-or, environment or economy debate,” he said, adding that there are circumstances when either the environment or economy has to take precedence.

“Some issues you just have to protect the environment, and it’s not an economic thing, or some issues you have to make concessions or trade-off. I’m tentative about the word trade-off. I think more in terms of: Where are the win-win situations? How do we achieve both?” he said, highlighting Red Dog Mine in Alaska as one example of how co-ordinated efforts between industry and community has helped all parties flourish.

“Everyone you ask who’s worked with Red Dog Mine is more or less happy with how it worked out. They put the money back into the communities. I’ve seen infrastructure and livelihoods thrive around it. They found a way to make it work.”

Loring has a belief in human ingenuity’s ability to solve crisis problems, like those currently faced in matters of sustainability, if only humanity can reprioritize its outlook on the world and its own place within it.

In Loring’s mind, people have spent too long looking at issues of environmental instability as an innate part of modern existence—that shrinking ozone, melting polar ice caps and smog-filled skies are a natural by-product of humanity’s march into further technological advancement.

“We’ve come to teach ourselves that what we do is cause problems in the environment, and I don’t think that’s the case. I think what we do is we innovate in nature and solve problems,” he said.

“One way or another, something’s going to change. It can be graceful or it can be horrible. I would rather it be graceful.”

Much like Loring, Coates too believes that the general public should be relied on to spur on some of the change—be that in small ways or in using their purchasing power to drive industry development of eco-friendly technologies.

“If we’re buying more energy efficient cars, they’ll make more energy efficient cars,” said Coates. “We have to get to the point where we don’t make it somebody else’s responsibility to do all these things.” ■

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Adventures with polar bears

MICHAEL ROBIN

As the world's largest land carnivore, a polar bear should make an easy target for a field biologist. After all, males can weigh more than 600 kilograms, stand two metres at the shoulder and be three metres long.

Nonetheless, as Susan Blum explained, it is a bit of a challenge.

"The helicopter's swaying back and forth, and then of course the bear is dodging and running around," said Blum, director of Research Services and Ethics.

"If you have a good pilot to get you in position, when you're in synch, the pilot will swoop in and there's just that split second where you have that perfect shot as you're hanging out the helicopter window."

Blum was the first female polar bear field biologist in the 1990s while she was completing her PhD, and worked two years for the Government of Nunavut before taking a job in Research Services at the U of S. Under the

supervision of U of S wildlife biologist Malcolm Ramsay, Blum looked at levels of industrial chemicals and pesticides such as PCBs and DDT in polar bears.

Blum explained these chemicals, widely used in the temperate latitudes, are carried north by air currents where they precipitate out into the Arctic environment. They are absorbed by ocean plankton, which are eaten by fish, who are in turn eaten by the seals that make up a large part of the polar bear diet. At each stage of the food chain, these fat-soluble chemicals become more concentrated, something exacerbated by the bears' feeding preferences.

"Polar bears prefer fat," Blum

said. "If there's a lot of food—like during seal pupping—they'll just eat the head off the seal pups, because that's where the brain and the fat is and there's not much else on them. With the adult seals, they'll just strip off the fat and leave the rest of the carcass."

Finding out what kind of chemical load the bears are carrying is a major operation. A critical step is setting out fuel caches and marking them with GPS co-ordinates—the Arctic is vast, and unpredictable weather can bury these vital supplies under snow. The research team gets their gear together the night before.

Then the team sets out in the helicopter in search of bears. Once one is spotted, the pilot drops most of the researchers and gear off at a safe distance, then comes back with a team member and a dart gun loaded with sedative.

Blum, a farm girl from Simcoe, Ont. who grew up target shooting with her dad and brother and later served in the Canadian Forces Reserves, was particularly good at the job. She said that during her first research season, unbeknownst to the team, the helicopter pilot had been keeping a log book of hits and misses for all polar bear research darters.

"At the end of the season he had a bottle of champagne and he came in just clapping his hands," Blum said. "He says that out of everyone he had worked with, I had the best score."

Once the bear is down, the team gets to work weighing and measuring the animal, as well as collecting samples of blood, urine, feces, fat, milk, hair and a small clip of flesh from its



Susan Blum shares research memories from the field.

ear. Depending on the projects underway, the process takes one and a half to two hours. The researchers must also be on their guard for other curious bears

and sea ice conditions.

