



## A NEW ICE AGE

With Merlis Belsher's \$12.25-million donation—the largest individual donation in U of S history—plans are well underway to replace the more-than-85-year-old Rutherford Rink. Merlis Belsher Place, located in College Quarter, will be a state-of-the-art twin ice pad facility that will provide ice time for the Huskies teams, students, faculty and staff, as well as community members and Saskatoon Minor Hockey teams. Space in the facility will also support Huskie athletes in basketball, volleyball and soccer. Read the full story on Page 8.



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

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# Huskies making their mark

## U of S students balancing athletics and academics

JAMES SHEWAGA

From practicums to practices, class reports to varsity sports, some of the most dedicated students on campus during the week wear Huskies colours on the weekend.

Each year, hundreds of student-athletes like Kohl Bauml and Jessica Buettner successfully balance athletics and academics at the University of Saskatchewan (U of S), earning accolades in both. In the 2015-16 season, 40 per cent of all Huskie athletes, managers and trainers made the All-Academic Team, signifying student-athletes who posted academic averages of at least 74.5 per cent while completing 18 or more credit units.

Bauml and Buettner took it one step further by being named Canadian Interuniversity Sport (CIS) Academic All-Canadians—two of 81 Huskie student-athletes who posted grades of better than 80 per cent—while also making their mark as elite athletes.

Bauml's brilliant season on the ice—one of six first-year players across the country named to the prestigious CIS All-Rookie Team—was matched by his work in the classroom as the Edwards School of Business student posted an 82 per cent average while taking a full course load of 24 credit units. For Bauml, balancing school and sports, on the ice six days a week, was his priority coming to the U of S.

“Obviously coming into school, being a student was definitely first on my mind and hockey was a close second,” said the 21-year-old from Saskatoon, who led all rookies in scoring in the Canada West Universities Athletic Association (CWUAA) with 12 goals and 33 points in 28 games and was named rookie of the year. “To be able to excel in both studies and hockey was something that I kind of set a goal for myself. And it's nice to see all



Kohl Bauml



Jessica Buettner

the hard work, on the ice and in the classroom, paying off.”

Buettner is also firmly focused on her studies in her third year of pharmacy, posting an average of 84.4 per cent while completing a challenging course load of 32 credit units in 2015-16. She successfully juggled that workload with a busy training schedule that helped her track down a silver medal in shot put at the 2016 CWUAA track and field championships and earn a trip to nationals. For Buettner, it's all about managing your time for training around lectures and labs and picking personal priorities.

“For sure it's challenging and it takes a lot of planning and communication with teachers and coaches, but I find that student-athletes tend to be very driven in whatever they choose to do,” said Buettner, a 21-year-old originally from Prince Albert whose family now lives in Saskatoon. “We're all here because of school, but at the same time we are here because we love our sport as well. I couldn't ask for anything better.”

Buettner and Bauml are prime examples of the kinds of student-athletes that the Huskie

Athletics program prides itself on producing. Case in point was the Huskies women's basketball team which won the CIS championship while also having six of the 12 players on the team named to the Huskie All-Academic Team, including national tournament MVP Dalcyce Emmerson.

The U of S student-athletes must meet academic standards to remain eligible to compete each season, making them among the most dedicated students on campus.

“I am extremely proud of all of our athletes in their academic pursuits,” said Huskie athletic director Basil Hughton, noting that each of the 15 Huskie teams featured All-Academic Team members. “It's great to be able to recognize those 40 per cent, those top-enders who are honoured officially. But I believe that all of our student-athletes strive very hard to be the best students they can be and do a very good job of it.”

With heavy training and travel schedules requiring major time commitments each week, Huskie teams regularly set up study sessions for student-athletes.

“On the road, we always have a room set up for homework and

usually guys are doing some sort of work in the room or on the bus ride,” said Bauml. “It's about being disciplined and committed to both aspects of being a student-athlete, in school and on the ice. That's something that (coach) Dave (Adolph) talks about: ‘You are a student-athlete, and remember, student is first.’ We're not here just to play hockey, we're here to get a degree.”

This year, Bauml has set his sights on completing an enhanced course-load of 27 credit units in his business studies, while also helping the Huskies get back to nationals for a second straight season.

“That is a good goal for our group again,” said Bauml. “We brought in a lot of new guys who are good hockey players and our returning group of players know what it takes to win and be successful. So I think that combination will be a recipe for a pretty good year.”

For her part, Buettner wants to complete her four-year pharmacy degree while turning her shot put silver medal into gold at the CWUAA track and field championships and earn a return trip to nationals. Buettner kept busy in the off-season by competing in powerlifting, setting a new junior world record in her weight class with a remarkable 202-kilogram deadlift at the world championships in Texas. She credits her work with the Huskie track and field team for her success in that sport.

“My weight training from being on the track team and throwing shot put and weight throw has made me a way better athlete than I would have ever expected at this point,” she said. “So when I did well at worlds, I think it was a testament to that training. And for the next two years, I am going to focus on being a member of the Huskies track and field team first. It's great to be a part of it.” ■

# A lifetime of learning

Debra Pozega Osburn steps in as new vice-president university relations

KRIS FOSTER

DAVID STOBBE



Education can change lives. That's something Debra Pozega Osburn has seen firsthand.

