

**HAPPY
NEW
YEAR**

**PRESIDENT'S
PERSPECTIVE**

University of Saskatchewan
President Peter Stoicheff discusses
the major developments and
progress made in 2018 and what
the campus community can look
forward to in 2019 as we begin
an exciting new year.

SEE PAGES 8-9.



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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*.

We acknowledge we are on Treaty 6 Territory and the Homeland of the Métis. We pay our respect to the First Nation and Métis ancestors of this place and reaffirm our relationship with one another.

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Wheat Congress to put USask in the spotlight

HENRYTYE GLAZEBROOK

There's something innately calming about the sight of golden wheat swaying in the breeze. And yet, for someone like University of Saskatchewan (USask) researcher Dr. Curtis Pozniak (PhD), that pastoral image is positively electric with potential.

Pozniak points to the sequencing of the wheat genome, which has picked apart the grain's very DNA to produce a blueprint of its structure, as just one of many recent advancements in the flourishing field of wheat research.

"From a research point of view, it's a very exciting time because we can use this as a resource to really delve into the genetic makeup of wheat and what makes it tick," Pozniak said. "What makes wheat, wheat. How does it work, how does it resist pests, and how can we use that information to yield or improve nutritional quality and human health?"

It's these kinds of breakthroughs that make Pozniak so



USask wheat researcher Dr. Curtis Pozniak (PhD) is the chair of the local organizing committee of the inaugural International Wheat Congress.

enthusiastic to chair the local organizing committee of the International Wheat Congress, which will host its inaugural conference in Saskatoon from July 21–26, 2019. The event, which expects to draw upward of 700 scientists from around the world, was created by dovetailing the International Wheat Genetics Symposium and the Wheat

Symposium into a single, more robust gathering.

"The idea was to marry those two groups together so that the geneticists get to hear from the agronomists, the agronomists get to hear from the geneticists," he said. "You get this more cohesive group that better represents the whole value chain of wheat, all the

way from basic research right to economics and production."

Although full programming has yet to be announced, Pozniak said that a unique approach to speaker selection is being taken to ensure a greater degree of geographic, gender and age diversity.

"We'll be selecting speakers for our program based on a blind peer review of submitted research papers," he explained. "It doesn't matter if you're a senior professor or a student, everyone is going to be judged in a way that ensures that the best science is represented."

The congress will also offer ample opportunity for visiting researchers and producers to explore the agricultural facilities available to USask students, staff and faculty, with side meetings held on campus before and after the event itself, as well as through tours of USask's Kernan Crop Research Farm.

SEE CONFERENCE, PAGE 15



IN CASE YOU MISSED IT

A lot happens at the U of S during the weeks when *On Campus News* isn't published. Here are a few of the top stories from news.usask.ca:

Gerdts appointed

Dr. Volker Gerdts (DVM) is the new director of the University of Saskatchewan's Vaccine and Infectious Disease Organization-International Vaccine Centre (VIDO-InterVac), a world leader in infectious disease research and vaccine development. Gerdts, who has served as associate director of research for the past 11 years, succeeds retiring director Dr. Andrew Potter (PhD). Gerdts came to VIDO-InterVac in 1998 as a post-doctoral fellow, hired as a research scientist in 2002, and associate director in 2007. Potter has now been appointed USask's interim associate vice-president research, for a one-year term that began Jan. 2.

New Creed paper

Dr. Irena Creed (PhD), executive director of the USask School of Environment and Sustainability, has co-authored a research paper on new and continuing threats to freshwater ecosystems. Creed collaborated with scholars from across the globe on the deepening biodiversity crisis in the world's lakes, rivers and wetlands. The scientists involved identified 12 threats to freshwater biodiversity that emerged after 2006 or became even greater problems since that time. The article, entitled *Emerging Threats and Persistent Conservation Challenges for Freshwater Biodiversity*, outlines new and continuing sustainability issues that impact freshwater systems.

Honour for Waiser

Dr. Bill Waiser (PhD), distinguished professor emeritus of history at the University of Saskatchewan, will be honoured with a prestigious national award on Jan. 28 in Ottawa. Governor General Julie Payette will present the Governor General's History Award for Popular Media: The Pierre Berton Award, the top Canadian honour in the field of history and heritage. Waiser, a noted author and specialist in western and northern Canadian history, also received the J.B. Tyrrell Historical Medal from the Royal Society of Canada in September for outstanding contributions to the field of Canadian history.

Sharpe selected

Renowned plant molecular geneticist Dr. Andrew Sharpe (PhD) will lead the next phase of USask's Plant Phenotyping and Imaging Research Centre (P2IRC), which will focus on using digital breeding techniques to create climate-smart crops and on artificial intelligence and digital data acquisition tools to enhance the yield potential of large-scale food crops. The P2IRC Institutional Oversight Committee includes representatives from USask, the Global Institute for Food Security, the Canadian Light Source, and the Johnson Shoyama Graduate School of Public Policy. Sharpe succeeds Dr. Maurice Moloney (PhD), who retired Nov. 30.

FOR MORE UP-TO-THE-MINUTE NEWS, VISIT: news.usask.ca @usask

PEOPLE OF THE PLAN

The University of Saskatchewan's new seven-year plan through to 2025 is titled *The University the World Needs* and has been gifted the Indigenous names *nīkānītān manācihitowinihk* (Cree) and *ni manachihitoonaan* (Michif), which translate to "Let us lead with respect." In each issue of *On Campus News* in 2019, we will take a look at the 12 major goals of the new plan by profiling individuals involved in the university's commitment to Courageous Curiosity, Boundless Collaboration and Inspired Communities. In this issue we profile Dr. Daniel Chen (PhD) of the College of Engineering at USask.

COMMITMENT: COURAGEOUS CURIOSITY
(Empower a daring culture of innovation with the courage to confront humanity's greatest challenges and opportunities.)

GOAL: EMBRACE INTERDISCIPLINARITY
(Cement and catalyze interdisciplinary endeavour as a core premise of learning, research, scholarship, and creativity.)

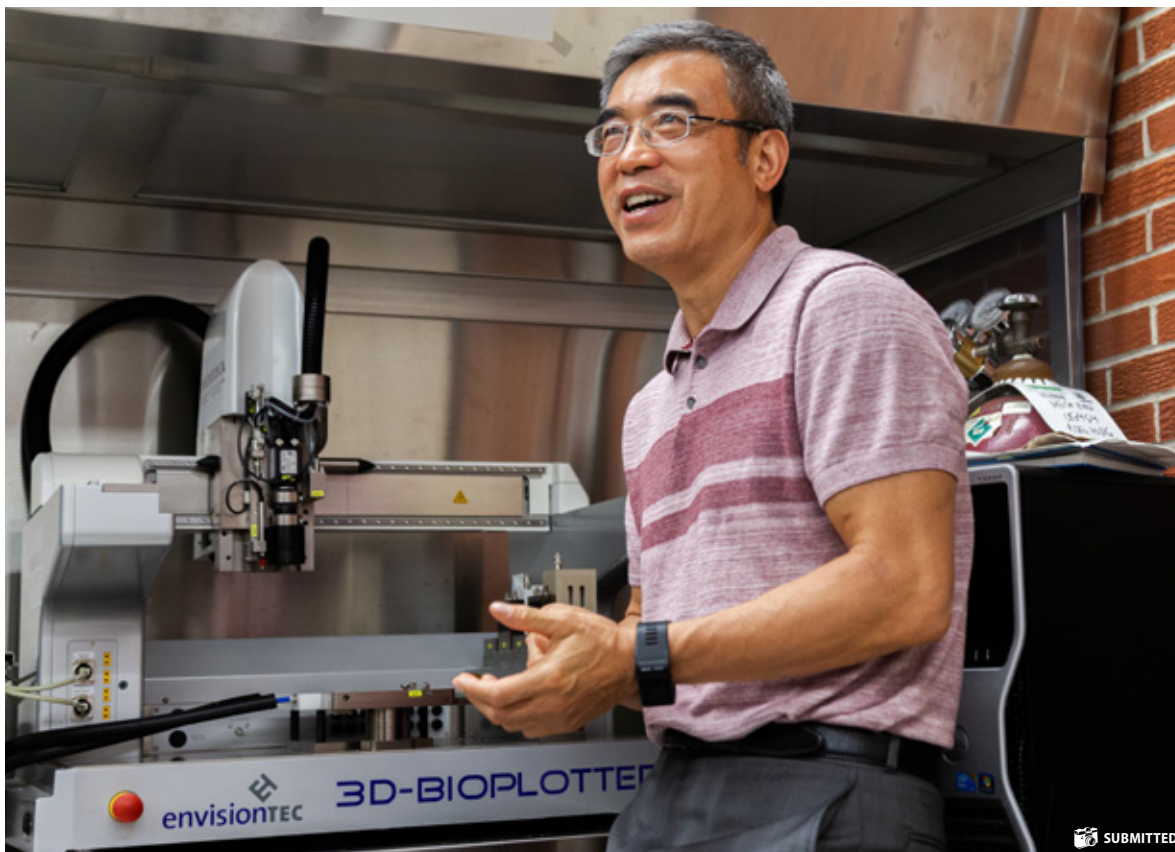
Daniel Chen: Trailblazer in tissue engineering

