



'TIS THE SEASON ...

... for blustery winter weather and the stress of final exams but students Monique Bews, left, and Srinu Samarawickrama had warm smiles for photographer David Stobbe when he met them on campus. It is also the season to wish all of our readers happy holidays from the staff at *On Campus News*. This is the last issue of the paper for 2013; we return to publishing Jan. 12. In the meantime, to stay up to date on university news and information, visit news.usask.ca



DAVID STOBBE

SEM: more than recruitment, retention

Processes, funding key to meeting enrolment goals

COLLEEN MACPHERSON

After 16 months of data collection, analysis and consultation, the U of S has a report detailing how best to reach its enrolment targets and according to the project leader, “the hard work is just beginning.”

David Hannah, associate vice-president of student affairs, presented highlights of the Strategic Enrolment Management (SEM) report to University Council Nov. 21, including its 10 recommendations for achieving a 7.2 per cent increase over 2010/11 figures in the number of students attending the U of S by 2015/16. That increase represents 1,548 students, 609 of them undergraduates and 939 graduate students.

In addition to pure number increases, Hannah said, “we’re looking at what type of students they are, where they’re from, who these people are.” A number of specific student groups—international, Aboriginal and others—garner particular attention to ensure the diversity of the

student population.

Hannah said the need to rethink enrolment management stems from a number of current realities including declining numbers of high school graduates in Saskatchewan. “Gone are the days when we could open the gate, students would pour in and then we’d close the gate when we were full,” he said. Saskatchewan students remain a high priority but competition from other institutions at home and across the country requires expanding recognition that enrolment is more than recruitment and retention; it now includes factors like how the U of S positions itself relative to other universities, financial-aid policies, program offerings and delivery methods, and even timetabling practices.

Other drivers for enrolment management are the specific enrolment goals set for each U of S college, and a broad and diverse set of recruitment, enrolment and retention activi-

ties, he said.

“We want to make those processes more consistent, more timely and more responsive across campus.”

Because the “big push” is increasing grad student enrolment, Hannah said number one on the SEM report’s list of top 10 priorities calls for improved administrative processes for those students, processes that are “better than our U15 peers.” The report recommends streamlining and co-ordinating everything from admissions procedures and scholarship administration to communications and grade conversion practices.

Strategic allocation of graduate-level scholarship funding is critical to success, said Hannah, but changes can only be made after the university reviews the current situation.

“There’s a pretty close relationship between funding and meeting our graduate enrolment targets (but) we have to find out

if we’re getting the best bang for our buck out of the funding we have now before any significant new investment is made. We have to know what the right mix is in terms of number, size and types of scholarships and stipends and how we measure up against the competition.”

Hannah added that a review of existing student financial aid resources, policies and practices

is currently underway, fulfilling one of the innovation in academic programs and services commitments in the university’s third integrated plan.

The SEM report also calls for a customer relationship management system to co-ordinate communications with students, track student interactions with

See *Many*, Page 2



David Hannah, associate vice-president of student affairs.

INSIDE

MUSIC MAN 5

UP ON THE ROOF 11

Sustainability certificate part of the green wave

 LESLEY PORTER

What does sustainability mean to you? Undergraduate students at the U of S will soon have the opportunity to explore this in a new program launching next September.

The School of Environment and Sustainability (SENS) has developed the Undergraduate Certificate of Proficiency in Sustainability, the first program of its kind in the province and one of only a handful across the country. The certificate is designed for students in three- and four-year degree programs looking to specialize in the multifaceted area of sustainability.

"There is a significant population that has been looking for this type of program," said Colin Laroque, currently a geography and environment professor at Mount Allison University in New Brunswick

who will be returning to his home province in January, to an academic appointment in the College of Agriculture and Bioresources and to teach in the program. "Now (students) have an option in Saskatchewan, and specifically at the U of S."

This is the first undergraduate program from SENS, which also offers three interdisciplinary graduate programs. Comprised of 21 credit units, the sustainability certificate includes SENS introductory and capstone classes and a first-year Native Studies class.

While graduate programs focusing on sustainability are commonplace at Canadian universities, undergraduate-level programs are still fairly limited, particularly in Alberta, Saskatchewan and Manitoba, said Laroque. The "green wave,"



Anthropologist Philip Loring will teach in the new sustainability certificate program.

 LESLEY PORTER

as he described it, started in 2004, and by 2008, most universities had such programs

on offer. The exception was the Prairie provinces, but that did not stop the demand.

Joining Laroque in teaching the program is Philip Loring who made the trek south earlier this year from the University of Alaska in Fairbanks. An anthropologist with an interest in food systems and indigenous cultures, he hopes to equip students with the ability to think critically about sustainability issues, both locally and globally.

"I think about sustainability not as an environmental matter but a cultural and behavioural matter," said Loring, who has an academic appointment in SENS.

"Sustainability is about place and environment, sure, but for humans, it is about learning to become native to that place." ■

Lesley Porter is the communications specialist in the School of Environment and Sustainability

Many strategies need little or no new funding

From Page 1

the university and evaluate the effectiveness of recruitment activities.

Hannah said such systems "can be as big as a bread box or as big as a house" so further work needs to be done on pinpointing needs and determining whether its current student information

system can be adapted to do the job.

Other considerations in meeting enrolment targets require a basic understanding of "what students want to take" and how those classes are delivered. Hannah said current figures show the largest growth among undergraduates is in those taking online and off-campus

courses as well as those enrolling in spring and summer sessions but there is room for more students on the main campus.

"There's only a physical limit here if you think we need to run all of our classes in one-hour blocks Monday to Friday from 9 am to 5 pm from September to April."

The remaining recom-

mendations in the SEM report include a call for role clarification for those working in administrative units, colleges and department with respect to co-ordinating recruitment activities and resources; an expanded centralized student experience function building on the existing Student Central; and an early alert system to identify students who are just beginning to experience difficulties at university.

Many of the recommendations can be addressed with little or no investment, he said. "It will require discussion and consultation, different parts of the organization talking to each other about how we can best accommodate increased enrolment. We need to look at all the pieces and how they fit together."

Referring back to his comment that enrolment management is more than recruitment and retention, Hannah said meeting the 2015/16 targets will require "changing mental models but I'm optimistic we're going to make great strides by working in a strategic and more co-ordinated way."

As for next steps, Hannah

said a subgroup of the SEM steering committee has made suggestions to the provost about which position or unit within the university should be charged with moving each of the report's recommendations forward.

"Each one will have to do the homework, and determine what's the best solution for us, and what the price tag might be. Then we'll work through the university's standard decision-making processes.

"This process is relatively short term in its focus," he continued. "There are likely to be discussions soon about what we want to look like as an institution in terms of enrolment 10, 15 or 20 years out" and he expects work will begin on a new enrolment foundational document as early as next year.

"We've learned a lot about ourselves and about our key student groups through this process but getting the report done is not the end of this. It's the beginning."