"I can tell hundreds of stories about people whose lives were changed by access to education," said Pozega Osburn, who started her role as vice-president, university relations Oct. 1. "I saw how education changed the course of my family's history."

Pozega Osburn's parents grew up in a small mining town in the upper peninsula of Michigan. Her father joined the Marine Corps shortly after graduating from high school, fought in the Korean War and then, when his service concluded, took advantage of the G.I. Bill that supported soldiers who wanted to pursue post-secondary education. Her mother also pursued post-secondary education, starting at a community college and then, some years later, finishing at a university.

Both parents became public school teachers and "spent their careers encouraging people to learn

and grow," said Pozega Osburn, who earned a bachelor's degree in journalism and a master's and PhD in American studies from Michigan State University.

"My father and mother were the first members of our family to have access to university education," Pozega Osburn said. "But if they had not had that access to university education, frankly, I would probably be in a very different place because I understood university as being something that was accessible."

After a 13-year career telling stories as a journalist, a career that included stints as a reporter and editor with *The Lansing State Journal* as well as covering sports for *USA Today*, Pozega Osburn looked to her family's story to find her own career passion.

"You do get to a point in your career when you understand that you do have a passion for something,"

she said. "When I started thinking about a career change, I was very motivated to be in the post-secondary sector because I so believed in, and still do believe in, the difference it makes in people's lives."

She has followed that passion ever since, pursuing opportunities from Michigan State University to the University of Alberta (U of A) to her current role at the U of S where she will oversee a portfolio that includes sharing stories about all the great things happening at the U of S and building strong relationships with alumni, donors and other key university stakeholders.

"When you do what I do in the post-secondary sector, you build awareness and you build understanding with people that this is their university, they can come here, be here and be a part of this place," said Pozega Osburn.

And it's a place Pozega Osburn

is excited to be a part of, too, she explained. "Things are happening here. The University of Saskatchewan is on the move; I see here a certain kind of ambition for the university to change and grow—and I don't mean necessarily to grow in size, but to grow in its scope and impact and so forth. I really see that

**“I have a strong belief in the value of post-secondary education and of public education. That is what has kept me in this sector for so many years.**

Debra Pozega Osburn

at the University of Saskatchewan.”

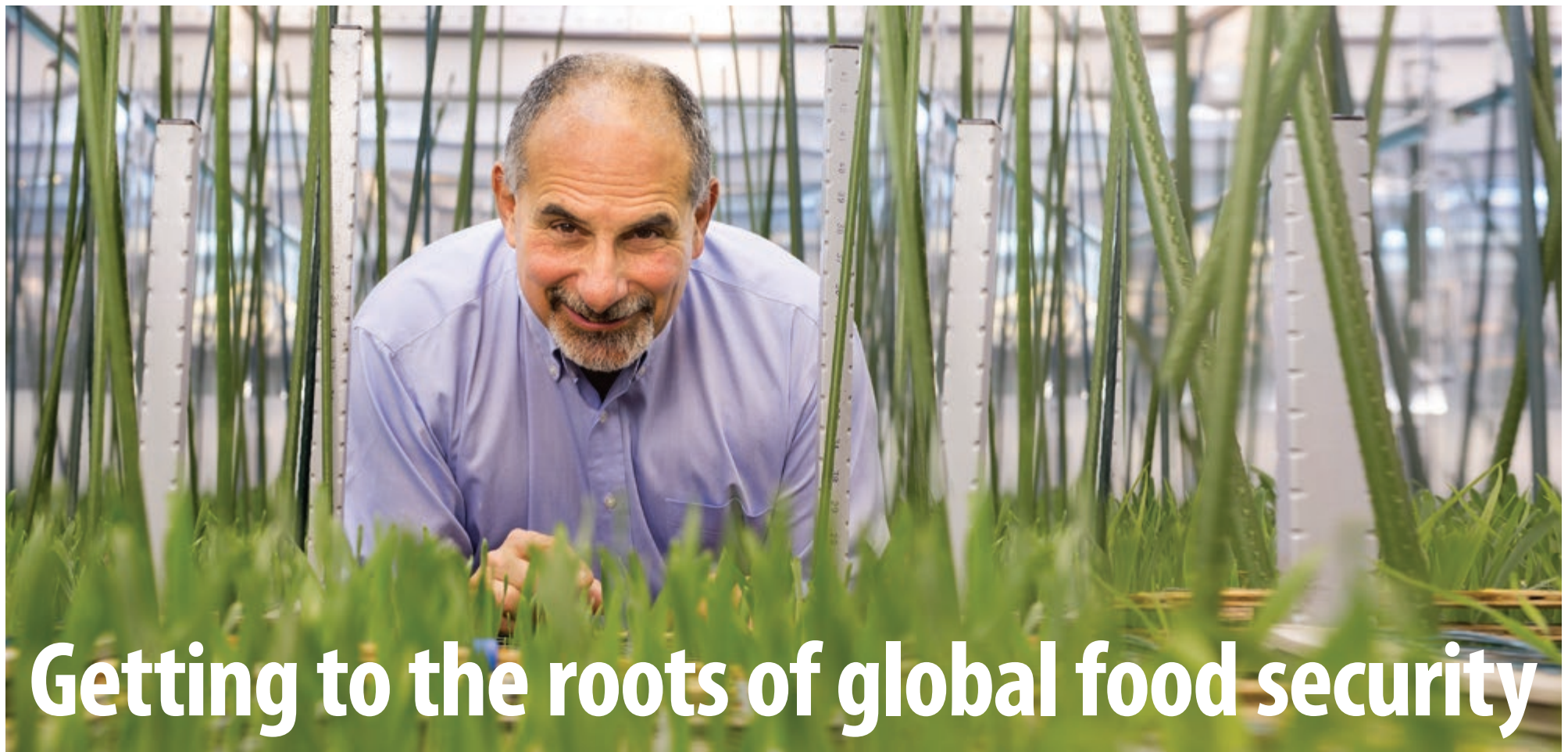
Pozega Osburn, who most recently served as vice-president university relations at the U of A, a position she held for the past six years, will lead the University Relations team—a team responsible for Alumni and Community Relations, Development and Fundraising, and Marketing and