✍️ JAMES SHEWAGA

Mechanical engineering professor Dr. Daniel Chen (PhD) is working with an interdisciplinary USask research team from across campus to combine engineering and health sciences in the emerging field of tissue engineering.

Chen, who began his teaching and research career in the College of Engineering in 2003 a year after completing his PhD at USask, leads a team that is exploring ways to repair or heal damage to tissue and organs in the human body, such as hearts, cartilage, teeth, bones, and nerves. Chen's research team employs three-dimensional (3D) bioprinting technologies and the world-class imaging of Canada's only synchrotron at the Canadian Light Source facility on campus to research the bioengineering of artificial tissue/organ structures, using a scaffold template to promote regeneration.

"My research is primarily in the area of tissue engineering, which is actually to use engineering methods to create 3D constructs that are called scaffolds, to repair damaged tissues and organs," said Chen. "Due to the interdisciplinary nature of tissue



Dr. Daniel Chen (PhD) of the College of Engineering leads the university's Tissue Engineering Research Group.

engineering, I formed the Tissue Engineering Research Group, which includes researchers from across this university, from the College

of Medicine, College of Veterinary Medicine, the Canadian Light Source, and the College of Engineering."

Chen said USask is perfectly

positioned to conduct this type of leading-edge research, combining one-of-a-kind facilities like the Canadian Light Source with the

university's proven track record of success in interdisciplinary collaborative research endeavours.

"At the very beginning, I collaborated with a professor in the College of Medicine on peripheral nerve repairs and then we expanded it to spinal cord repair and later on we have worked with other researchers who are interested in cartilage and teeth repair as well as myocardial infarction (heart attack) and the treatment of stroke," said Chen. "So, we have expanded this research, little by little, based upon the expertise and strengths of this university."

Chen's team is at the forefront of this fascinating field of research, focused on improving quality of life by artificially restoring tissue and organ function. If the team's pilot project proves promising with animal subjects as the next step, Chen hopes to replicate the success with human patients one day.

"In the future, we hope that when tissue or organ damage unfortunately happens, we have the way to create the artificial construct to replace or repair the damaged tissue and organs." ■

USask PhD student studying climate change in the Rockies

✍️ NAOMI ZUREVINSKI

University of Saskatchewan (USask) hydrology PhD student Caroline Aubry-Wake has been busy studying the impact of climate change on glaciers in the Canadian Rockies.

Since 1985, Canadian glaciers have shrunk 15 per cent, a number that could rise to 100 per cent by the end of the century.

Such a steep increase in glacier loss in the Rockies would have a devastating impact on mountain streams in Western Canada, including a significant reduction in river water supply, which would threaten cold-water fish and ecosystems and reduce water resources for hydroelectricity on the Prairies and in B.C.

“Estimated glacier loss in the Rockies by the end of the century ranges from 75 to 100 per cent,” Aubry-Wake said. “But there’s only a few studies investigating the details of future glacier melt in Western

Canada. My research will help to sharpen these estimates by focusing on three glaciers, to improve our understanding of the key processes responsible for glacier retreat at those sites.”

The glaciers Aubry-Wake is studying are the Peyto Glacier in Banff National Park, Athabasca Glacier in Jasper National Park and Bologna Glacier in the Ragged Range, Northwest Territories. Her research combines mountain fieldwork and a mathematical hydrological model to assess changes in water resources.

Aubry-Wake was one of four USask students to receive a prestigious Vanier Scholarship this year, along with health sciences PhD student and radiology resident Dr. Scott Adams (studying improving medical imaging in Northern Saskatchewan), biochemistry PhD

student Zoe Gillespie (examining treating premature aging disease in children), and biology PhD student Julie Colpitts (researching feral horses to develop conservation strategies).

Aubry-Wake is supervised by Dr. John Pomeroy (PhD), the USask Canada Research Chair in Water Resources and Climate Change. Pomeroy notes that documenting changes to Canada’s glaciers helps us better predict future water supplies.

“The impacts of climate change are occurring quickly and to a greater degree than anticipated, and one of these impacts is the deglaciation of our mountains and the (resulting) alteration of mountain rivers, which supply water to surrounding regions and contribute to rising sea levels,” Pomeroy said. “Caroline’s research focuses on exactly this, and will help not only Saskatchewan to better anticipate its future water supply, but it also has implications for rivers that supply water for two billion people worldwide.”

For Aubry-Wake, her work has taken on new meaning with the release of a *United Nations Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change* (IPCC) report in October, which stated that without substantial action now to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, we will not be able to keep global warming to a maximum of 1.5 degrees Celsius 12 years from now. Increasing to two degrees Celsius will increase the risk of major climate change catastrophe.

“I think that report clarifies climate science and heightens the urgency for society to advocate for policy that addresses the broad issues associated with climate change,” Aubry-Wake said. “Climate change already has an impact on our water resources in Western Canada. This recent IPCC report confirms that if we don’t act fast, climate change will have disastrous effects.”



USask graduate student Caroline Aubry-Wake conducts climate change hydrology research in the Canadian Rockies.  MARK FERGUSON

Aubry-Wake notes that it’s not only scientists who have work to do, but society as a whole.

“The difference between 1.5 and two degrees will be seen in the intensity of droughts, forest fires, floods, and potentially the difference between 100 and 75 per cent glacier loss in the Rockies. To stay within 1.5 requires large changes in how we live, but we can still adapt and succeed as a society. But the two (degrees) comes closer to a world we don’t want to live in.”

With that urgency in mind, Aubry-Wake remembers spending summers hiking and skiing in the Rockies, and hopes we can all do our part to make sure future generations can enjoy these same activities.

“Climate change is the biggest issue our society is facing, and

although it might seem insurmountable, we have the capacity to step up and maintain a stable climate system that supports a good quality of life,” she said. “There’s a lot of information out there about individual actions that make a difference, like recycling, taking public transportation and eating less meat.

“I believe the change we need to see is societal, and it starts by electing officials who have strong environmental policies ... even though they might seem restrictive for the economy. But it’s the only way we can have a future where our kids and grandkids can be happy, and still go skiing in the winter, for example.” ■

Naomi Zurevinski is a freelance writer and graduate of the University of Saskatchewan.

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Balance key to Edwards student's success

JAMES SHEWAGA

It took a little time, but Andrea Landstad found her secret to success at the University of Saskatchewan (USask).