The Strategic Enrolment Management report can be found on the third integrated plan website. ■



Happy holidays

Best wishes for the holidays and the new year!

from Ilene, Ethan and Nipin

 UNIVERSITY OF SASKATCHEWAN
 Ilene Busch-Vishniac, President
 uofs.president@usask.ca usask.ca/president @usaskpresoffice

In Memoriam

Allen M. Backman, School of Public Health, Oct. 2

William Fehr, Agriculture and Bioresources, Oct. 31

Jack M. Newman, Facilities Management, Nov. 18

Dr. Ian M. MacDonald, College of Medicine, Nov. 25

Connecting with alumni

Review identifies need to offer value, communicate

✍️ KRIS FOSTER

The relationship and connections between the U of S and its alumni underwent a comprehensive review recently.

The final report on alumni engagement at the university did not reveal any surprises, said Heather Magotiaux, vice-president of Advancement and Community Engagement.

“We knew we had some work to do, that’s why we undertook this review,” she explained. “We found that our alumni outscored most other universities in terms of the percentage who would recommend the U of S to potential students as well as the number who said the university was still relevant to their lives.”

That’s the good news, Magotiaux continued. “But we also found that fewer than half said they felt connected to the university today. We wanted to know what initiatives we should look at to build on the good will of our alumni.”

So a consultant—Marie Earl, who has held senior alumni relations positions at Stanford University and the University of British Columbia—was hired to investigate the situation, interview alumni and create an action plan.

“Marie prepared one of the most comprehensive reports I have ever received,” Magotiaux said, adding that the review highlighted five strategic priorities.

“One priority is to improve our knowledge of our alumni so that we can offer (through activities) more value to them,” she said. “Second, we need to build alumni engagement through communication, like the *Green & White* magazine, that is lively and sophisticated. That’s what our alumni want.”

Magotiaux said the first two priorities send a clear message that alumni-relation activities need to be more focused on what alumni want.

The third priority is about changing the internal culture of the U of S—and talking about the benefits engaged alumni provide to the university community. “Often people

think alumni engagement means giving money. We are grateful for financial support, but there are a host of other ways alumni can be involved. They can be mentors to students, participate in outreach and engagement events, provide experiential learning opportunities and donate to the university.”

The fourth priority stresses the importance of creating connections between alumni and students. Magotiaux said there is an opportunity for building a sense of community between students and alumni, for example in alumni mentorship of students.

The fifth priority is better engaging alumni of influence with the university in order to engage the broader alumni community. This is an area that will require a cultural shift for the university, Magotiaux



Magotiaux

“ I can’t think of a successful university that does not have a strongly connected alumni base.

Heather Magotiaux

explained.

“We tend not to boast. The reality is that we need to stop thinking of it (sharing successes) as bragging; it’s sharing and telling. We need to

build a culture where we share these successes for each other.”

The same culture needs to exist in the alumni community too, she continued. “Who has more of a stake in the reputation of the university than alumni?”

Students are students for only a short time, she said, but once they graduate they are alumni for life. “It should be a bragging point for them. They earned the right to call themselves U of S alumni. We need to remind them, and us, of that.”

The report also set criteria for assessing the effectiveness of all alumni activities. “The criteria will look at how we allocate resources, engage alumni and strengthen connections. What’s the call to action, what do we want them (alumni) to do? We have to apply this lens to everything and determine how it is contributing and if it is the best way.”

The review outlined a three-

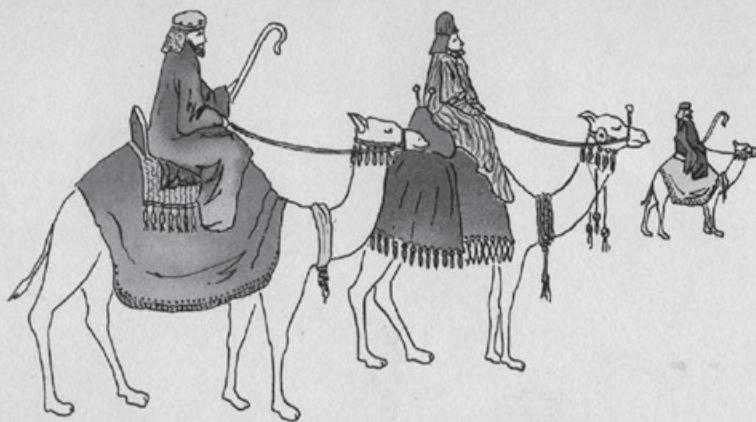
phase strategy over the course of the next five years. The first phase, Magotiaux said, will take place over the next 18 months to two years, during which time the Alumni Relations team will build capacity, examine how resources are spent and implement specific tactics related to further engaging alumni volunteers who are already connected with the university.

Another immediate action item Magotiaux mentioned is changing how alumni are referred to on campus. “We talk about faculty, staff and students as members of the campus community, and we need to include alumni as part of the internal community too.”

Alumni relations, she said, should be a campus-wide priority as it is a clear indicator of success. “I can’t think of a successful university that does not have a strongly connected alumni base ... We should never lose sight of the value of our alumni.” ■

FROM THE ARCHIVES

Card collection



GAUDETE, FRATRES, CHRISTUS NOBIS EST : DEUS HOMO FACTUS EST

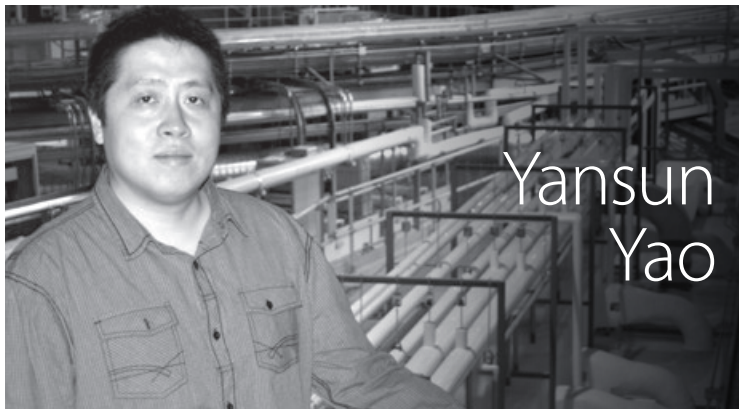
✍️ PATRICK HAYES, U OF S ARCHIVES

University of Saskatchewan, University Archives & Special Collections, N. Semenoff fonds MG 480.

This issue’s image is from the Nik Semenoff Papers in the University Archives. It is an example of several Christmas cards that can be found in that collection. Semenoff is a well-known researcher, artist, teacher and inventor. He started working at the U of S with

the Extension Division as an artist and media specialist in 1967, moving to the Department of Art and Art History in 1987. The card pictured here is from the time he worked as a graphic designer for the Saskatoon broadcaster CFQC in the early 1960s. ■

NEW TO US



Yansun
Yao

While they may not shout out “is there a theoretical physicist in the house?” scientists from across Canada and around the world often end up at Yansun Yao’s office at the Canadian Light Source seeking his help.

“Theoreticians provide answers to the experiments,” said Yao, resident condensed matter theorist at the synchrotron. “The experiments give them data and they say ‘can you help us interpret this data?’ This is more the service aspect of what I do.”