"We always had firearms with us," Blum said. "We carried

See *Polar*, Page 9

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Writing true stories

dee HOBBSAWN-SMITH

Allan Casey is reluctant to pin himself down. The author, who received the Governor General Award for his book *Lakeland: Ballad of a Freshwater Country*, admits to a wide range of interests, from uranium and nuclear energy to race relations in Canada. It is next to impossible to ascertain if his interests precede or result from his long career as an award-winning journalist.

"I am interested in practically everything," Casey said, "and it's a happy illness, attention surplus disorder, this fascination with how things fit together. (Writing is) the only job that allows you to become deeply immersed in the kinds of things you otherwise have to be a professional to explore."

Casey is currently teaching creative nonfiction in the MFA in Writing program in the College of Arts and Science. For his grad students, the happy result of his far-ranging curiosity is exposure to a deep bank of writers and thinkers,



Casey

which the students experience via book excerpts.

"Creative nonfiction is too vast a field to capture by assigning book-length readings," Casey explained. "We would only cover three or four authors that way. We sample a different author every week, mostly contemporary."

He cited Virginia Woolf and George Orwell as stylistic inspirations, along with rock poet Patti Smith's memoir, *Just*

Kids, Helen McDonald's *H is for Hawk* and Nobel laureate Svetlana Alexievitch's oral history, *Voices from Chernobyl*. The students each present two authors, so by the end of the course they get a taste of perhaps 25 writers, most of whom are new to them.

Differentiating between journalism and creative nonfiction can be messy. "Academics want neat differentiations but they don't really exist," he said. "Excellent creative work cohabits with 'just' journalism. In *The New Yorker*, some pieces are

straight journalism and others are more nuanced, stylized. I

like that creative nonfiction has roots in journalism and practical-minded writing."

Creative nonfiction matters in much the same way that fiction does, said Casey, who is currently working on a novel, his first. "(Creative nonfiction) helps us examine the world we live in ... (through) literal and factual truths."

He added that journalism, the root of nonfiction writing, is at a low ebb. "The internet has finally collided with conventional print and smashed it to pieces. ... Does that result in poor quality copy and unreliable info? Absolutely, but to get free-wheeling opinion and diversity is a good thing."

Like fiction, Casey believes that nonfiction writing relies

on a half-dozen ingredients, including good use of significant detail and knowing when to quote someone and when to paraphrase. "The storytelling imperative is identical, and like chess, getting good at it takes a little while," he said. It is always a shock to writing students more familiar with fiction to grapple with the idea of sticking to the facts and telling the truth.

"I can't help them a whole lot except to throw them in," he admitted. "I send them out the front door to get material, to write from life, to come back with a story based on that. After adjustment, they see the possibilities." ■

dee Hobsbawn-Smith is a Saskatoon-based freelance writer.

Class solves real-world problems

From Page 2

together."

He had been approached by Kevin Acton, the operations director of SARCAN Recycling, who suggested looking at a can crushing device. Currently, most devices on the market tasked with doing this crush the can top-down, resulting in an end product that looks like a thin aluminum hockey puck. However, this is not accepted by SARCAN for refund because it obstructs the label and cannot be further baled.

"They need it crushed sideways. So that was the challenge we gave students," said Retzlaff. "Each smaller team is responsible for one part of the design. At the end of the

day, they bolt it all together and they see if it works."

To create the parts for their can crushing prototypes, student groups used two computer numerical control (CNC) lathe and mill machines, which were purchased through the college's advancement trust in 2015. The CNC machines work similarly to 3-D printers, but for harder materials (like aluminum) and moving parts. Students produce their parts for their fabrications in a specialized design program and feed it into the CNC machine, which creates that part.

Just like the second-year class, there were certain constraints in place, explained Retzlaff. The flattened can had to be fewer than 10 millimetres

thick and one side of the label had to remain readable. Additionally, the whole device must be operable by both children and adults.

During the week of April 4, both classes presented their prototypes to their classmates and respective partner organizations, who are always happy to work with students on projects for solutions to real-world problems.

And while presenting in front of their peers may be initially nerve-wracking, the involvement is a real boost for students to see their work in action.

"They get to design and actually build things," he said. "It's not just a paper design class." ■

Polar passion

From Page 8

handguns—a .44—and we would have a shotgun with us, then of course the dart gun."