The 22-year-old Edwards School of Business student struggled at times during her first year on campus as she adjusted to university life in Saskatoon after growing up in Yorkton. But she soon struck a balance between academics and activities to become one of the most successful students in her class.

"In my first year, I definitely struggled with the transition," said Landstad, who will officially receive her commerce degree (majoring in accounting) at 2019 USask Spring Convocation in June. "I wasn't really sure how to balance my time with academics because I wanted to do really well, but I didn't really have that social aspect, so it took time to kind of find my place.

"In my second year I knew that I needed to do something different, and I really focused on getting that balance between academics and social aspects and figuring out where I wanted to fit in. And that's when things really took off for me, after I started to get more involved."

Landstad went on to excel both in and out of the classroom, earning multiple bursaries and awards—including the Surridge Memorial Scholarship and USask Academic Achievement scholarships—while posting a cumulative academic average of close to 90 per cent. A regular on the Dean's Honour Roll, Landstad also earned Edwards' prestigious Isaac Award for academics and community work in 2018.

"That was a very special moment," she said. "To be recognized for academics and for community involvement, that was really nice. You want to do well in academics, but you want to help people as well, so it was really special to receive."

Landstad served as a student



Graduating Edwards School of Business student Andrea Landstad will receive her commerce degree at USask Spring Convocation in June.

JAMES SHEWAGA

representative on the board of directors of the successful Dembroski Student Managed Portfolio Trust for two years at Edwards. Landstad's leadership also helped her school's tax team finish in first place while also helping Edwards take the title of school of the year and academic school of the year in the 2018 JDC West competition—Western Canada's largest undergraduate business student competition, featuring 600 students from 12 top business schools in Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Alberta and B.C.

"We finished in first place in a number of categories, so it was a great experience and a very proud moment," said Landstad, who has also volunteered with community groups and charities including the Parkinson's Foundation, Ronald

McDonald House, and Habitat for Humanity, through her involvement with the JDC West team.

During her time on campus, Landstad has also served as corporate relations director and vice-president of project development with the USask Enactus team, part of a world-wide student-run organization dedicated to helping communities meet United Nations sustainability goals. In 2017, the Enactus team received the HSBC Indigenous Advancement Project Partnership Best Project national award after launching Food for the Future, to raise more than \$38,000 for initiatives that included establishing an Indigenous community garden and youth education program in the northern village of Beauval.

Landstad has also stayed

true to her roots, volunteering for fundraising organizations like the Brayden Ottenbreit Close Cuts for Cancer, in her hometown of Yorkton.

For Landstad, the combination of school studies and social activities has gone hand-in-hand.

"You definitely need to have that balance," she said. "You need to work hard in academics, but you also need to be able to take part in social activities and be able to tell yourself that you need to take a break and that will help you in your academics as well. Living a balanced lifestyle is something that is very important to me, through my university career as well as my career as an accountant moving forward."

After spending the summer of 2018 working for local accounting

firm MNP, Landstad completed her final courses on campus in December and signed a contract to return to MNP. She began working full-time in January, will take part in convocation ceremonies in June, and is also planning to begin her post-degree professional certification in 2019.

Overall, Landstad believes her experience at USask and in Edwards has prepared her well for the working world.

"The Edwards courses are great and there are lots of opportunities outside of the classroom as well, things like JDC West, that have definitely helped prepared me," she said. "And you learn how to conduct yourself with clients and I think that is one of the things that Edwards has definitely prepared me well for the future." ■

Taking workplace wellness to heart on campus

 KURT HOFMANN

As colleagues sip coffee and sort through their email, a small group of 6-10 university employees begin their day with a slightly different morning ritual.

“It was something that started a couple of months ago with a few of us that has now turned into something everyone looks forward to,” said Carine Paley, a Total Rewards advisor in Finance and Resources at the University of Saskatchewan, and one of the founding members of the group. “We got the idea when we were at a meeting at Connection-Point last spring. They asked us to join in with their morning stretches and we thought it was a great idea and something we can bring back to our office.”

The 3-4-minute workout routinely changes, but typically includes warm-up stretches, a 75-second sitting wall squat, followed by a 60-second plank. Once the energized group completes the workout, they offer a few encouraging words and a quick high-five before heading off on their separate ways to begin the work day.

Later the same day, in an office tucked away in the basement of the Peter MacKinnon Building, a gigantic, half-finished jigsaw puzzle lays spread across a table in the centre of a meeting room. Members of the Teaching, Learning and Student Experience (TLSE) Service Team gather around the puzzle to take a brief mental break and reprieve from their daily tasks.

“This team is really busy and lots of times it’s heads down and working to get things done,” said Sabrina Kehoe, manager of the TLSE service team. “When it got crazy-busy around here I noticed that nobody laughed, there was no banter in the office. I thought, heaven forbid, why don’t we try and have a little fun and break up the day.”

Photos of the team posing with their completed puzzles are displayed throughout the office as a reminder of the importance of team work and



(Left to right) Charlene Brown, Stephanie Mulhall, John Shelling, Rebecca Meaden, Katelyn Sarvas, Janis Vetsch and Sabrina Kehoe from TLSE.

 KURT HOFMANN

taking time for mental health.

“I love it when I come in and there is a group of people sitting around that table at lunch talking about whatever they may be doing that night or weekend, some working on the puzzle and some not,” she said. “It is an atmosphere that we didn’t have before.”

The university’s wellness strategy was developed as a collaboration between the People and Resources portfolio, and the Office of the Vice-Provost, TLSE. These teams work closely together to help promote wellness events and foster a culture of wellness at the university. The development of monthly themes is one example of how this collaboration has made a positive impact on campus.

“The monthly themes allow us to focus on a specific area within the wellness strategy each month without competing for attention against ourselves,” said Cristina

Herman, team leader of Wellness Resources. “Before there may have been five or six different things going on that weren’t related. Now we can focus on one thing, promote events and information related to that theme and have a clear message going out.”

The themes were chosen to coincide with both the student and employee lifecycle while aligning with national and international events. January’s monthly theme of financial wellness was chosen because many people struggle with debt and financial pressure over the holidays.

The month features wellness seminars presented by Brian Lane, an assistant professor from the Edwards School of Business, to help people manage their personal finances. In February, Be Active is the theme, with the College of Kinesiology promoting several events including *Try it Tuesday*, where

anyone can use the PAC for free. Be Active also features a photo contest on social media encouraging people to post pictures of them being active for a chance to win a weekly prize.

“By bringing wellness to the forefront and having it in people’s subconscious each and every month,

we will see more pockets of wellness showing up on campus,” said Herman. “And it can be as simple as putting a puzzle together or doing morning stretches together.” ■

Kurt Hofmann is a communications specialist in University Relations.

MONTH	THEME
JANUARY	Financial Wellness
FEBRUARY	Physical Wellness (Be Active)
MARCH	Nutrition
APRIL	Work-Study Life Balance/Stress
MAY	Mental Health
JUNE	Culture, Spirituality, Diversity
JULY	Environmental Wellness
SEPTEMBER	Safety and Self-Care
OCTOBER	Mental Health
NOVEMBER	Physical Wellness
DECEMBER	Work-Study Life Balance/Stress

Campus development spurs university's growth

✍️ NAOMI ZUREVINSKI

Over the past year, new infrastructure development has significantly expanded the facilities and amenities available on campus, as well as scholarship support for students at the University of Saskatchewan (USask).

From the opening of Merlis Belsher Place to the Holiday Inn Express/Staybridge Suites hotel, as well as new commercial expansion at Preston Crossing, these developments are generating revenue from lease agreements that feed further progress, including the expansion of College Quarter and funding student scholarships.

Since its opening in 2004, Preston Crossing has generated more than \$18-million in lease agreement revenue that has gone towards scholarships, bursaries and other student support initiatives.