Yao’s own research centres on computational materials discovery, particularly with regard to the behavior of materials under high temperature and high pressure. He cites a familiar example: ordinary graphite is transformed by intense heat and pressure into diamond, and it stays diamond when the extreme conditions are removed.

The idea is to use theory to predict properties and behavior of materials.

“For my PhD research, I was really inspired by the work of (U of S Canada Research Chair) John Tse,” Yao said. “He’s a great theoretician, and he showed me that theory’s very useful and can lead the experiments. I realized working with John that you can actually do predictions.”

Yao grew up in Beijing and studied at the Beijing Institute of Technology, completing his bachelor’s and master’s degrees there before coming to the U of S for his doctorate. He and his wife, Hongbin Zhang, moved to Ottawa where Yao worked for the National Research Council before returning to Saskatoon. Yao is now an assistant professor in the Department of Physics and Engineering Physics, while Zhang works in the Department of Economics. ■

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



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OCN Publishing Schedule 2013-14

No.	Issue Date	Deadline Date
9	Jan. 10, 2014	Jan. 2, 2014
10	Jan. 24, 2014	Jan. 16, 2014
11	Feb. 7, 2014	Jan. 30, 2014
12	Feb. 28, 2014	Feb. 20, 2014
13	Mar. 14, 2014	Mar. 6, 2014

LETTER

Taking steps to redress wrongs of the past

Based on my experiences growing up in Saskatchewan and the results of my master’s research, which involved interviews with U of S students about their attitudes toward Aboriginal people, it was unsurprising to read the views expressed by Wayne Eyre regarding the Gordon Oakes-Red Bear Student Centre (OCN, Nov. 22).

That this centre “over-accommodates” Aboriginal students and represents “special treatment” is one view. An alternate view is that Canada would have numerous such centres had European colonization involved equitable relations and peaceful co-existence with Aboriginal people along with cultural blending rather than physical displacement and

various policies and practices aimed at “killing the Indian” in the first peoples of this country.

A typical counter-argument I have heard is that the past is the past and we all simply have to move on. We can certainly move ahead, but to move in a direction that does not incorporate Aboriginal cultural symbols and practices into the fabric of Canadian society is to ignore the fact that history has resulted in grave inequities between Aboriginal people and those of European descent. And the past is certainly easier to forget when you’re a member of the latter group.

I would implore people sharing Mr. Eyre’s view to reflect on how Canada might look if Europeans and the Canadian government had

worked collaboratively with Aboriginal people instead of essentially moving them out of the way to settle Canada in the likeness of European culture. As the president pointed out in her response, the Gordon Oakes-Red Bear Student Centre is for all members of the campus community, and I applaud the university for this endeavour. I believe it says to the public that the original settlers of this land got it wrong and that this is but one way in which colonial institutions can make steps toward redressing hundreds of years of racism toward Aboriginal people and the resultant social marginalization of the Aboriginal population. ■

Mel Brockman
U of S Employee

ON CAMPUS NEWS

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

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

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

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

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



ISSN: 1195-7654 PUBLICATIONS MAIL AGREEMENT NO. 40065156

Return undeliverable Canadian addresses to:

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

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The music man

Corcoran a life-long banjo devotee

✍ MICHAEL ROBIN



Michael Corcoran at home in his "banjo room."

✍ MICHAEL ROBIN

"This is where the magic happens," said Michael Corcoran as he ushers a visitor into an instrument-filled room at his home near the U of S campus. He picks up a banjo – a beautiful work of exotic woods and glittering brass – and with a smile picks out the first few notes of *O Canada*.

"Okay, I guess we'd better do this right," he said, as he slips on his finger picks and launches into a quick toe-tapping bluegrass riff.

By day, Corcoran is a professor in the Department of Anatomy and Cell Biology in the College of Medicine, where he has worked for years to understand neural plasticity, or how the brain and nervous system adapt to experience.

After work, much of his time is devoted to his avocation – the banjo – and rare is the day that he doesn't pick up the instrument. He even dreams of music, and at least once has awoken in the middle of the night with a song in his head that he had to get up and play a few times to capture before it vanished from memory.

Corcoran is well known in Saskatoon and Saskatchewan music circles and has brought the banjo's distinctive sound to several bluegrass bands. He has also played and taught at the Northern Lights Bluegrass and Old Tyme Music Festival at Ness Creek, and occasionally hosts the once-monthly bluegrass program on CFCR community radio.

While the banjo may be most closely associated with bluegrass, the instrument has a long history in popular music, from The Eagles and the Doobie Brothers to Big Wreck and Nellie Furtado.

"There's been a tremendously productive communica-

tion between popular music and bluegrass," Corcoran said, giving as example Manfred Mann's *Fox on the Run*, which is likely more well-known as a bluegrass standard rather than its original rock version.

"I mean, bluegrass is just hillbilly music—it's country music in a certain context, a certain style, but you should be able to poach good material from wherever you can find it."

Corcoran's own love affair with the banjo began in high school in the early 1960s listening to the Kingston Trio. The sound of the instrument drew him in and made him a fan.

His mother drove him around Chicago in search of someone to teach him, eventually finding a classical guitarist who played a little banjo on the side. That first teacher passed Corcoran on to another player, a "real clone of Pete Seeger's banjo playing," where he learned more.

"But the heavens didn't open up until one of those guys gave me a tape of a Flatt and Scruggs album – literally, a reel-to-reel tape. I heard Earl Scruggs and I thought, 'that's it! That's what I want to do with my life,' at least, this part of my life."

Corcoran went to extraordinary lengths to figure out how Scruggs produced his sound. He bought albums, played them on his parent's basement stereo with a microphone in front of one of the speakers and recorded them on reel-to-reel tape. Then he slowed down the tape and de-tuned his banjo to compensate for the distorted playback. With no formal musical training, he had to learn entirely by ear.

"I probably spent about four hours a day when I was in my second year of high school, when

I should have been studying geometry and Latin and French, but no, I was studying the five-string banjo—the gospel according to Earl Scruggs."

Fortunately Corcoran did not totally neglect academics, doing well enough to be accepted into medical school. By that time, he was teaching others how to play the banjo to supplement his student income. But he still had not nailed down his career.

That changed with a third-year university psychology course on motivation and emotion.

"The heavens parted once

“ I probably spent about four hours a day when I was in my second year of high school, when I should have been studying geometry and Latin and French, but no, I was studying the five-string banjo – the gospel according to Earl Scruggs.

Michael Corcoran

again, and I said, 'this is what I really want to do with my life.'" Corcoran said. "He (the professor) was talking about the hypothalamus and receptive fields and plastic synapses and all the stuff that just really spoke to me."

Corcoran completed his undergraduate degree in psychology at Northwestern University in Chicago before moving to Montreal to finish his master's and doctorate at McGill. From there, he went to the University of Victoria where he eventually became head of the Department of Psychology.

He continued to teach banjo at the Victoria Folklore Centre, and helped found the bluegrass band the Clover Point Drifters, which is still recording. Between work and gigs, he also juggled the demands of a young family.