Communications—working to ensure that the U of S has the reputation, relationships and resources necessary to achieve its goals.

A key part of that for Pozega Osburn, perhaps what was most attractive for her, is the university's commitment to engaging with communities near and far in meaningful ways.

"I see a really firm commitment to communities, particularly the commitment to Indigenous communities. I would argue that this is a key part of the U of S story," said Pozega Osburn.

"Understanding the genuine story of the U of S is job one for me," said Pozega Osburn. "I don't come in and invent that story; I work with the community and my colleagues in University Relations to discover it and build our reputation around that (story). When we do that, and we will do it, it will be really powerful." ■



# Getting to the roots of global food security

Feeding the world—a world facing climate change and a population predicted to reach nine billion by 2050—is a global problem that the University of Saskatchewan (U of S) is aiming to solve.

Food production in devel-

oping countries, according to some estimates, will need to double or triple to meet the need. Finding ways to produce higher yielding crops using less water, energy and other agricultural inputs is a daunting challenge that Leon Kochian is up for.

On Sept. 15, Kochian was announced as the Canada Excellence Research Chair in Food Systems and Security at the U of S, a \$20-million initiative that will use plant and soil science to help feed a growing world.

Kochian believes that breeding

for healthier and more vigorous roots to enable more efficient uptake of water and nutrients will be a key part of the answer. By furthering his research into unlocking the secrets of the plant's 'hidden half'—the root system—he is undertaking a largely unexplored aspect of plant research and crop development.

"Targeted breeding of superior root traits is something that is just now happening across the world," said Kochian, associate director of the Global Institute for Food Security (GIFS), who will also hold a faculty position at the College of Agriculture and Bioresources. "Root-based approaches to crop improvement will ultimately lead to new crop varieties with higher yields and greater resilience to thrive in the world's less fertile soils."

For the past decade, Kochian has led an international team of crop researchers whose work has increased understanding of the genes and asso-

**“It’s critical that we find solutions to help local breeders sustainably deal with agricultural conditions in their regions.**

Leon Kochian

ciated functions that enable crop root systems to deal with poor soils, particularly where crop production is limited by insufficient mineral nutrients and toxic metals.

"I've had the opportunity to travel to the developing world and witness first-hand the problems that local farmers in these countries are facing," said Kochian, who was named to the Thomson Reuters list of the "World's Most Influential Scientific Minds" in 2015. "It's critical that we find solutions to help local breeders sustainably deal with agricultural conditions in their regions."

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## 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](http://news.usask.ca):

### New governance structure for Huskie Athletics

Beginning in November, Huskie Athletics will be advised and guided by its first-ever Board of Trustees—comprised of university and community members—that fosters athletic and academic excellence.

### Vet med college opens new clinical learning centre

A new learning centre at the Western College of Veterinary Medicine will use the latest technology to make learning models more realistic than ever.

### U of S research shows promise in fight against Parkinson's

A team of University of Saskatchewan researchers has developed two caffeine-based chemical compounds that show promise in preventing the effects of Parkinson's disease.

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# Making a mockery of democracy?

## U of S experts discuss the 2016 U.S. presidential election

JAMES SHEWAGA



Ken Coates



Carin Holroyd



Paul Finkelman



Daniel Beland



Colleen Bell

From immature insults and boorish behavior to racist remarks and radical rhetoric, Republican presidential nominee Donald Trump has polarized the political process in the United States like never before.

University of Saskatchewan experts have watched the controversial campaign from afar with a mixture of disbelief and dismay. While Democratic nominee Hillary Clinton faces her own challenges on the campaign trail—most notably relentless Republican attacks about her deleted emails—Trump’s troubling tweets and daily diatribes dominate the daily news cycle.

Few observers took him seriously at first, but Trump took the U.S. election in a whole new direction when he shockingly secured the Republican nomination.

“Like almost all observers, I knew that it was impossible that Trump would win the nomination. I was wrong. So much for my abilities as a political pundit,” said U of S public policy professor Ken Coates.

“That he continues to do remarkably well in the polls is a testament to the weakness of Hillary Clinton as a presidential candidate and to the unpredictability of the American electorate. This is an election like no other.”

Indeed. The Nov. 8 election features the career politician in Clinton versus the Washington outsider in Trump. Clinton could become the first female president in American history, although many observers note that it should not have taken this long, given the success of international leaders like former British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher and current German Chancellor Angela Merkel.