Fortunately, extreme measures were never needed while Blum was in the field, although there were a couple of uncomfortable incidents. Once the helicopter was delayed while she was the sole person finishing up with a bear. She had to make sure she had enough sedative to keep the animal safely unconscious, while snuggling up to it to stay warm in the frigid Arctic weather.

Then there was the time they were field testing a new sedative regime.

"It worked really well in the holding facility," Blum said. "The first time we tried it in the field, we were just lifting the bear with a tripod to weigh it, and the bear lifted its head up and looked at us."

In the seconds that it took for her to grab a dart pole with more sedative, the bear had already knocked over the tripod and was on its feet. It started to run at them, oblivious to a few warning shots.

"All of a sudden his back end wavered," Blum said. "He stopped, he looked at us, he looked around and went back to our gear and he laid down and stayed there."

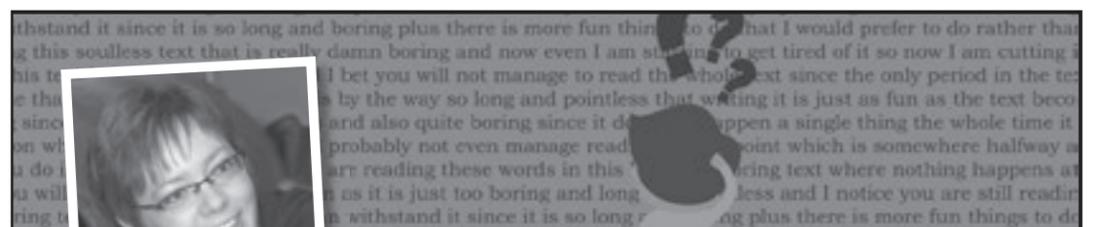
The helicopter arrived to find the research team far down the beach ridge, with the bear snoozing right beside their gear. The animal didn't want to move—even when the pilot nudged it with the aircraft's skid.

"The bear was on one side of the helicopter and our gear was on the other, so we hopped out quick, threw in our gear and got out of there."

Blum wrapped up her field career in 2000, the same year her friend and mentor Ramsay died tragically in a helicopter crash at Resolute. At the time, he was helping a BBC television crew with a two-part documentary on polar bears; they asked if Blum would help them with the second segment. She was in Churchill when she got the call with a job offer from the U of S.

Since then, Blum has continued to share her passion for the bears through annual tours to Churchill organized through the U of S. She is preparing for the latest, a Polar Bear Ecology Tour offered through the College of Education coming up in November 2016, with information sessions coming up in June.

"Everyone should experience the North," she said. "Just the beauty of the Arctic and seeing everyone in their natural habitat, the whales, the seabirds, the muskox and the bears of course. I miss that; I miss the adventure." ■



About the Presenter

As a writer, editor, designer, or instructor, Michelle Boulton helps people create and refine documents that clearly communicate their intended message.

She is the creative director at 3c publications, where she leads a team of skilled and experienced writers, editors, translators, designers, and project managers who can help clients manage their entire publishing process or provide more targeted assistance.

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Coming events

■ Seminars/Lectures

Seven Days that Transformed the World

April 19, 6-8 pm, Hose and Hydrant Brewing Company, 612 11th Street E. Matthew Neufeld will present *The Day They Cut Off the King's Head*. The judicial killing of Charles I on January 30, 1649 was a turning point in the history of government, law and religion. Never before was a sitting monarch executed publicly by his own subjects. But the king's death would set the foundation for the restoration, and transformation, of a monarchy that reigns to this day. Neufeld studies early modern British and European history. His research aims to help us understand and explain some of the important cultural and social changes that stemmed from the experience of warfare and state formation after the Reformation. These days he is researching the transformation of naval health care in Britain and its imperium during the 18th century. Everyone is welcome to attend. For more information contact Keith Carlson at keith.carlson@usask.ca.

■ Courses/Workshops

ESL Classes at the Language Centre

April 4-May 30, part-time program, spring term. Classes will cover writing and applied grammar, pronunciation, graduate-level writing, reading or listening skills, and spoken English. For more information or to register contact 306-966-4351 or visit ptesl.usask.ca.