"It was a very busy time, but the banjo has always remained part of my life," he said. "In those days, it wouldn't surprise me that I would spend an hour or two hours a day just noodling by myself when I could. And I still

do that. It might be 20 minutes or half an hour, but I try to play it every day."

After more than 40 years in academia—including a stint as U of S vice-president research—Corcoran has wrapped up his research career to devote more time to academic pursuits. He graduated his last student two years ago, and is concentrating on a book—a history of behavioral neuroscience in Canada, beginning with the man who founded the field, McGill scientist Donald Hebb.

"That's going to be my kind of capstone of my career project, that book. I just hope I can live up to it."

At home, he and his wife Jan are already enjoying a growing focus—their three grandchildren.

"That's been a wonderful development in our lives, to have these grandkids, it's just terrific—and to have all three daughters here in town (but) nary a banjo player among them—yet. It's a little early, but I'm hoping eventually, one of them..." ■



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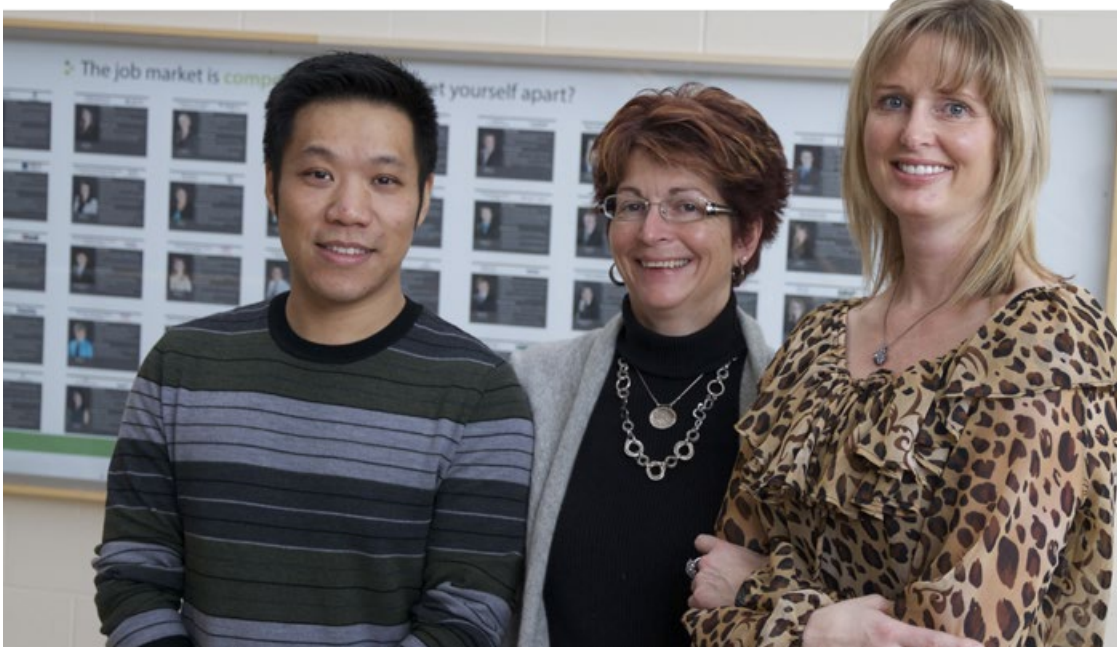
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Edwards ready for designation change

✍ KRIS FOSTER



From left to right, Kaili Xu, Nathalie Johnstone and Noreen Mahoney, all from the Edwards School of Business.

✍ KRIS FOSTER

Provinces across Canada are unifying professional accounting designations and the Department of Accounting at the U of S Edwards School of Business is ready for the change.

"This is a tremendous accomplishment for the profession of accounting and has been in the works for a really long time," said Noreen Mahoney, associate dean of students and degree programs in the Edwards School of Business.

In the past, accountants could work towards one of three professional designations: a Chartered Accountant (CA), a Certified General Accountant (CGA), or a Certified Management Accountant (CMA). New Saskatchewan legislation will see those designations merged

into one: the Chartered Professional Accountant (CPA).

"Why does accounting need three separate designations? Each designation has its own governing body. The profession was really fractured and each designation competed with the others. In the marketplace, no one was sure who to hire, a CA, CGA or CMA," explained Mahoney, who is a CA. "Last year, the Quebec government merged all three and other provinces are doing the same. In Saskatchewan, legislation has gone through second reading and we are hopeful it will pass very soon."

The new CPA designation will require new certification programs and the Edwards school, with its Master

of Professional Accounting (MPAcc) program, is prepared for the new process. MPAcc, explained Mahoney, is the only program of its kind in Western Canada that is ready to provide the necessary training and preparation for the CPA designation.

"In addition to being a graduate program, MPAcc also has been providing CA preparation. So we had some adjustments to make in preparation for the unified designation and in May, the first group of students will go through the program to be the first CPAs."

For that reason, explained Kaili Xu, acting director of graduate programs in Edwards, MPAcc attracts students from across Western Canada. "About

a third come from BC, a few from Manitoba, and the rest pretty equally from Saskatchewan and Alberta," said Xu, adding that the program takes place over two summers. "We receive about 250 applications for admission each year, but only accept 90 students each summer so we have a maximum of 180 students enrolled each year."

Now in its 15th year, MPAcc has a reputation for preparing its students for the certification process, said Nathalie Johnstone, assistant professor of accounting and MPAcc instructor. "The U of S is known for its exceptional accounting education. We have made a large investment in accounting faculty and have one of the largest faculty complements in Western Canada."

"We gave out the first undergraduate accounting

degree in Canada; we've been at this for awhile," Mahoney added. "The CPA designation will send a strong signal to the marketplace that we are business professionals with strong technical and problem-solving skills. We are really proud to offer the program that prepares students for this designation."

Once legislation passes in Saskatchewan, CPA will be an officially recognized designation that meets or exceeds the standards as set by the International Accounting Standards Board.

"Frankly, we're really excited about the future," said Mahoney. "We won't have to spend so much time or money explaining the differences between the designations, and we will be a unified voice focused on protecting the public interests." ■



From left to right, Ramaswami Sammynaiken, Michael Bradley and Gap Soo Chang in the Raman laboratory in the Saskatchewan Structural Sciences Centre.

✍ WENONA PARTRIDGE

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✍ WENONA PARTRIDGE

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"The environment students will enter after they graduate today is very different from 10 or so years ago," said Michael Bradley of the Department of Physics and Engineering Physics. "Now, graduates need entrepreneurial skills and need to be much more capable of managing an interdisciplinary project and also finding a way to fund that project."

Bradley and two colleagues – Gap Soo Chang from the same department and Ramaswami

Sammynaiken of the Saskatchewan Structural Sciences Centre (SSSC) and the Department of Biochemistry – were awarded the 2013 Provost's Prize for Innovative Practice in Collaborative Teaching and Learning for their project called Innovative Laboratory for Engineering Physicists and Physicists in the 21st Century. The project put together two different upper-year instructional approaches so that students would have an opportunity to apply their technical skills to a real-world consultative problem.