“Some Americans are excited about the prospect of electing a female president,” said U of S political studies associate professor Carin Holroyd. “While it would be a significant milestone, it is important to know that many other countries have or have had female presidents or prime ministers. So in that sense the possible election of Hillary Clinton is far from earth-shaking.”

What would be earth-shaking would be the election of Trump, a bombastic multi-millionaire real estate developer straight out of reality TV. Trump has garnered priceless publicity from mainstream media outlets which have largely failed the electorate, according to American historian Paul Finkelman, the Ariel F. Sallows

Visiting Professor of Human Rights Law in the U of S College of Law.

“I suppose I am not surprised (at Trump’s rise) given the intense ‘pass’ the media gives to Trump,” said Finkelman, who recently lectured on campus about the U.S. electoral system. “He is persistently inaccurate and/or dishonest in much of what he says, and most of the major media persistently refuses to call him on what he says. Furthermore, one media outlet—Fox News—has become essentially a propaganda outlet for hostility to Clinton.”

Trump’s popularity soared despite daily gaffes, controversy over not releasing his tax returns, and campaigning on a platform many pundits consider radical and racist. He’s vowed to build a wall on the southern border (and have Mexico pay for it), deport millions of illegal immigrants and prevent Muslims from entering the country. He has professed admiration for tyrannical leaders like autocratic Russian president Vladimir Putin, encouraged Russia to commit espionage by hacking his opponent’s emails, insulted former prisoners of war like Republican John McCain and even publicly criticized the parents of an American Muslim soldier killed while serving in Iraq.

“The idea of building a wall is very popular among Trump’s base, but it would be very expensive to build and there is no way Trump could force ‘Mexico to pay for it,’

despite what he says. As for the deportation plan, it is simply outrageous and impractical,” said U of S public policy professor Daniel Beland, who is appalled by Trump’s pledge to halt Muslim immigration. “This abhorrent proposal is not only racist but counter-productive from a foreign policy standpoint, as the U.S. cannot afford the massive deterioration of its relationship with the Muslim population that such a ‘policy’ would trigger.”

It’s in the area of foreign affairs that a Trump presidency would most concern U of S assistant professor Colleen Bell, an expert in international relations, security and counter-terrorism. While Clinton has made mistakes of her own, Bell said she is infinitely more experienced and qualified than Trump.

“Unlike Trump, if you ask Clinton a question about her foreign policy position on ‘X’, she has the capacity to provide a substantial, informed and intelligible response,” said Bell. “One may disagree with her, but at least there is substance to work with. With Trump, one is quite likely to get a jumble of words that at best loosely correspond to ‘X’ policy and display little to no awareness of the issue at hand . . . Trump’s foreign policy pronouncements suggest

an incredible lack of reasoning or historical awareness.”

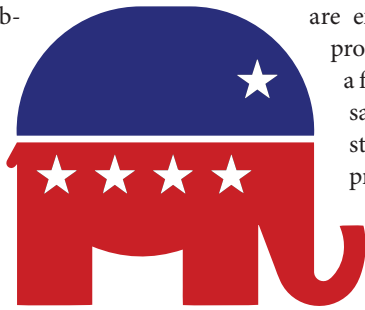
Most observers contend a Clinton presidency would largely mean status quo for Canada-U.S. relations, while a Trump triumph could cause chaos. Trump’s radical policies would also serve as a stark contrast to Canada’s celebrated multicultural approach.

“A Trump presidency could, perhaps unexpectedly, finally bring Canada front and centre in the American consciousness, providing an alternate model of how diverse and successful societies can function,” said Holroyd.

An avowed climate change denier, Trump wants to pull the United States out of the recently signed


Paris climate accord, scrap the NAFTA trade agreement between Canada, Mexico and the U.S., and publicly questions America’s commitment to NATO. Coates said it’s all cause for concern for Canada.

“It is still difficult to take seriously the prospect of a Trump presidency,” said Coates. “The simple answer to the question of what a Trump presidency would mean is ‘Who knows?’ We do not know what he would be like as a president, but I do not think we would like what we would see.” ■



# Passion for plants and pedagogy

## Hugo Cota-Sanchez named Master Teacher

 LESLEY PORTER



 DAVID STOBBE

It was a dislike for fishing that sparked Hugo Cota-Sanchez's interest in plants, an interest that landed the biology professor the university's Master Teacher Award at Spring Convocation 2016.

Cota-Sanchez is originally from northwest Mexico near the Pacific coast. Growing up, his father was an avid fisherman who took the family to the beach often—much to his dismay.

“I found it very boring—extremely boring, just standing there waiting for the fish to pick up the hook,” he said. “I just dropped my line and went hiking around and started looking at plants.”

From those early impromptu hikes, Cota-Sanchez became fascinated with the distribution patterns of plants in the area and how each species differed from one another. He followed that curiosity to the Escuela Nacional de Ciencias Biológicas in Mexico City, where he completed his undergraduate degree in biology. Following some floristic inventory and taxonomy work with the Mexican government, Cota-Sanchez went on to complete master's and doctoral degrees in the U.S. before coming to the U of S in 2000.

An established researcher, Cota-Sanchez's area of specialty is the evolution and physiology of Cactaceae (cacti). Given Saskatchewan's less-than tropical climate, he travels to Mexico and South America several times a year to conduct fieldwork. He is also the curator of the university herbarium, located on the third floor of the Agriculture Building.