"Preston Crossing was a development created to generate revenue for the campus," said Judith Yungwirth, director of infrastructure, planning and land development at USask. "In the last year, it's generated almost \$2-million for student scholarships."

In 2017, Preston Crossing welcomed 15 new tenants to Preston West, the fifth and final phase of the development. It is also home to the rebranded university merchandise and apparel store, Shop USask.

"One of the goals of Preston Crossing was to attract new retailers to the city, due to the location," she said. "These are stores that there are only one of in the city—Cabela's, [Party City, Pier 1, etc.]. Preston Crossing offers a variety of services and lots of retailers employ students as well."

While Preston Crossing

supports students in monetary ways, other lease agreements generate revenue that impact the amenities and future development of the campus.

The College Quarter Master Plan, which was created in 2009, provides a framework for the expansion of the university's College Quarter land, a 59-hectare plot located south of the main campus. Yungwirth said development on this land is centered around fostering community.

"We started working on a master plan for College Quarter in 2006 ... because we needed new residences for undergraduate and graduate [students]," Yungwirth said. "College Quarter is about creating a community that's an extension of our main campus, which links to the neighbouring community. It serves the mission of the university directly [by providing] services and a wide range of amenities."

One such amenity is the Holiday Inn Express/Staybridge Suites hotel, which opened in 2018 and features two hotels in one building: Holiday Inn Express for short-term stay; and Staybridge Suites for long-term accommodation. With these options, visiting professors and researchers, as well as sports teams and family members, can stay right on campus. The hotel complex also has the capacity to host conferences on campus.

Yungwirth said the revenue generated from the hotel's long-term lease will fund future infrastructure projects.

"The lease proceeds go to further development in College Quarter, including amenities for

students, park pathways and other outdoor activity areas," Yungwirth said. "We leveraged some revenue to cover a portion of the required changes needed to allow Merlis Belsher Place to open, like new pathways and improvements to the road network. The whole concept of College Quarter is to create an attractive community, and we leverage the money from one development to work on the next phase."

In October 2018, Merlis Belsher Place opened its doors, named after USask alumnus Merlis Belsher, who donated \$12.25 million to the Home Ice Campaign to replace Rutherford Rink. The \$51 million Merlis Belsher Place multi-sport complex operates on a model in which its revenue goes

back into the operations and maintenance of the facility.

Consistent with the vision for College Quarter, the complex is a community facility as well as providing a new home for Huskie Athletics. Beginning in spring 2019, USask convocation ceremonies will also be held there, bringing convocation back to campus for the first time since 1968. Merlis Belsher Place will also feature the soon-to-be-completed Ron and Jane Graham Sport Science and Health Centre, serving as a hub for research into injury prevention and performance, and providing support services for athletes.

As for future developments, Yungwirth said nothing has been

confirmed yet, but the university is actively looking at the next move for College Quarter.

"We're still having discussions with the city about having a fire hall somewhere on university land, and there's been quite a bit of interest expressed in having a restaurant close by, but nothing's been confirmed," she said. "It's been exciting to see that there's external investment, with the hotel and Merlis Belsher Place. It's not only university money that's going into creating amenities that benefit the community. That was our vision and that's how it's unfolding." ■

Naomi Zurevinski is a freelance writer and graduate of the University of Saskatchewan.

IT'S YOUR FUTURE CITY. WE'RE LISTENING.

Join us at **Come & Grow January 2019**, located just off campus. It's your opportunity to learn more about the City of Saskatoon's **Plan for Growth** and have a say in helping to create your future city. We'll be asking questions about growth along Saskatoon's major traffic corridors, development of University Endowment Lands and much more!

#YourFutureCity #GrowYXE

Thursday, January 31, 2019 3:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.
Holiday Inn Express & Suites, 1838 College Drive

 **City of
Saskatoon**
saskatoon.ca/engage

Plan for
GROWTH

President Stoicheff focused

✍️ JAMES SHEWAGA

From opening three major facilities to the launch of a bold new university plan, 2018 marked a major step forward for the University of Saskatchewan. For USask President Peter Stoicheff, the challenge for the university in 2019 is putting that plan into action.

“You can only plan so much, and the real success is in enacting the plan,” said President Stoicheff, as he sat down with *On Campus News* to review progress made in 2018 and what lies ahead for the university in 2019. “But I believe that this plan sets us up for success, because the plan evolved naturally and deliberately from the university’s *Mission, Vision and Values* document that received input from literally thousands of people and was written by a committee that represented many parts of the university.

“So, the plan grew naturally from all of the consultative work that has been done on where the university needs to go. And now we start putting the plan into motion and everybody shares a responsibility for doing that.”

The new integrated strategic plan to carry the institution through to 2025 is titled *The University the World Needs*, and has been gifted Indigenous names *nikānitān manācihitowinihk* (Cree) and *ni manachihitoonaan* (Michif), which translate to “Let us lead with respect.” Stoicheff said implementing the progressive plan requires cross-campus commitment.

“Colleges have finished developing their own plans that align with the university-level plan,” said Stoicheff, now in the fourth year of his five-year term as president. “And it’s at the college levels and the unit

levels and at the level of the schools that we will see the specific ways in which we can all put the plan into action.”

The Oct. 10 unveiling of the university plan was part of a flurry of fall announcements that included the launch of the \$38-million Livestock and Forage Centre of Excellence on Oct. 9 and the \$51-million Merlis Belsher Place multisport complex, which opened to the public on Oct. 1 and hosted official grand opening weekend celebrations on Oct. 26-27.

“The opening of the LFCE, the opening of Merlis Belsher Place, and the announcement of the university plan, those were certainly all highlights of the year,” said Stoicheff. “Another highlight I would add to that list is the completion of the (\$63-million) Collaborative Science Research Building—completed on time and on budget. It was a year in which three major facilities were completed and opened, as well as the university developing and approving a high-level plan that will take us to 2025. I think each of those is an exciting and bold venture.”

Merlis Belsher Place will also be the site of another major opening in 2019 when the Ron and Jane Graham Sport Science and Health Centre is completed later this year, further enhancing a state-of-the-art complex that features two ice surfaces and two basketball courts.

“All of those features make

Merlis Belsher Place more than just a hockey arena, which is what Rutherford Rink was,” said Stoicheff. “We have a community rink as well as the Huskies rink, and we have the Ron and Jane Graham Centre that is designed to take advantage of the unique strengths that we have across all of the health sciences and their relation to sport and sports injuries and recovery. It is an exceptional facility for our campus and for the community.”

The completion of Merlis Belsher Place will also allow convocation ceremonies to return to campus for the first time in 50 years, with the main arena capacity of 3,700 perfect for graduation events.

“Bringing convocation back to campus at Merlis Belsher Place is a very big decision for us and brings together the entire convocation community, college by college, across the eight ceremonies, with all events on campus,” said Stoicheff. “We are delighted that we now have the capacity for it at Merlis Belsher Place.”

In 2018, the university celebrated the centennial of the Edwards School of Business, as well as the 50th anniversary of the College of Dentistry and the College of Arts and Science departments of computer science, archaeology and anthropology, regional and urban planning, and international studies. Meanwhile, the Edwards school, the College of Medicine, and the Western College of Veterinary Medicine all received full accreditation following comprehensive reviews.

Among major research developments in 2018, USask scientists led a breakthrough in agriculture



University of Saskatchewan President Peter Stoicheff discusses the new university plan,

by helping crack the sequencing of the wheat genome, a major step in increasing wheat productivity and improving global food security. This year, USask researchers will look to contribute to Canada’s major agri-

cultural supercluster—Protein Industries Canada—one of five national research superclusters awarded a total of \$950-million in federal funding.

“The Protein Industries Canada supercluster is very important to us,”

on the future of USask



titled *The University the World Needs*, at the Oct. 10 announcement.