Spring Session Multilingual Conversational Language Classes

Classes from April 18 to June 13, 2016:

- French levels 1 to 6: \$215 (GST exempt)
- Spanish levels 1 to 6: \$225.75 (GST included)
- Japanese levels 1 and 2: \$225.75 (GST included)

- Japanese for the Traveller: \$252.00 (manual and GST included)
 - German levels 1, 2 and 4: \$225.75 (GST included)
 - Italian levels 1, 2 and 4: \$225.75 (GST included)
 - Cree level 1 (materials and GST included)
- Textbooks and workbooks are extra unless otherwise indicated. For more information, visit learnlanguages.usask.ca or call 306-966-4355 or 5539.

Realist Methods and Realist Synthesis Training Workshop

June 13-17. This immersive five-day workshop will guide participants through advanced skills in realist methodologies led by Gill Westhorp, an internationally recognized specialist and trainer in realist methodologies. Each day of the workshop will have a different focus and will include provision of advanced skills lectures/workshops; time for researchers or research teams to work on or develop their own projects; and sessions in which researchers present their work in progress, receive feedback and discuss issues and strategies in realist design and methodologies. University of Saskatchewan registrants: \$500. Students: \$250. External registrants: \$1,000. Team rates available at the rate of 10 per cent off for teams of three to five, and 25 per cent off for teams of six or more. Email yxe.realistworkshop@usask.ca for registration information.

Community Arts

Explore your creativity and develop skills in drawing, painting, sculpture, photography, glass, jewelry making, fiber art, graphic design, art history and more. These courses help you gain confidence as you develop your portfolio. Classes are taught by professional artists. Take classes for general interest or work toward a certificate. For more information, visit ccde.usask.ca/art. Register online or call 306-966-5539.

■ The Arts

U of S Amati Quartet

April 30, Knox United Church at 2:00 and 7:30 pm. Haydn - String Quartet in G minor, Op. 20, No. 3. Schubert - String Quartet in A minor, Op. 29, 'Rosamunde', Dvorak - String Quartet in G major, Op.106. Tickets available from Remai Arts Centre 306-384-7727, \$30 adults, \$25 seniors, \$15 student. Visit: amatiquartet.usask.ca.

■ Conferences

College of Agriculture and Biore-sources and National Aboriginal Lands Managers Association National Conference

This national conference takes place May 31, June 1 and 2 in Saskatoon SK. To complete an on-line registration form visit: nalma.ca/events/event/national-conference. Deadline is May 20, 2016. Registration Fee: \$150. Lunch provided each day of the conference. Registration fee is waived for current NALMA members and PLMCP graduating students. For more information, contact: Melanie Jacobs-Douglas mjacobs@nalma.ca, 705-657-7660 (toll free:1-877-234-9813).

■ Miscellany

Images of Research competition: last day to vote

April 20 is the last chance to vote in the Viewer's Choice category of the second annual U of S Images of Research competition. The winners of the public vote receive \$300 (1st) and \$200 (runner-up).

All members of the public can vote for up to five of their favourite images of U of S research. Voting opens on April 11 and closes at 11:59 pm on April 20. Website: <http://research.usask.ca/images-of-research.php>.

Saskatoon Archaeological Society Annual General Meeting

The Saskatoon Archaeological Society will be holding their Annual General Meeting on Friday, April 22 at 7 pm in Room 132 of the Archaeology Building. April's presenter is Robert Clipperton who will speak on the Cypress Hills Massacre. All are welcome to attend!

Joint Convocation

The Saskatoon Theological Union will hold its 15th joint convocation May 6 at Zion Lutheran Church at 7 pm. 30 students will graduate this year—four from the College of Emmanuel and St. Chad, four from Lutheran Theological Seminary and 22 from St. Andrew's College. The Lutheran Theological Seminary will be conferring an honorary Doctor of Divinity degree to Rev. John Gram. St. Andrew's College will be conferring an honorary Doctor of Divinity degree to Rev. Alison West. The College of Emmanuel and St. Chad will be conferring an honorary Doctor of Divinity degree to The Rt. Rev. David Irving.

Green Give and Go

April 28, 9 am – 4pm (Voyageur Place Courtyard) and April 29, 10 am – 5pm (College Quarter Promenade). The Office of Sustainability and Residence Services is keep this year's move-out as sustainable as possible. Bring your unwanted items to stations at Voyageur Place and College Quarter and leave them at the free and open item swap. Items accepted include: clean, usable, and donatable household items; non-perishable food for donation to the Saskatoon Food Bank; and recycling, landfill, electronic and hazardous household waste.