The passion for his work is evident the moment you step into his office—a green thumb's

haven, expertly curated with plants collected from years of travel, camping and garage sales. Cota-Sanchez believes in giving students a hands-on experience, and his work space greenery collection serves double duty as material for the classroom.

By focusing on the structure, function and utility of a plant—rather than just memorizing terms—Cota-Sanchez aims to make learning fun.

“I do a lot of show and tell and I spend a lot of time collecting teaching material to bring to class,” he said. “My courses involve all kinds of plants, and I try to find the connection of a plant with their daily lives.”

He also explores the etymology and symbolism of plants in a unique way. Using the passion flower (*Passiflora*) as an example, he explained how the physical elements of the flower—such as its shape, petal structure, tendrils and colours—are symbolic of Christian interpretations of the crucifixion of Christ.

“I use that as an example in class,” he said. “Plants not only have this interesting structure, functions and adaptability, but their symbolism is phenomenal.”

The recipient of the university's highest teaching award also serves as a mentor for many students and junior researchers, a role he relishes.

“Having students identify with me and establish a relationship as a mentor is very rewarding,” he said. “That trust is very important to me—a fantastic reward for me,” he said. ■

# SEXUAL ASSAULT AWARENESS WEEK

## LAUNCHED WITH PREVENTION AND POLICY INITIATIVES

“Sexual assault and sexual misconduct in any form is considered unacceptable. Through this policy, we strive to ensure the safety of all members of the university community, and to articulate our commitment to the well-being of all persons using or visiting university premises.”

Patti McDougall

An event publicly launching the university’s sexual assault prevention policy and procedure documents was the kick-off to campus-wide Sexual Assault Awareness Week (Sept. 26-30).

The policy, which went into effect immediately after its approval by the Board of Governors in December 2015, “is our official line in the sand,” said Patti McDougall, vice-provost of teaching and learning.

“Sexual assault and sexual misconduct in any form is considered unacceptable,” McDougall said at the launch. “Through this policy, we strive to ensure the safety of all members of the university community, and to articulate our commitment to the well-being of all persons using or visiting university premises.”

The companion procedural document, posted last spring, maps out how the university responds to sexual assault and misconduct. The three important elements of the document, explained McDougall, include encouraging those who have been sexually assaulted to come forward, providing them with information for what it means to go on the official record, and offering the option and information needed to make a formal complaint.

At the core of those procedures is the concept that when people come forward to disclose a sexual assault, they will be treated with dignity and respect, and will also be in control of what happens with that disclosure, added McDougall.

“Our policy and procedure documents encourage students, staff and faculty affected by sexual assault or sexual misconduct to tell someone about what happened to them and to seek support. If they choose to tell someone at the U of S, we will do everything we can to support them.”

The event also marked the launch of, React to Sexual Assault, a multi-stakeholder awareness campaign that aims to keep the lines of communication open when discussing sexual assault.

Emmanuel Barker, vice-president of operations and finance

for the University of Saskatchewan Students’ Union, also demonstrated a new smart-phone app called USAFE. Designed for both Apple iOS and Android devices, the app provides information and direct access to the appropriate resources in the event of a sexual assault.

“The more people who use these services, the safer we will all be here together on campus,” said Barker. “This place is my home—I want everyone else to feel at home as well.” ■



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# For the love of the game

## Alumnus' \$12.25M gift will help give new home to the Huskies and community hockey

JESSICA ELFAR

“ I made this donation because of my gratitude for the University of Saskatchewan.

Merlis Belsher



History was made on Oct. 13, when University of Saskatchewan (U of S) commerce and law graduate Merlis Belsher contributed \$12.25 million to help fund a new ice facility to replace Rutherford Rink. Belsher's gift is the largest donation from an alumnus and individual in the university's history.

Community members, Huskie athletes, university representatives and hockey aficionados gathered in Rutherford Rink for the donation announcement. The special occasion also marked the public launch of the Home Ice Campaign, in which the university, minor league hockey and community volunteers will ask the public to raise the remaining \$7 million to fund the new facility. The fundraising campaign is led by alumnus and hockey legend Dave King.

Belsher explained his primary intention for his lead gift to the campaign. “I made this donation because of my gratitude for the University of Saskatchewan—it provided me with confidence and education in two professions. That was my doorway to a satisfying career in the manufacturing industry.”

The accomplished accountant, lawyer, entrepreneur and philanthropist said his success started when he “had to make a choice” after high school. Rather than returning to his hometown of McCord, Sask., Belsher chose the University of Saskatchewan as his next ambition. He graduated with a bachelor of commerce in 1957, and was admitted to the Saskatchewan Institute of Chartered Accountants in 1960. He returned to the U of S to pursue a law degree, graduating in 1963, and was admitted to the Law Society of Saskatchewan the following year. A businessman by nature, he then purchased a concrete products manufacturing business in Saskatoon. Through acquisitions and expansion, he grew the business to be a leader in Western Canada, eventually selling it in 2008 to Oldcastle, an international firm.

Finding success in not one, but multiple professions took dedication and a strong work ethic. For Belsher, it also required a community of support. When he was just 15 years

old, both of his parents died tragically in a blizzard near their homestead. As a result, Belsher found himself alone at an early age.