DAVID STOBBE

said Stoicheff. “It is industry-led, but by far the greatest research strength is provided by the University of Saskatchewan, historically and also in terms of the future. And our crucial contribution to helping map

the wheat genome is but one example of the kind of strength that we bring.”

In 2018, the university also continued to attract top researchers from across the country and around the world, from former NASA

scientist Dr. Jay Famiglietti (PhD) taking over as the new executive director of the Global Institute for Water Security, to Dr. Carrie Bourassa (PhD) leading USask’s new Institute of Indigenous Peoples’ Health.

Bourassa joined Cameco Chair in Indigenous Health Dr. Alexandra King (MD) on the growing team of leading Indigenous health researchers across campus.

“It’s terrific having Dr. Bourassa here and having her bring her whole operation here, because Saskatchewan is a province that needs her kind of leadership,” said Stoicheff. “Our ability to attract great talent from beyond Saskatoon and Saskatchewan, and also from beyond Canada, speaks to the fact that we are recognized as having world-class expertise in specific areas and productive researchers want to be a part of that.

“Our researchers want to have an impact on the things that the world needs and the challenges that the world needs solved. By attracting these people, we are able to help provide local solutions to global issues.”

The university is also continuing to attract more students each year, with projected enrolment numbers for the full 2018/19 academic year expected to hit the 25,000 mark. While universities in some Canadian regions are experiencing a decline in enrolment, Stoicheff said he is pleased with USask’s continued growth.

“We have seen increases to our enrolment over at least the last three years and this year we are predicting a larger increase than usual, bringing us close to 25,000

students,” he said. “Our challenge is structuring our enrolment for where we want to get more students from. Is it domestically and locally? Is it out of province, but in Canada? Is it internationally? And of course, supporting Indigenous students— attracting, enrolling and graduating more Indigenous students—is always one of our priorities, as we continue the process of Indigenization and Reconciliation.

“Increasingly, we want to be open to the concept of ‘upscaling’ or life-long learning, recognizing that we have a role to play in helping to educate people whose jobs are changing as a result of a disruptive digital economy.”

One thing that hasn’t changed for the university is the recent budget challenges, specifically provincial funding during the economic downturn in some sectors. However, in addition to the university’s critical role in educating and training the workforce of the future, Stoicheff believes the province appreciates the university’s economic impact (\$1.2 billion annually) and return on investment.

“Those budget challenges are always there and no matter what year or what decade in the future, those challenges will always be there,” said Stoicheff. “But I also have the confidence that our provincial government understands the value that the University of Saskatchewan brings to the overall provincial economy, knowing that we have the greatest economic impact per capita in our region of all universities in the country.”

The president said the province has also been a strong supporter of the university’s innovative plan

to complete critical infrastructure renewal needed across campus by approving plans for an \$85-million bond.

“I believe that we are handling our infrastructure challenges very well and the government has helped us out by approving our ability to issue a bond to finance projects, which is a very innovative way that a few universities across the country have used to meet infrastructure challenges,” said Stoicheff. “I am very confident, given everything that I am seeing, that we will be able to meet those challenges.”

Stoicheff also noted that the success of the fundraising campaign to build Merlis Belsher Place shows that USask alumni and donors are strong supporters of university fundraising projects.

“In terms of funding, we’re such a diverse university with such a strong alumni base of well over 150,000 people around the world, and the success of Merlis Belsher Place gives me the confidence that we have a number of strategies for being financially sustainable,” said Stoicheff.

“I am also going from college to college now thanking them for the hard work that they were asked to do and succeeded in doing, in the wake of a difficult budget one and a half years ago,” the president added. “And one of the things that I am saying to the colleges when I visit them is that everybody at the university continued to think big— despite the economic challenges— which I think reflects the excellence and the boldness of vision that this university has. We are well-positioned to be the university that the world needs.” ■

What do people think about the University of Saskatchewan?

Each year, we get some insight into the answer through a survey of public perceptions in Saskatchewan, Edmonton, Calgary and Vancouver. The marketing and communications team works with the Social Sciences Research Laboratory in the College of Arts and Science to complete the study.

WORD OF MOUTH

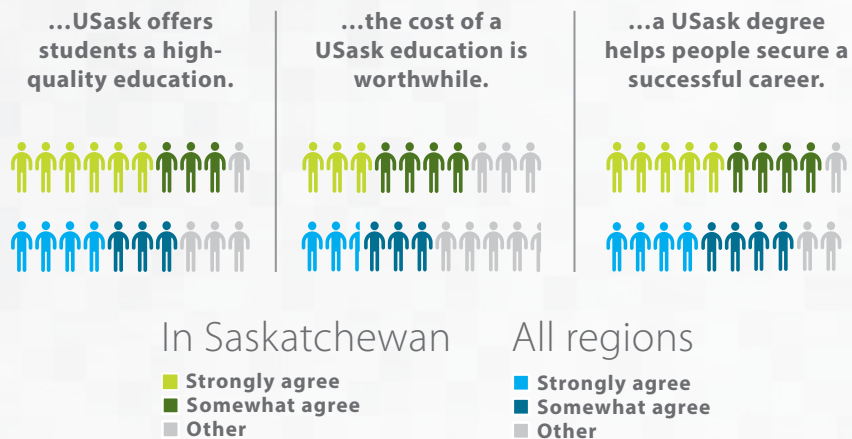
I would recommend USask as one of the top institutions to pursue post-secondary education to...



* Total average across all four locations, combining strongly agree and somewhat agree

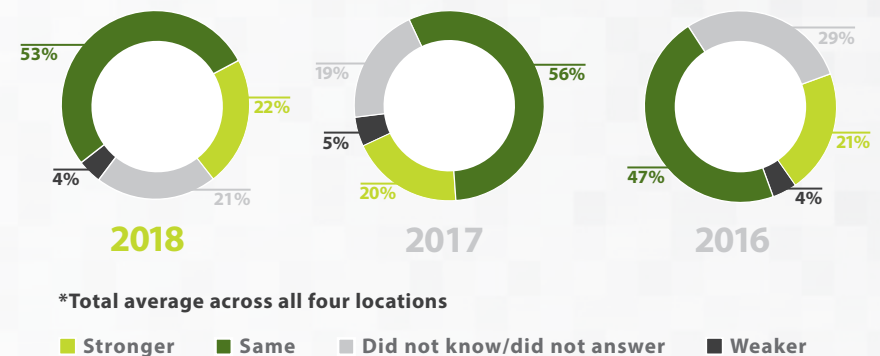
USASK EDUCATION

We asked people if...



OVERALL REPUTATION

How has the university's reputation changed in the last five years?



*Total average across all four locations

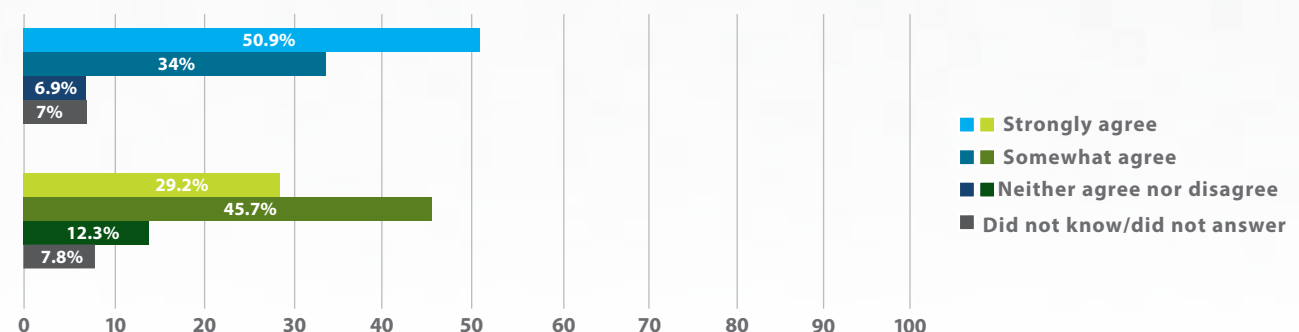
REAL WORLD IMPACT

All regions

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In Saskatchewan

USask provides good value for taxpayer investment.