Chary Rangacharyulu, head of the Department of Physics and Engineering Physics, was

**2013 Provost's Prize
for Innovative Practice
in Collaborative
Teaching and Learning**

See *Consulting*, Page 8



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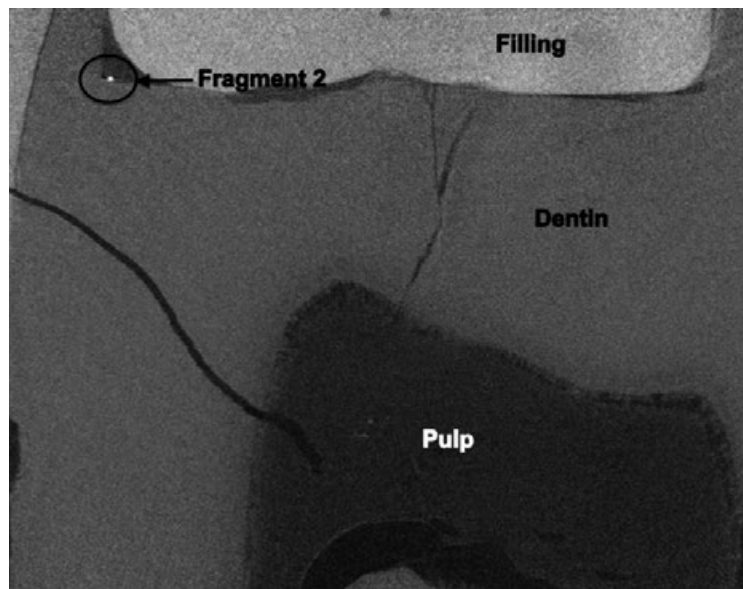


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Unexpected research result could alter tooth repair practises

KIRK SIBBALD



Assem Hedayat, assistant professor in the College of Dentistry, and fourth-year physics student Nicole Nagy made an unexpected discovery when they began looking at tubules in the dentin of teeth and discovered metal fragments, shown above, left behind by dental drill bits.

A physics student and dentistry professor might not have found what they were looking for, but what they did uncover could kick start changes in how teeth are repaired.

Since late August, fourth-year physics student Nicole Nagy has been working alongside Assem Hedayat, an assistant professor of dental materials. The two started working together after one of Nagy's faculty mentors, Professor Julia Boughner from the Department of Anatomy and Cell Biology, put out a call for researchers interested in working with a promising physics student.

Hedayat was looking to examine whether the materials used in dental fillings are able to travel through tubules—microscopic channels located in a tooth's dentin—and reach the pulp. Such research could shed light on whether or not these tubules serve as portals that allow dental materials to enter the body. However, because these tubules have a diameter of only about two microns, Hedayat was hoping to enlist the help of a physicist to assist with a 3D imaging process.

When Nagy was approached by Hedayat about the opportunity, she was immediately intrigued.

"There were a lot of physics applications and techniques that were going to be used in the project so I thought it would be a great experience," explained Nagy.

To begin, Hedayat began contacting advanced-imaging facilities across North America and got a quick reply from the Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory in California. A scientist in charge of the lab's beamline told Hedayat if he sent samples they could be tested quickly.

Members of Hedayat's research team prepared and applied fillings to previously untouched teeth from the College of Dentistry's tooth bank, and the samples were sent to the Berkeley synchrotron. While the images that Hedayat got back weren't refined enough to view the dentinal tubules, they did show something unexpected.

"When Nicole started analyzing data and the images, we were surprised to see some other objects under the fillings, which were shiny particles," explained Hedayat. "And that's where the whole project took a different turn."

Hedayat said those gleaming fragments, easy to see in the images, could only have come from the drill bits used to apply fillings to the teeth. The next step is to analyze the fragments themselves and determine their composition. Generally, dentistry drill bits are composed of tungsten carbide, although sometimes cobalt is added to bind the carbide particles together.

Tungsten carbide on its own is biocompatible, said Hedayat, but tungsten-carbide-cobalt is biohazardous. "You have to remember that if we're finding one or two fragments in these teeth, how many more splash around in someone's mouth and end up being swallowed? The fragments' edges are also very sharp, and can lodge themselves inside the oral cavity or body."

If it is determined that the particles pose a potential health hazard, Hedayat said it is possible that research into alternative dental tools could be accelerated.

"One of my colleagues pointed out that ... maybe we need to look more at lasers in the industry," he said. "As



KIRK SIBBALD

researchers, that is something we may need to look into from a variety of perspectives. That's the beauty of collaboration—different ideas come up when we work together to stop things like this from happening."

While analyzing the fragments' composition will be the next step in this research, Hedayat said he and Nagy will also be revisiting their original objective and attempting to get

higher-resolution images of the dentinal tubules. They hope the Canadian Light Source, or perhaps a micro-CT scanner, will be able to help in that regard.

Nagy said this experience has been invaluable, both in terms of the hands-on research she has been involved in and the project's interdisciplinary nature. While she is not yet sure what to pursue after graduating next spring, Nagy said medical

physics and dentistry are both high on her list.

"This project is a really unique combination of sciences all working together. We're all seeing things from different points of view, and then to talk to people and hear how they're interpreting things, it's really interesting," she said. ■

Kirk Sibbald is the communications officer in the College of Arts and Science

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Project expands oral health care for children

KYLIE DIETRICK

A project that brings together expertise from the Colleges of Nursing and Dentistry to help northern Aboriginal nursing students to support oral health care for children is the recipient of the \$10,000 Provost's Project

Grant for Innovative Practice in Collaborative Teaching and Learning for 2013.

Building on the College of Nursing's successful Caring for Kids Where They Live program, the new initiative

entitled Northern Innovative Teaching and Learning Practice in Pediatric Nursing Education will use remote presence technology to allow nursing students in La Ronge and Ile-a-la-Crosse to share information about oral

health, provide primary prevention and early-care services, and do referrals to dental-health providers.

Because nurses are more often located in northern and Aboriginal communities than dentists, the teaching method has the potential to positively affect both students learning and community well-being.

The project was developed by Jill Bally, Shelley Spurr, Lorna Butler, Mary Ellen Andrews and Heather Exner-Pirot from

nursing and Dr. Alyssa Hayes from dentistry.

"If we can effectively incorporate oral health assessment and intervention into our teaching and learning initiatives, we can support nursing students in carrying out holistic and comprehensive assessments, as well as support improved health outcomes in pediatric populations," said Bally. ■

Kylie Dietrick is the communications officer in the College of Nursing

2013 Provost's Project Grant for Innovative Practice in Collaborative Teaching and Learning

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Lisa Krol
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Consulting skills part of class

From Page 6

instrumental in putting the interdisciplinary team that led the project together. "The idea behind the project is to introduce students to experimental tools so they can creatively explore the science and technology behind the research that instruments found in the SSSC labs are used to conduct," Rangacharyulu said. "This is how we do the research and this must be the way we teach our students."

The resulting course, Physics 404, is an innovative blend of the strengths of the structured, rigorous approach used by upper year "cook book" labs, and the more open-ended approach used in an undergraduate thesis. According to Bradley, "the upper-year labs have a high level of complexity but the script is already written," meaning that the outcomes are set so students are not pushed to be creative.