It was thanks to a caring group of community members, and two older siblings, that he was guided to his new home in the dorms of Luther College in Regina, where he finished his high school education. It was there that Belsher's interest in pursuing

a university education deepened. A math teacher encouraged him to study accounting after a promising aptitude test revealed Belsher's natural talent with numbers.

Belsher reminisced about the many mentors and teachers who encouraged his educational pursuits, but it was his mother, an elementary school teacher, to whom he gives the most credit. She instilled in him the

importance of education and hard work from an early age; now he has reaped the rewards of those values.

“I've been very fortunate in my life,” he explained. “If I had one wish, it would be that my mother could see how much education has helped me.”

Education has since become a major focus of Belsher's philanthropic and volunteer efforts. He's served the University of Saskatchewan as

## TAKING CENTRE ICE

The Merlis Belsher Place will truly be a state-of-the-art facility. With a \$41-million price tag, the new ice complex showcases an impressive list of features:

- Twin ice surfaces to provide ice time for the Huskie hockey teams, 900 students who play campus rec hockey annually, close to 400 students and 140 faculty and staff for other recreational and academic purposes, and Saskatoon Minor Hockey teams
- New locker room space for the Huskies men's and women's soccer teams, with access to nearby outdoor natural turf practice and game fields
- Seating to accommodate between 1,830 and 2,310 spectators
- Flexible space allowing convocation to be held on campus, saving rental fees, and bringing students, family and friends to the U of S instead of TCU Place
- Space to host the Graduation Powwow, conferences, special events, exams and other community events
- 12 community dressing rooms with designated additional change rooms for coaches and mixed gender team participants
- A two-storey main lobby that will be the building's focal point, featuring a central reception area will have views into each arena

With a shortage of ice facilities in Saskatoon, Merlis Belsher Place will offer community members a much-needed option. A partnership with Saskatoon Minor Hockey will bring thousands of community parents and children to the university each year.

As a centrepiece of College Quarter—and in close proximity to the Saskatoon Field House, Griffiths Stadium, and the Physical Activity Complex—Merlis Belsher Place will contribute to the university's vision of having an integrated centre for athletics, and create a vibrant community hub near campus.





An architect's rendering of the new Merlis Belsher Place.

SUPPLIED

a member of the Dean's Advisory Council in both the College of Law and the College of Commerce (now Edwards School of Business), and he's been donating to the university for decades. One notable donation was his establishment of the Merlis Belsher Access to Justice Fund in the College of Law in 2014, to support clinical learning opportunities for students through Community Legal Services for Saskatoon Inner City. He's received numerous awards recognizing the impact he has had on the community and the province, including an Alumni Achievement

Award from the U of S, and the Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal.

Although this donation is sports-specific—supporting all Huskies teams, campus recreation participants and community youth hockey players—he insisted it will have an equivalent impact on education.

"Sports are inextricably interwoven with education," he said. "Sports keep young kids off the streets, and get them involved in community."

An avid sports fan, Belsher can

relate to the importance of athletics in youth life. He played hockey, basketball and track and field as a child and later joined the basketball and baseball teams in his high school days. He also coached hockey in Saskatoon—the Tier 1 Midget and Juvenile Knights—and was instrumental in obtaining a franchise in the Junior B league to form the Junior B Canadians (now the Junior B Royals).

Involving children and community members in the new ice facility is of utmost importance to Belsher. That's why \$250,000 of his donation is a matching commitment.

He has called upon the Saskatoon Minor Hockey Association to fundraise for the new facility as well, and they have taken up the challenge.

Belsher's enthusiasm for giving back to support the university and the community is infectious. He is most excited that his donation will help increase the amount of ice time available for both the Huskies and local youth hockey players. The university has an agreement with Saskatoon Minor Hockey to reserve a significant number of hours for the use of community hockey programming.

Although the new ice facility will be named after him—Merlis Belsher Place—Belsher remains humble, and stated that he did not make the contribution for the notoriety. He made it to help university students, first and foremost.

"This is about the university, not me," he said. "If you see a good cause, you get fulfilled by getting involved."

For more information about the Home Ice Campaign, or to make a donation, please visit [home-ice.ca](http://home-ice.ca). ■

**Jessica Elfar is a development communications specialist in University Relations.**



## ALUMNI ACHIEVEMENT AWARD RECIPIENTS



**Roma Franko**  
BA'59, BEd'61,  
MA'71



**Iain MacLean**  
BA'62, BEd'63,  
Posthumous award



**Grit McCreath**  
BEd'91



**Dr. Bruce Reeder**  
MD'76



**Noelle Rohatinsky**  
BSN'02, MN'08,  
PHD'13



**Ross Phillips**  
MSc'11



**Ashley Smith**  
LLB'07



**Myron Stadnyk**  
BE'85



**Paul Suchan**  
BEd'07,  
BMusEd'07



**Dr. John Wedge**  
MD'69



**Audrey Zettl**  
BSN'63

**HONORARY  
ALUMNI**

**ERNIE BARBER  
ELLIE DYBVG  
SHARON EVANS**

**KAREN GEORGET  
JAN KALIANOWSKI  
WENDY WIGNES**

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Marquis Hall, U of S campus

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# Fall Convocation 2016

The University of Saskatchewan's Fall Convocation will be held October 22 with ceremonies at 9 am and 2 pm.