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Hallucination care and collaboration

USask PhD candidate opening new doors in leading-edge psychology research

CHRIS MORIN

Everyone is capable of having a hallucination, and there is a possibility you've experienced one before.

While some hallucinations happen in mental health contexts, they can also happen under fairly normal circumstances. In fact, there is a window of time—typically when we are drifting in and out of sleep—when anybody is susceptible to having one, according to Adam Pierce, a PhD student in the Department of Psychology at the University of Saskatchewan (USask).

To some, this may seem unorthodox or even alarming. Historically, hallucinations were long considered the stuff of psychoses or drug trips, not a regular and inconsequential part of life.

These perceptions are something that Pierce hopes to change.

“There have also been community studies that have been done that point to evidence that there are many people out there who have light visual or auditory hallucina-

tions,” said Pierce, who is currently in the final year completing his clinical training. “And they wouldn't seek any sort of treatment for these because they aren't problematic. We can't exactly say why these hallucinations happen. They just do.”

As part of his research, Pierce has been interviewing individuals

“ This isn't just a mental health issue, but something that could potentially affect anyone.

— Adam Pierce

on campus and in the community to share their visual and auditory experiences, with a specific interest in the social sharing context and the conversations that occurred about the hallucinations. Having worked in community health, he became

interested in this research due to his work with people with mental health issues. While he acknowledges that hallucinations can be distressing, he hopes these interviews will lead to more conversations about something previously thought of as taboo.

“A major component of my reason for doing this research is trying to bust up some of the popular conceptions around hallucinations as pathological and to help friends and family members of individuals who hallucinate, as well as the individuals themselves,” said Pierce. “I was co-facilitating these groups where people were talking about the first experiences they had sharing these hallucinations with friends and family, and they weren't always getting a very good response when

they described hearing or seeing something. What I realized was that many of these people hadn't talked these experiences through.”

Although he admits that the subject of hallucinations can often be difficult to navigate, Pierce said that offering support is key for helping others navigate the experience. Having completed his undergraduate studies and his master's in Seattle, where he studied phenomenology, when it came time to do his PhD in clinical psychology, Pierce said that USask was the perfect place to complete his research.

“The psychology department here is a wealth of knowledge when it comes to qualitative research, and faculty who are incredibly knowledgeable. My supervisor, Dr. Linda McMullen (PhD), has been outstanding and incredibly supportive.”

Having conducted his interviews across campus, Pierce said that support has permeated throughout

his own research. While for some, it can be frightening that someone they know quite well has had hallucinatory experiences, many of the people he has interviewed are very supportive.

“The overall goal is to get the general public to be more thoughtful

about these experiences, and if somebody is going through this themselves or with somebody that they love, having relevant information would be incredibly helpful,” he said. “This isn't just a mental health issue, but something that could potentially affect anyone.” ■



Adam Pierce is a PhD student in the Department of Psychology.

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WCVM: The animal side of critical care

TARYN RIEMER

One early Monday morning last October, the clinical team at the Western College of Veterinary Medicine's (WCVM) Veterinary Medical Centre (VMC) was preparing for rounds when an emergency patient was brought in to the hospital.

Granny, a wirehaired pointing griffon-cross dog, was lethargic, her gums were pale and her heart rate was elevated. The hospital's emergency and critical care team immediately started the 11-year-old dog on intravenous fluids before turning to the challenge of diagnosing the problem.

Granny's owner noted that her dog's abdomen was sensitive, and after an ultrasound examination, the clinical team found that a twisted spleen was causing the pain and internal bleeding. Once Granny received a blood transfusion and her condition was stable, surgical specialists successfully removed her spleen.

Granny, who quickly recovered after surgery, was one of thousands of patients that the WCVM's small animal emergency and critical care team cared for in 2018—nearly 500 emergency cases in October alone. The hospital's small animal emergency and intensive care unit (ICU) is an incredibly busy spot that's open 24 hours a day, 365 days a year, on the University of Saskatchewan campus.

The WCVM's Large Animal Clinic and Field Service also offers around-the-clock emergency services for horses and other large animals.

"It doesn't matter what time of day it is or what your work schedule is, if you have an emergency with your pet, you can take it to the vet college because somebody is here," said Danielle Mierau, a registered veterinary technologist (RVT) and one of 21 people on the WCVM's emergency and critical care team.

"We have four teams of four RVTs in the intensive care unit, we have three emergency clinical



Dr. Jennifer Loewen (DVM), left, holds Granny after her successful surgery, while owner Dr. Juliette Bouillon (DVM), right, checks in on her.

CHRISTINA WEESE

associates [veterinarians], and one emergency and critical specialist," said Mierau, who is also a certified veterinary technician specialist in emergency and critical care—one of four RVTs with specialized training working in Saskatchewan.

When a patient is brought to the Small Animal Clinic, an RVT assesses the pet's condition.

"I can see from afar if the animal is working hard to breathe, if it's alert or lying down. As I assess the patient, I'll get a medical history from the owner," said Mierau. "With certain [patient] histories, I'll take them straight to the back regardless."

Team members act quickly when an ill patient is brought into

the emergency and ICU area.

"If it's a critical case, the clinician stays with the RVT and the patient, then if we need to get specialists involved from there, we do that," said Mierau.

One of those specialists is Dr. Jennifer Loewen (DVM), who joined the WCVM in October. She is Saskatchewan's only board-certified specialist in veterinary emergency and critical care.

"My clinical role is two-fold. One role is within the ICU, helping clinicians with inpatients, because not all cases fall under just medicine or just surgery. I also help patients that need fluid therapy, electrolyte therapy or have respiratory

concerns," said Loewen. "My second role is within the emergency room. I supervise and help facilitate the clinical interns if they need to run a case by me or if they need help with a procedure."

Loewen, who graduated from WCVM in 2014, also assists in training fourth-year veterinary students who are completing clinical rotations in the hospital.

Since the VMC is the veterinary referral centre for Western Canada, the hospital's emergency patients come from Saskatchewan, Alberta, British Columbia, Manitoba and even Ontario. Many of these cases are referred to the WCVM by veterinarians who graduated from the college.

"Exposing students to [clinical services] that are available here at the college helps to create future referring veterinarians because we have the expertise that their patients sometimes need," said Mierau.

As for Granny, she returned home after a short stay in the college's ICU.

"She's doing awesome. She's usually ravenous for food and she's back to that attitude," said owner Dr. Juliette Bouillon (DVM), one of the WCVM's residents in small animal internal medicine. "She's a very good girl and is back to herself." ■

Taryn Riemer is a communications co-ordinator in the Western College of Veterinary Medicine.

HUSKIES HOME ACTION:

FRIDAY, JANUARY 11

Volleyball: vs. Regina at the PAC,

Women's: 6 pm. Men's: 8 pm.

Women's hockey: vs. Regina,

at Merlis Belsher Place, 7 pm.

Track and field: Sled Dog Open,

at Saskatoon Field House.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 12

Volleyball: vs. Regina at the PAC,

Women's: 6 pm. Men's: 8 pm.

Men's hockey: vs. Regina,

at Merlis Belsher Place, 7 pm.

Track and field: Sled Dog Open,

at Saskatoon Field House.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 18

Volleyball: vs. Manitoba at the PAC,

Women's: 6 pm. Men's: 8 pm.

Women's hockey: vs. Lethbridge,

at Merlis Belsher Place, 7 pm.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 19

Volleyball: vs. Manitoba at the PAC,

Women's: 6 pm. Men's: 8 pm.