Physics 404 is taught in two phases, a training phase using state-of-the-art equipment available in the department and SSSC, and a consulting problem phase that lets students apply what they learned in the

first phase. In between the two phases, an experienced professional consultant outlines the ups and downs of consulting, how to set up a consulting company and how to approach a consulting contract.

The experience of taking Physics 404 has been positive, according to student reviews. "We knew it was successful when we evaluated the course," Bradley said. "Students really liked it and many of our past students have found success as graduate students or working in industry."

One former student of the class said "overall, I believe that through an unorthodox curriculum and the provision of high-quality resources, Physics 404 has been able to deliver an unmatched, if not truly unique hands-on learning experience at the University of Saskatchewan. I consider myself fortunate to have been able to take this course and walk away with a set of knowledge that would otherwise be difficult to obtain elsewhere without the innovative structure demonstrated by Physics 404." ■

Wenona Partridge is an instructional design assistant in the Gwenna Moss Centre

Award-winning women

Karen Chad, vice-president of research at the U of S, and Nancy Hopkins, past chair of the university's Board of Governors, have both been named to the 2013 Canada's Most Powerful Women: Top 100 Awards, Chad in the public sector leader category and Hopkins in the Accenture corporate director category.

Chad is recognized for her ability to attract top talent and research funding to the U of S. As a kinesiology research, she has held numerous grants and

has mentored many graduate students and post-doctoral fellows.

Hopkins served as a member of the U of S Board of Governors from 2005-2013, and was chair of the board in the last three years of that term. She currently practices business law at McDougall Gauley LLP in Saskatoon.

And Shashi Behl, a U of S graduate and founder of Twisted Goods, has won the 2013 Retailer of the Year Award from the Canadian Gift Association. ■

A glimpse into classrooms

Open Courseware makes materials public

Ever wondered how many courses at the University of Saskatchewan deal in some way with Spanish history, or calculus, or sustainability? Now, thanks to an innovative website that congregates course details, finding out is just a mouse click away. (The answer to the sustainability question is 21 courses offered in eight different colleges and schools.)



Frost

Set up as a gateway to the more than 4,000 courses on offer, the Open Courseware website makes it easy for anyone to get a glimpse into what will be taught by making public all course descriptions, syllabi and even course content on one site. “The idea is to be more transparent about what we do in our classrooms by providing an organized view that is easy to navigate,” said Jim Greer, director of the University Learning Centre (ULC), one of the partner units in the Open Courseware project.

Developed along with Student and Enrolment Services Division and Information and Communications Technology, Open Courseware has been on many people’s wish list for some

time, said Stephanie Frost, the ULC co-ordinator of online support. The vision was to provide one place for all course syllabi and materials while still allowing professors and instructors the ability to “put a wall through it to separate things that are only for students from things that are public, and that saves them from having to maintain two different websites,” she explained.

Frost said the website (ocw.usask.ca) draws course descriptions from the university’s online course catalogue and provides a folder for any additional materials

“I’m excited about Open Courseware because it creates ‘stumble upon’ opportunities for students.”

Stephanie Frost

an instructor wants to make public. Greer said those materials are the intellectual property of the instructor “but it’s intellectual property the university is encouraging them to share.”

Work on adapting the existing BBLearn Blackboard system to create Open Courseware was well underway when University Council earlier this year amended the academic course policy, confirming that course syllabi are public documents. Open Courseware has been in what Greer described

as “quiet release mode” for some time but with the policy amendment, the default setting for all syllabi was changed to make them public.

In addition to course descriptions, syllabi and other content, the Open Courseware developers co-ordinated with the University Library to include subject- and course-specific materials, said Frost. This allows users of the site to link from a particular course to relevant library resources.

“I think what we’ve done is pretty unique,” she continued. “I haven’t seen any sites at other universities quite as developed as ours, and we did it without a big expense by adapting the system we were already using.”

Both Frost and Greer agree Open Courseware, with its easy-to-use browse and search functions, will be a boon for students—both current and prospective—as they consider what courses they might want to take.

“I’m excited about Open Courseware because it creates ‘stumble upon’ opportunities for students looking for things that interest them,” said Frost, “and it will certainly help people in the community who may be interested in finding out more about what happens in a university class, things they wouldn’t otherwise know until they enrolled.”

Greer said work will continue on Open Courseware as awareness of the site grows. Templates for syllabi and guidelines for posting content that were developed over the past year will continue to be promoted with instructors, and he wants to explore the possibility of adding additional search tags beyond those already in the course descriptions.

“The ability to search through all of our courses is a very valuable resource,” he said. “It’s good to see the U of S leading the country in this innovative approach to openness.” ■

Financial Services Division | FSD

Online Travel and Expense Update

Training and access for the new travel and expense management system have been delivered in many areas of campus since June 2013. Before the December 2013 university closure, we expect to have completed this process for all administrative units on campus, the three schools and the Western College of Veterinary Medicine. From January to April 2014, training and access will be provided to all other colleges.

The university selected UNIGLOBE as its preferred travel provider, following a request for proposal process last year. The process to implement an online travel and expense tool with Concur Technologies Inc., aligned with UNIGLOBE’s travel management services, began early in 2013. The new automated tools will provide employees with greater visibility of the current status of their travel and expense claims, past claims history and available vendors. Employees will also benefit from quicker reimbursements with all approved travel being processed daily.

All employees can use UNIGLOBE for travel arrangements now, whether using the new online tool or the previous paper-based procedures. By booking with UNIGLOBE, you will benefit from a preferred travel agency fee of \$29 compared to an average \$60-70 charge for booking through other travel providers. Our current travel guidelines and policies will continue to apply with the new online system, maintaining current travel options while making access to preferred suppliers and associated cost savings easier.

For UNIGLOBE’s assistance with travel reservations, call: (306) 500-7525 (Saskatoon) 1-855-515-6746 (toll-free)

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306-966-8783

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Coming Events

Miscellany

TransformUS

There are two town hall meetings schedule for January to provide an opportunity for questions and discussion about TransformUS:

- Jan. 8, noon-1 pm, Convocation Hall
- Jan. 9, noon-1 pm, Convocation Hall

University Club Events

For information or reservations call 306-966-7775

- until Dec. 20, holiday lunch buffets and feature entrée
- Dec. 8, family holiday brunch and children's party featuring Santa as a special guest
- Dec. 12, champagne and sparkling wine tasting
- Dec. 19 and 20, seafood buffet (reservations required)

90 Years of Kaplan

On Dec. 12 from 5:30-9 pm at TCU Place, a special event will celebrate the many contributions of David Kaplan and his 90th birthday. Tickets are available at the TCU Place box office. For information, contact Melissa Latos at 306-966-6185 or melissa.latos@usask.ca

Tech Venture Challenge

The U of S Industry Liaison Office annual business plan competition encourages entrepreneurs to launch technology based business ideas. In early December, applicants will be reviewed and 10 finalists chosen for mentorship, guidance and training. Applications can be filled out online at the Industry Liaison Office website.