About 1,000 degrees will be awarded as well as the following honorary degrees and awards:



**JANE ALCORN**  
DISTINGUISHED GRADUATE SUPERVISOR AWARD

Dr. Jane Alcorn, associate professor, College of Pharmacy and Nutrition since 2001 and university veterinarian from 2011 to 2016, has demonstrated unwavering dedication to graduate students and graduate programming over the past 15 years. The successes of her former students are testament to her excellence as a graduate supervisor. Despite the varied faculty responsibilities, Alcorn prioritizes her students' research experiences and is known to provide exceptional attention and support. She encourages students to publish and present their work and also encourages them to apply for scholarships and awards. Through these activities, Alcorn prepares her students for successful lives and careers.



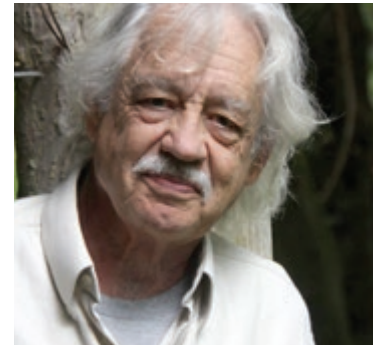
**SARAH BUHLER**  
AWARD FOR DISTINCTION IN COMMUNITY-ENGAGED TEACHING AND SCHOLARSHIP

Since joining the U of S College of Law as an assistant professor in 2010, Sarah Buhler has done exemplary community-engaged scholarship and teaching. Buhler is the executive director of Community Legal Assistance Services for Saskatoon Inner City, a legal clinic providing service to those without support in the justice system. Buhler's community-engaged teaching is also seen in her work with U of S colleagues, Oskayak High School and Str8 UP in developing a course about community development and access to justice. Buhler engages community members, and her work is making a major contribution to understanding how the justice system can serve everyone.



**CHRIS CLARK**  
MASTER TEACHER AWARD

Dr. Chris Clark, associate professor, Western College of Veterinary Medicine, always wanted to be a veterinarian and his favourite part is teaching students all about the field. Since joining the U of S in 2002, Clark has emerged as a highly accomplished teacher. Clark combines his individual teaching prowess with high quality and high intensity team teaching. The results speak volumes: he has received nearly a dozen teaching awards, including two Norden Distinguished Teaching Awards, the most prestigious teaching award in veterinary medicine. He has earned respect of students and peers through his highly engaged, collaborative and innovative teaching practice.



**WILLIAM DEVERELL**  
HONORARY DOCTOR OF LETTERS

Born in Regina, Deverell is one of Canada's best-known novelists and has been lauded for his work as a lawyer, journalist, environmentalist and civil rights activist. He earned Bachelor of Arts and law degrees at the University of Saskatchewan and went on to earn numerous national writing honours, including the Dashiell Hammett Award for Literary Excellence, the Arthur Ellis Award for Best Novel and a Lifetime Achievement Award from the Crime Writers of Canada. Deverell created the long-running hit CBC TV series *Street Legal* and is a founding director of the B.C. Civil Liberties Association and a member of Greenpeace.



**CARIN HOLROYD**  
J.W. GEORGE IVANY AWARD FOR INTERNATIONALIZATION

Carin Holroyd, associate professor, Department of Political Studies, and director of the International Studies program, promotes study abroad, international volunteer engagement and exchange opportunities to all students. She encourages students to make major and sustained contributions to international understanding through scholarship. Her work in Vietnam—raising \$700,000 to establish schools, programs and scholarships—was honoured by the Government of Vietnam in 2015 and she received the Governor General of Canada Award in 2016. Holroyd is part of the UNICEF 25th Team, established to support Canada's leadership on maternal and child health in Cambodia, Ethiopia, Indonesia, Namibia and Peru.



**TIMOTHY KELLY**  
NEW RESEARCHER AWARD

Timothy Kelly, associate professor in the Department of Chemistry and Canada Research Chair in Photovoltaics, joined the University of Saskatchewan in 2011. Kelly is a prolific and highly regarded researcher in sustainable energy, specifically in the field of photovoltaics (solar cells). Research in this area aims to produce new solar cells that are both efficient and inexpensive to manufacture. This breakthrough research was first reported in 2014 in the journal *Nature Photonics*. Just five years after beginning his academic career at the U of S, Kelly has received research grants in excess of \$1.5 million, built a world-class laboratory and leads a team that is a global leader in photovoltaics.



**JOHN MCKINNON**  
AWARD FOR DISTINCTION IN OUTREACH AND PUBLIC SERVICE

Since joining the U of S in 1992, John McKinnon, professor, College of Agriculture and Bioresources, has demonstrated exceptional commitment to research, outreach and education through working with the Canadian beef industry. He has done innovative research in nutrition and management, and trained future academic, government and industry leaders. He writes a popular column in *Canadian Cattleman's Magazine* and has published 145 peer-reviewed articles. In 2013 he received the Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal for service to the Canadian cattle industry and was the inaugural recipient of the Canadian Beef Industry Award for Outstanding Research and Innovation in 2015.