Women's hockey: vs. Lethbridge,

at Merlis Belsher Place, 7 pm.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 25

Basketball: vs. Alberta at the PAC,

Women's: 6 pm. Men's: 8 pm.

Men's hockey: vs. UBC,

at Merlis Belsher Place, 7 pm.

Track and field: K of C Games,

at Saskatoon Field House.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 26

Basketball: vs. Alberta at the PAC,

Women's: 6 pm. Men's: 8 pm.

Men's hockey: vs. UBC,

at Merlis Belsher Place, 7 pm.

Track and field: K of C Games,

at Saskatoon Field House.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 1

Men's hockey: vs. Mount Royal,

at Merlis Belsher Place, 7 pm.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 2

Men's hockey: vs. Mount Royal,

at Merlis Belsher Place, 7 pm.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 8

Women's hockey: vs. Manitoba,

at Merlis Belsher Place, 7 pm.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 9

Women's hockey: vs. Manitoba,

at Merlis Belsher Place, 5 pm.

Barker a role model for young Huskies

✍️ JAMES SHEWAGA

He may not get the highlights or headlines, but Joseph Barker has been a key part of the narrative in the story of success of the Huskie men's basketball team.

A leader on and off the court and a highly regarded role model for his work in the classroom, Barker's team-first approach has helped the high-scoring Huskies chase a playoff spot in the Canada West conference while he completes his kinesiology degree at the University of Saskatchewan. On a team that features all-star calibre athletes like Lawrence Moore, JT Robinson and Chan De Ciman, Barker has brought determined defence, a rebounding presence and veteran leadership that has also been key to the Huskies' success.

"Lawrence, JT and Chan, those guys deserve the spotlight, they are amazing athletes," said Barker, a 6-foot-6, 225-pound post player, who is currently recovering from an injury that took him out of the lineup in November. "I just care about winning and whatever I can do to help. I really try to just lead by example and hopefully my actions speak for itself and just set a good example to follow."

Barker's approach has helped the Huskies' youngsters adjust to playing in the competitive Canada West conference, and the difficult demands of being a full-time student-athlete. Barker led the Huskies in grade point average last season when he was named an Academic All-Canadian after posting an average of 82 per cent while completing a full course load of 24 credit units. Barker said he is proud to balance his academic

achievements with his athletic accomplishments and show that you can succeed on the court and in the classroom.

"I finally found the groove of how to study properly and manage basketball and my time," said Barker. "And I take pride in my studies as much as my basketball."

In addition to battling opponent's biggest players, Barker has also battled through injuries throughout his career, including an abdominal issue that he is recovering from.

"He's a warrior, he really is, and he has had to play through some pretty significant injuries," said Huskies head coach Barry Rawlyk. "He lays it all out there and has a few battle wounds to show for it, for sure. He just has that kind of heart and has given the program everything and we certainly respect him for that. He probably doesn't get the recognition that he should."

With or without him in the lineup, Barker has become a role model on a young Huskies squad that features eight newcomers.

"He's a team-first guy and it speaks to his character and the type of person that he is," said Rawlyk. "He is very unselfish and he is a guy who is highly respected in the locker room. He has a way of talking to the guys that they feel very comfortable and he can provide some leadership for them and has done an exceptional job with that."

In addition to his role as a mentor for the young players on the Huskies roster, Barker is also contributing in the community, volunteering his time in Saskatoon schools.

"I'm on the Huskie Athletic Council, so we do school visits every



U Sports Academic All-Canadian Joseph Barker is in his fifth and final season with the Huskie men's basketball team.

GETMYPHOTO.CA

second week," said Barker, whose father J.P. Barker played volleyball for the Huskies and for the junior national team, while his cousin Dylan Barker was an All-Canadian Huskie football player and went on to be selected first overall in the 2008 CFL draft by the Hamilton Tiger-Cats. "We go to schools around the city and spend time with students. We will help them with school work, or their phys ed class, whatever they are working on, just spend time with the kids and help out."

On the court, Barker hopes to help the Huskies in their playoff push by getting back to full strength

to complete his final season of university basketball. As his Huskies career winds down, Barker is also looking to the future, as he considers career options. Not surprisingly, Barker is focused on helping others, as a therapist or as a first-responder.

"I was thinking of pursuing my master's degree in occupational therapy, but I have been kind of leaning towards firefighting now," said Barker. "My brother (Jonathan) is a firefighter and the way he talks about it has kind of persuaded me to consider it. I just want to do something where I can help people." ■



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Autism a blessing for dedicated SENS researcher

VICTORIA SCHRAMM

University of Saskatchewan (USask) researcher Dr. Lori Bradford (PhD) wants to help update social psychology for water and health-related problems in today's vastly different world.

For Bradford, that passion for change comes from a very personal place.

"The personal side of why I am passionate about my research is because I am autistic," said Bradford. "I have a dramatically singular focus on my work. For example, I will sit sometimes for hours and hours re-reading interview transcripts or poring over a database for patterns."

An assistant professor in the School of Environment and Sustainability (SENS) at USask, Bradford said her autism helps her to be an exceptionally dedicated researcher.

"I was happy to find both a profession and a workplace where my autism would be a blessing," said Bradford. "There are not many other careers where my different sort of

personality is embraced."

She mentioned that although this ability to focus for long periods is a helpful symptom for her, all people with autism are unique and have their own symptoms and skills.

"In SENS, I hope that I can be a role model for neurodiverse students who need to figure out the right kind of support network to help them succeed," she added.

Bradford is an interdisciplinary scholar whose research focuses on the intersection of water systems and social psychology. At SENS, she studies how individuals and groups interact with one another and the environment to identify ways to improve the well-being of people and the planet.

"Professionally, I am passionate



Dr. Lori Bradford (PhD) is an assistant professor in the School of Environment and Sustainability.

VICTORIA SCHRAMM

about this research because much of the state of current knowledge on social psychology and well-being was derived decades ago using studies that did not reflect diversity or the full picture," said Bradford.

"Many of the touchstone experiments in the field of psychology were conducted in labs with young, upper-class white men as subjects. The advances in technology have also changed the way that people think and behave, as has our need to consider climate change in everything we do," she added.

Bradford has held appointments across USask since 2012, including with SENS, the School of Public Health, and the Department of Psychology, and was eager to set down roots on campus.

"I'm personally drawn to SENS as a school and I would say as a lifestyle because I have always been attracted to complicated problems," said Bradford. "I really believe in SENS' interdisciplinary, problem-oriented and experiential approach to preparing students for today's problems and those of the

future."

The friendly community at SENS was part of what won her over.

"Staff, students, and faculty here in SENS thrive because they have each other's back," she said. "It is a busy school, and it's nice to know that there is someone to turn to when needed."

Being a researcher is a natural extension of her lifelong thirst for knowledge.

"I have always been a collector of information," she said. "My favourite shows growing up were *Jeopardy* and *The Nature of Things*."

When she looks to the future, Bradford wants to be a leader in

decolonizing, transdisciplinary research, to help scientists prioritize reconciliation as they carry out research with Indigenous people about water governance, health and well-being.

"I am filled with gratitude for the lessons Indigenous collaborators have taught and guided me to understand, and I hope I can facilitate this learning for others, including our political leaders in Canada and abroad," she said. ■

Victoria Schramm is a communications specialist in the School of Environment and Sustainability.