Courses/Workshops

Bone-Muscle Health

• Jan. 24, 8:30am - 4:30 pm, St. Andrew's College Lounge, Bone-Muscle Health Across the Lifespan: Translating Knowledge to Action will feature Dr. Geoff Johnston, graduate program research highlights and keynote speaker Joanie Sims-Gould, assistant professor in family practice at UBC and research associate, Centre for Hip Health and Mobility. Sims-Gould's morning lecture at 8:45 am is entitled Does't Everyone Love to Read Peer Reviewed Journal Articles? Making Research Accessible, and at 1:30 pm, she will present A Framework for Sustained Impact: Building your Knowledge Mobilization Toolbox. Registration form available with further information on the Continuing Physical Therapy Education website www.usask.ca/cpte

Breast Cancer Rehabilitation Symposium

• Feb. 27-28, Travelodge Hotel, Continuing Physical Therapy Education will hold a Breast Cancer Rehabilitation Symposium to provide an evidence-based update on management of breast cancer, and promote interprofessional treatment of breast cancer and other cancers. The format will include plenary sessions, interactive group workshops, and interprofessional case discussions. Keynote speakers include: Oren Cheifetz, Hamilton Health Sciences; Margaret Fitch, head of oncology nursing and patient and family support at the Odette Cancer Centre, Sunnybrook Research Institute, Toronto; and Margie McNeely, assistant professor in the Department of Physical Therapy, University of Alberta. For program details, visit the course calendar at www.usask.ca/cpte or email cpte.program@usask.ca

Centre for Continuing and Distance Education

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

Business and Leadership Programs

- Introduction to Logistics, Jan. 14-April 15 (Tues evenings)
- Effective Board Governance, Jan. 29

- Managing Difficult Conversations, Jan. 30
- Introduction to Group Facilitation, Feb. 6-7
- Essentials of Management Consulting, Feb. 6-8
- International Certification for Mentoring, Level I, Feb. 13
- Business Writing & Grammar Workout, Feb. 26-27
- Workshops for U of S Employees
- Crucial Conversations, Dec. 9 and 16, fee \$490

Community Music Education Program

• Room available in Parenting with Music classes starting in January. For more information contact Nicole Wilton at 966-5625 or communitymusic.usask.ca

U of S Language Centre

- Multilingual conversational language classes, Jan. 14-March 25, 2014
- French levels 1 to 8: \$205 (GST exempt)
- Italian level 1 and 2: \$215.25 (GST included)
- Spanish levels 1 to 6: \$215.25 (GST included)
- Portuguese levels 1 and 2: \$215.25 (GST included)
- German level 1: \$215.25 (GST included)
- Japanese levels 1 to 3: \$215.25 (GST included)
- Japanese for the Traveller: \$236.25 (textbook and GST included)
- Cree level 1: \$225.75 (textbook and GST included)

Students who have not taken multilingual classes should call 306-966-4351 or email reception.uslc@usask.ca for a language assessment.

- The French Voyageur for Beginners Feb. 14-16, 20 hours over 2.5 days, cost \$275 (materials and GST included).
- Part-time English Classes, winter term January-March
- French levels 1 to 8: \$205 (GST exempt)
 - Pronunciation
 - Spoken English
 - Writing and Grammar
 - Graduate-Level Writing
 - Reading Skills
 - Listening and Notetaking Skills
 - Test Preparation Courses
 - English for the Workplace

USCAD/General Interest Courses

- Visual Art Survey I, Jan. 20 - April 21
- Advanced Printmaking and Traditional Image Making II, Jan. 23-April 24
- 2D Design I, Jan. 23 - April 24

Drawing

- Drawing I (morning), Jan. 20 - April 21
- Drawing I (evening), Jan. 23 - April 24
- Drawing II (morning), Jan. 20 - April 21
- Life Drawing I, Jan. 22 - April 23
- Life Drawing II, Jan. 22 - April 23
- Advanced Drawing for Illustration III, Jan. 21 - April 22

Painting

- Painting I, Jan. 20 - April 21
- Painting II (morning), Jan. 21 - April 22
- Painting II (evening), Jan. 21 - April 22
- Painting /Mixed Media II, Jan. 22 - April 23
- Open Project Painting II/III, Jan. 21 - April 22
- Open Project Painting II/III, Jan. 23 - April 24
- Watercolour I, Jan. 23 - April 24
- Watercolour I/II, April 4-6/11-13

Sculpture

- 3D Design I (afternoon), Jan. 23 - April 24
- 3D Design I (evening), Jan. 22 - April 23
- Sculpture I (afternoon), Jan. 23 - April 24
- Sculpture I (evening), Jan. 22 - April 23
- Sculpture II, Jan. 22 - April 23
- Welding in Sculpture, Feb. 27, March 8,9,15,16

Photography/Digital Imagery

- Photography I (afternoon), Jan. 21 - April 22
- Photography I (evening), Jan. 22 - April 23
- B&W Photography I, Jan. 21 - April 22
- Portrait Photography, March 1, 2, 29, 30
- Digital Camera Basics, March 7,8,21,22
- Advanced Photography II, Jan. 22 - April 23
- Photoshop I, Jan. 22 - April 23

- Intro to Computer - Mac, Jan. 15, 16
- iBook Author, Jan. 18, 25 & Feb. 1
- Photoshop II, Jan. 23 - April 24

Glass

- Stained Glass: Focus on Foil work, April 25 - 27
- Glass Fusion I, March 1, 2
- Glass Fusion II, March 22, 23

Silversmithing

- Basic Skills for Silver Jewelry, Feb. 21 - 23
- Advanced Silversmithing, April 4 - 6
- Fiber Art & Collage
- Experimental Fiber Art & Design I, March 28-30/April 4-6
- Contemporary Collage with Collagraphy, Image Transfers & Photo Transparencies, Feb. 28-March 2/March 7-9

ICT Training Services

For information or to register, email us at training@usask.ca or visit training.usask.ca.

- Adobe InDesign - Intro Course, Jan. 14 and 15, 1:30-4:30 pm, \$125 students; \$150 staff and faculty; \$185 others
- Adobe Photoshop - Intro Course, Jan. 7 and 9, 1:30-4:30 pm, \$125 students; \$150 staff and faculty; \$185 others
- Adobe Photoshop - Inter Course, Jan. 28 and 30, 1:30-4:30 pm, \$125 students; \$150 staff and faculty; \$185 others
- Adobe Photoshop - A Photographer's Workflow (Intro/Inter), Dec. 11, 1-4 pm, \$75 students; \$100 staff and faculty; \$125 others
- Adobe Photoshop - Photo Retouching I Course (Intro/Inter), Feb. 5, 1:30-4:30 pm, \$75 students; \$100 staff and faculty; \$125 others
- Apple - iOS Tips and Tricks (iPad, iPhone, iPod), Jan. 29, 2:30-4 pm, \$0 students, staff and faculty; \$75 others
- BBLearn / U of S Course Tools - Fundamentals Seminar, Dec. 10, 3-4:30 pm, \$0 staff and faculty
- BBLearn / U of S Course Tools - Instructor Workshop, Dec. 13 or 16, 1:30-4:00 pm, \$0 staff and faculty
- BBLearn / U of S Course Tools - Questions/Grades Workshop, Dec. 19, 2-4 pm, \$0 staff and faculty

- MS Excel - Intro, Dec. 11, 9:00am-noon and Dec. 12, 1:30-4:30 pm, \$125 students; \$150 staff and faculty; \$185 others

- MS Outlook - Intro, Feb. 4, 1:30 pm-4 pm, \$0 students, staff and faculty; \$125 others

- Faculty Workshops: contact a training@usask.ca or 306-966-4866 for more information on workshops geared to faculty.