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Coming events

Next OCN: Friday, April 29
Deadline: Thursday, April 21

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Go Abroad photo contest winners

This year's Go Abroad Photo Contest, an initiative organized by the International Student and Study Abroad Centre received 75 photos submissions in three categories. Students who studied abroad, including international students, were invited to submit pictures that most picturesquely portrays their time studying abroad in Saskatoon or in another country. More than 650 student, staff, faculty and alumni voted 1,928 times for their favorite photos.

People, Culture and Lifestyles



First place: "Reindeer Herding" by Patrick Pearse

While I was studying abroad in Uppsala, Sweden, I had the opportunity of a lifetime to learn about the Sami culture and reindeer herding. Sami people are the only people allowed to herd reindeer. They do it for a living. This little fellow found me quite interesting, maybe because I had food for it.



Second place: "Dance to Show Who You Are" by Chintamani Thapa



Third place: "Train Lines" by Ahmed Sajid Kabir

Adventure and Sport



First place: "Amazing Frozen Bubbles" by Xiaohua Hu

This picture was taken in Abraham Lake in the Canadian Rockies. This lake is quite famous for the frozen bubbles in the winter. That is an amazing kingdom of bubbles. The bubbles are formed by the methane gas released by the dead plants under the lake, which gets frozen once coming close enough to the much colder lake surface. They then stack up below once the weather gets colder during the winter season. When we walked on the quite slippery ice to search for them, the sound from the cracked ice continuously scared us. In this photo, my friend Ms. Chunyu Zhou was recording this amazing moment by using her camera recorder.

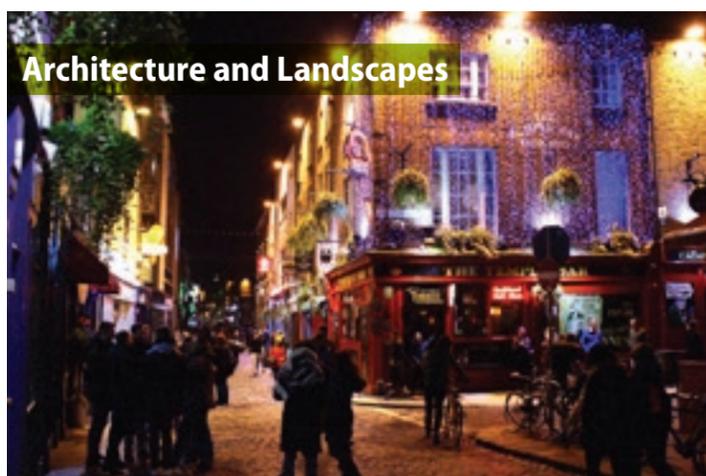


Second place: "The Silent Frozen World" by Fan Fan



Third place: "The Fortress" by Samara Sawchuk

Architecture and Landscapes



First place: "Temple Bar" by Regan Brownbridge

The iconic Temple Bar in Dublin, Ireland. The hustle and bustle of this place is unparalleled. Not the cheapest place in the city, but a great place to grab a pint.



Second place: "Ready" by Alvira Mostafa



Third place: "Botanical Books" by Gabriel Churchill

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All the right notes

Music has always been a focal point in Carolyn Doi's life.

She studied classical piano, worked as a piano instructor and even completed an undergraduate degree in music. She enjoyed the research side of her bachelor's degree so much, she moved to Montreal to complete a master's program in library sciences at McGill University.

"I'd be so lucky to combine my knowledge of music with library studies," said Doi, assistant librarian in the education and music library. Fortunately, luck was on her side—not long after completing her master's degree in 2010, she started working at the McGill music library. Prairie life called her, however, and in 2011 she moved to Saskatoon and started a similar position at the U of S.

Having a thorough musical upbringing is definitely an asset to her job. "I always say that music is a language in and of itself," said Doi.

Indeed it is a language well known to Doi, who has mastered more than just piano. While in high school, she inherited a fiddle from her grandfather. She soon started training and playing alongside John Arcand, a renowned Métis fiddler. And while living in Montreal, Doi took up taiko drumming, a traditional style used in Japanese ensembles. "It has really interesting links to Japanese culture and it's been really interesting to learn that style of music," she said.

With that knowledge intact, Doi enjoys being involved in the local music community. "There's a lot of creativity involved in the arts," said Doi, "so I get to see that in our students, who are constantly putting on recitals, and in the faculty, who are producing albums. I get to be in that artistic community as well." ■