McKERCHER LLP
Lecture Series
at the College of Law

January 28
Food Deserts in Saskatchewan: The Right to Food Security
Glenda Abbott, Pelican Lake First Nation
Gord Enns, Executive Director, Saskatoon Food Council
Dr. Rachel Engler-Stringer, College of Medicine (USask)
Grant Wood, College of Agriculture and Bioresources (USask)
12pm | MLT Aikins Lecture Theatre (Room 150),
College of Law, University of Saskatchewan

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UNIVERSITY OF SASKATCHEWAN
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Issue Date	Deadline Date
February 8	January 28
March 8	February 25
April 12	April 1
May 10	April 29
June 14	June 2
July 12	June 30



COMING EVENTS

SEMINARS/LECTURES

Backpack to Briefcase:

The art of resumes and cover letters

Jan. 15, 4 pm, Louis' Loft. Hosted by the USask Alumni Association, this speaker series is designed to support the transition from USask to life as a young professional. Join us to learn from USask alumni who are volunteering their time to provide guidance, tools, and encouragement as you build your professional career. This session, featuring Kristen Cutting, employment co-ordinator at the Student Employment and Career Centre, is free of charge and all students who attend will receive a co-curricular credit. To register, or for more information, visit: <https://alumni.usask.ca/get-involved/events.php>

McKercher Lecture Series:

Food Deserts in Saskatchewan: The Right to Food Security

Jan. 28, 12 pm, MLT Aikins Lecture Theatre (Room 150), College of Law. Presentation by Glenda Abbott, Pelican Lake First Nation, Gord Enns, executive director of Saskatoon Food Council, Dr. Rachel Engler-Stringer (PhD), College of

Medicine, professor Grant Wood, College of Agriculture and Bioresources.

50th Anniversary Lecture Series

Archaeology and Anthropology in an Era of Engagement and Reconciliation
Archaeology as Reconciliation: Community-Based Heritage Projects in Canada
Feb. 7, 4:30-6 pm, Arts 102. Presentation by Dr. Terry Clark (PhD), assistant professor, USask Department of Archaeology and Anthropology. Clark is the director of the shishàh Archaeological Research Project (SARP), a community-based collaboration of the University of Saskatchewan, the University of Toronto and the shishàh Nation. This project looks at long-term resource use, status inequality, mortuary practices, settlement patterns, territoriality and ritual within shishàh lands. He is also engaged in several other heritage projects in Canada and around the world.

COURSES/WORKSHOPS

Edwards School of Business, Executive Education

Empowering Women Leaders
Through to May 3, Saskatoon. Registra-

tion is open to the public and university employees for upcoming programs. Call 306-966-8686, email execed@edwards.usask.ca or visit edwards.usask.ca/execed

Edwards School of Business, Executive Education

Jan. 17-June 15, Saskatoon. Registration is open to the public and university employees for a variety of upcoming programs. Call 306-966-8686, email execed@edwards.usask.ca or visit: <http://edwards.usask.ca/execed/>

Multi-lingual Conversational Language Classes

Jan. 14-March 30, RJD Williams Building. Registration is open for winter session conversational language classes in French, Spanish, Cree, German, Italian, Portuguese and Japanese. Call 306-966-4355, or register online at: <https://artsandscience.usask.ca/noncredit/languages/language-schedule.php>

Spanish Weekender Immersion for Beginners

Feb. 1-3, RJD Williams Building. Registration is open for a three-day low beginner Spanish language program for those with little to no previous Spanish-speaking experience or exposure. Call 306-966-4355 or register online at: <https://ccderegister.usask.ca/aspnet/Section/Detail/?id=44787>

French Voyageur Immersion Weekend

Feb. 15-17, RJD Williams Building. Registration is open for French conversational skills. Call 306-966-4355 or register online at: <https://artsandscience.usask.ca/noncredit/languages/french.php>

French 1-week Immersion for Beginners

Feb. 18-22, RJD Williams Building. Focus on conversation, presentations, listening comprehension and grammatical concepts. Call 306-966-4355 or register online at: <https://ccderegister.usask.ca/aspnet/Section/Detail/?id=44910>

French 1-week Immersion for Intermediates

Feb. 25-March 1, RJD Williams Building. Focus on conversation, presentations, listening comprehension and grammatical concepts. Call 306-966-4355 or register online at: <https://ccderegister.usask.ca/aspnet/Section/Detail/?id=44909>

THE ARTS

Greystone Theatre presents *The Cripple of Inishmaan*

Feb. 6-16, 8 pm, John Mitchell Building. In this play set in 1934, the people of Inishmaan learn that Hollywood director Robert Flaherty is coming to a neighbouring island to film his documentary

Man of Aran. No one is more excited than Billy, an unloved boy whose chief occupation has been gazing at cows and yearning for a girl who wants no part of him. For Billy is determined to cross the sea and audition for the Yank. And as news of his audacity ripples through his rumour-starved community, *The Cripple of Inishmaan* becomes a merciless portrayal of a world so comically cramped and mean-spirited that hope is an affront to its order. Tickets information: <https://artsandscience.usask.ca/drama/greystone/greystone-theatre.php>

Newman Players presents: *The Doctor in Wonderland*

Feb. 7-9, 7 pm, St. Thomas More, Father O'Donnell Auditorium. In this performance, Wonderland is no longer just in the mind of Alice. In Don Zolidis' new parody, Dr. What and his companion Cara crash into Wonderland. When the two are separated they meet all the usual suspects, mainly the Queen of Hearts, who is ready to chop off the heads of anyone who crosses her. It's up to the time-traveling duo to escape and get their phone booth fixed before it's off with their heads! *The Doctor in Wonderland* is presented by special arrangement with Samuel French Inc.

Next OCN: Feb. 8, 2019
Deadline: Jan. 28, 2019

Conference offers global significance

FROM PAGE 2

"Given the global significance of wheat and the importance of wheat to the Canadian and provincial economy, having the event hosted here will certainly bring a lot of focus and attention to the wonderful ag research that we have here on campus and the state-of-the-art facilities and infrastructure that we have to support our research," Pozniak said.

What's most important to Pozniak, however, is the chance to get some of the brightest minds in the field together under a single roof, to share ideas, explore new avenues of wheat research and gain unexpected new footholds in the understanding of one of the world's most important sources of food.

"Wheat provides twenty per cent of calories and proteins for people in the world. A lot of people don't know that," Pozniak said. "A lot of wheat is grown in countries that are poor, so the work that we do as scientists will not only benefit western Canadian producers but also benefit producers in Third World countries where wheat production can be limited by any number of constraints.

"Anything we can do as scientists to improve yields, disease resistance and overall quality and nutrition, will go a long way to help global food security." ■

HenryTye Glazebrook is a freelance writer and a graduate of the University of Saskatchewan.

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ON TIME TRAVEL

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With files from University Archives and Special Collections.

JANUARY 1930

RUTHERFORD RINK OPENS



A look at the interior of Rutherford Rink, circa 1930, on the University of Saskatchewan campus.

A-3088



A portrait of the late William Rutherford, the University of Saskatchewan's first dean of agriculture.

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Rutherford Rink, originally known as the ice dome or "The Rink", was the first major recreational facility built on campus at the University of Saskatchewan.

The brick-faced building was completed in late December 1929 at a cost of only \$47,000, through a university student council initiative. The university's Board of Governors originally loaned the funds to the Students Representative Council, with the student group instituting a \$3 student fee to pay back the board for the construction costs.

Built on a site previously used for an open outdoor skating surface, the official grand opening of the rink was held on Jan. 23, 1930 when Saskatchewan defeated the University of Manitoba 5-1 in an inter-varsity hockey game in front of a crowd of 650, which included provincial Premier James Anderson. The building was

renamed Rutherford Rink a year later in honour of the late William Rutherford, the university's first dean of agriculture, who passed away suddenly on June 1, 1930.

With multiple renovations extending its lifespan, the cozy confines of Rutherford Rink served as the home of recreational and university Huskie hockey for nine decades, while also hosting a wide variety of other activities over the years including military drills, band nights, and winter carnival events.

Rutherford Rink was finally shut down last fall, following the opening of the state-of-the-art Merlis Belsher Place on campus. The stunning new \$51-million facility, featuring twin ice surfaces, two basketball courts and the Ron and Jane Graham Sport Science and Health Centre currently under construction, officially opened on Oct. 1, 2018.