- IT4U - Tech Help for Students: <http://it4u.usask.ca>

Enroll in many courses from off campus. Go to training.usask.ca for more information.

The Arts

Beethoven Cycle

The Amati Quartet will begin a six-concert Beethoven cycle Jan. 11 with performances of three string quartets at 2 pm and 7:30 pm in Third Avenue United Church. Tickets are available through the Persephone Theatre box office and more information is available at amatiquartet.usask.ca

College Art Galleries

On view in the College Art Galleries until Dec. 21 is *David R. Harper: Entre le Chien et le Loup*, an exhibition that explores the form and idea of memorials using sculptural strategies that combine taxidermy with ceramics and embroidery.

The Avro Canada Story

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

Kenderdine Art Gallery

Jillian McDonald: *Valley of the Deer*, a three-channel high-definition video installation shot on location in the Scottish highlands during a six-month artist residency, is on view in the Kenderdine Art Gallery, Agriculture Building, until Dec. 21.

Seminars/Lectures

Archeology Lecture

- Dec. 13, 7:30 pm, Room 132 Archaeology Building, the Saskatoon Archaeological Society will feature Glenn Stuart, Dept. of Archaeology and Anthropology, presenting From the Desert to the Plains: A Paleoethnobotanical Research Program

Philosophy Role Model Speaker Lecture

- Jan. 17, 3:30-5 pm, Room 12 Edwards School of Business, Ann Ward, Campion College, University of Regina, presents Autonomy and Moral Virtue in Aristotle's Ethics

Philosophy in the Community

- Dec. 11, 7-9 pm, The Refinery, 609 Dufferin Ave., William Buschert presents The Ethics of Biotechnological Human Enhancement

Veterinary Microbiology Seminars

Lectures take place from 12:30-1:30 pm, Room 2105 WCVI

- Dec. 6, Rylan Bridge, MSc graduate student in veterinary microbiology, presents Investigation of the cytoprotective vs. cytotoxic effects of the cellular autophagy pathway in human monocytes.

SUBMIT Coming Events

Next OCN: Friday, Jan. 10, 2014
Deadline: Thursday, Jan. 2, 2014

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Solar panels prove their worth

✍ MICHAEL ROBIN

Efforts to green up the College Quarter with energy and resource-saving measures have already cut the natural gas bill in half in Phase 1 of the under-

graduate residences, according to James Cook, manager of business operations with University of Saskatchewan Corporate Administration.

“I actually didn’t believe it when they gave me the rough numbers,” he said. “I said, ‘What? It can’t be that good.’”

Cook’s office is in charge of implementing the College Quarter master plan, which has 23 design standards to be followed. These include sustainability initiatives related to storm water handling, street lighting and landscaping. Other examples include a car share program and indoor, secure bicycle storage.

One measure involved \$86,000 worth of solar thermal collectors on the roof of the Aspen Hall residence. This was a bit of an experiment sparked from a tip from Saskatoon Light and Power that they had achieved savings in one of their buildings, said Cook. Grants were available from the National Research Council and Saskatchewan Research Council to cover all but \$18,000 of the panels’ cost.

The collectors’ heat input is used for domestic hot water and for heating each unit in the residence, but it was not until the second group of residences came online that the effect of the solar heat was known. The grant program was not available for the second phase

of residence development, Cook explained, so no collectors were installed. This created a perfect

“I actually didn’t believe it when they gave me the rough numbers.”

James Cook

experiment to measure the effect of the panels.

“We’ve basically already paid for the system (in savings). If you don’t have the grant, it’s

probably a four- to five-year payback period.”

With the success of the solar thermal panels at Aspen Hall, Cook said additional panels might be considered for the other undergraduate residences, Graduate House and even as retrofits for the older McEown residences just to the south.

“There’s a really big saving that we’ve been able to capture, which ultimately benefits the students because these costs are all passed on in the rents we have to charge.” ■



ALL FOR A GOOD CAUSE

Michael Szafron, a faculty member in the School of Public Health (SPH), got a bit of a trim from student Karrie Hammond-Collins, right, and fellow faculty member Marwa Farag during the school’s annual Snowball gala Nov. 22 but it was all for a good cause. Szafron challenged the school students to raise \$500 in exchange for shaving his head. Claiming it was easy to ‘get back’ at their professor after struggling with p-values in his first-year biostatistics class, the students raised \$1,377 and donated it all to The Lighthouse Supported Living in Saskatoon.



James Cook near the solar thermal collectors on the roof of Aspen Hall residence.

MICHAEL ROBIN

➤ NEXT DEADLINE January 2, 2014

CAMPUS INCIDENTS

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

Nov. 19-25

Criminal Offences:

- A male was arrested for breach of conditions, as he was driving while suspended.
- Officers investigated an incident of theft of gasoline from a vehicle. No suspects.
- A male was arrested for being intoxicated in a public place.

Summary Offence Tickets:

- 8 traffic offences
- 4 alcohol offences

Other Calls:

- 1 medical assistance
- 1 fire-related incident

Nov. 26-Dec. 2

Criminal Offences:

- A male was assaulted by another male on campus. Alcohol was believed to be a factor.
- Two males were questioned regarding drug use. With the assistance of the Saskatoon Police Service, one male was arrested under The Controlled Drug and Substances Act.
- Officers investigated the theft of personal items from an unlocked locker at the PAC.

Summary Offence Tickets:

- 7 traffic offences
- Officers responded to 6 medical calls with the assistance of MD Ambulance.

As the holiday season approaches, the frequency of events involving alcohol increases. Everyone is reminded to drink responsibly, and find safe rides home.

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UNIVERSITY OF SASKATCHEWAN

Room with a View

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



KRIS FOSTER



Changing colours

Kim Heidinger gets to watch many flying things from her vantage point on the fifth floor of the Agriculture Building. A lot of geese pass by her window in spring and fall. Crows and magpies sometimes alight on the window ledge. "And we like to watch the planes at the airport," said the operations assistant in the Department

of Soil Science. "We wonder where they're going and sometimes, we wish we were on one."

This is Heidinger's third set of office windows over her career at the U of S, and it has the best view by far, she said. It also has the best natural light; the flourishing plants scattered around the office are a testament to that fact.

Heidinger said she enjoys seeing the changing colours of the season, but what she enjoyed even more were the changing colours she saw as she watched the construction of the Canadian Light Source building some 10 years ago. Pointing to the building on the north edge of campus, Heidinger speculated "they must have put 15 different layers on the outside of that building because it changed colour with every different material they used. Those walls must be two feet thick."