**KARIM (KAY) W. NASSER**  
HONORARY DOCTOR OF SCIENCE

Born and raised in Lebanon, Nasser earned his Bachelor of Science in Engineering at the American University of Beirut, his master's degree at the University of Kansas and his PhD at the University of Saskatchewan. Nasser went on to teach civil engineering at the U of S for 33 years. A well-known property developer and philanthropist, Nasser and his family have donated more than \$13.5 million to the university over the past 49 years, including a one-time gift of \$12 million in 2010. Nasser, who invented the K-Slump Tester that was used in the construction of the CN Tower, was a recipient of the Saskatchewan Order of Merit, the province's highest honour, in 2011.



**LIZ SCOTT**  
PRESIDENT'S SERVICE AWARD

Liz Scott has been an integral part of the administrative team of the School of Physical Therapy for the past 25 years. Currently the school's executive assistant, Scott has served the university with grace, compassion, kindness, wisdom and patience. She inspires and supports everyone she meets and helps build a welcoming environment that consistently meets administrative, academic and research goals. Her unwavering willingness to help has been recounted by students, faculty and staff. With a great sense of humour, especially in the face of a challenge, Scott makes everyone comfortable and helps build community in the school and beyond.



# WIN, WIN, WIN.

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## BECOME A LOCAL AMBASSADOR

### WHAT

#### What is a Local Ambassador?

An ambassador is a promoter of Saskatoon, someone who is enthusiastic about bidding for and hosting a conference in our city.

### WHY

#### Why become a Local Ambassador?

- Showcase regional advancements, achievements and expertise to the world.
- Raise your profile locally, nationally and internationally.
- Gain recognition for your efforts by the local community, organisations and government.
- Create public awareness for your field of expertise.
- Potential to generate income for your research, department and/or association.
- Attract leaders in your field to your city.
- Assist in creating jobs in the region through direct and indirect required services.

## Does the Ambassador Program sound like something you want to be a part of?

## When local hosts hold events in Saskatoon, everyone wins

Hosting an event in Saskatoon benefits the local economy, bringing additional exposure of our city as not only a business destination, but a center of excellence.

### HOW

#### How Tourism Saskatoon supports Local Ambassadors: (FREE OF CHARGE)

##### Bid Assistance

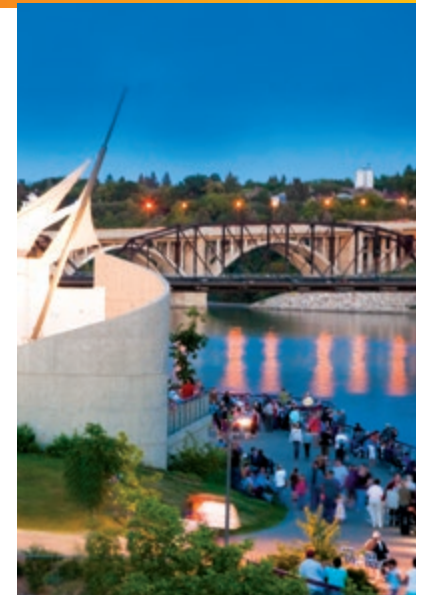
- Assist in preparing a comprehensive bid document including letters of support.
- Provide incentives to qualified events.

##### Convention Planning

- Contact hotels and venues regarding price and availability.
- Provide funding for administration support if required.
- Fund and coordinate site visits for key decision makers.
- Assist with introductions to Professional Conference Organisers (PCOs).
- Provide guidance for funding options to help support your conference.

##### Marketing support

- Provide promotional materials and support towards the marketing of your conference.
- Attend the prior year conference to generate delegate interest.



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# Class explores the zombie apocalypse

LESLEY PORTER

A class in the College of Education is using a unique methodology to examine the effects of radical change in large institutions such as schools.

Educational Administration and the Zombie Apocalypse is a graduate-level class taught by David Burgess and Paul Newton. This is the second offering of the class, which is being taught this term as well as to an undergraduate audience in January 2017.

“A lot of what we do is look at the zombie concept, he

explained, is a thought experiment exploring human behaviour, organizational theory, education reform and administrative preparedness in the context of complete system failure, such as a zombie apocalypse. By framing these subjects within the scenario of an infestation of the living dead, students can explore why educational systems struggle with large-scale change—resulting in theories that can be applied to other large organizations and institutions, such as health care.

The scenario also provides a lens to examine specific elements of organizational behaviour—such as leadership, morality, power and conflict—in the survivor group when society ultimately crumbles.

“This allows us to look at situations where things are really dysfunctional and not working,” said Burgess, the associate dean of research, graduate support and international initiatives in the college. He uses the example of sociopathic leadership as portrayed in everyone’s favourite zombie drama, *The Walking Dead*.

“Many of the leaders [on the show] that rotate in and out [of group leadership positions] are psychopaths or sociopaths,” explained Burgess. “So we have conversations about what [leadership] means as a moral enterprise, and both the positive and



David Burgess and Paul Newton

LESLEY PORTER

negative aspects of that.”

Newton added that the TV show is an apt comparison point because it contains a wealth of material that

settlement. At these different points where they find a settlement—in Alexandria, for example—you then see a re-emergence of civilized societies and institutions.”

“The initial idea around this was trying to understand why educational systems are so resistant to significant fundamental change.”

Paul Newton

lasts over a long period of time, allowing for myriad of change in the dynamics of the survivor group. “You actually see things like the group in a chaotic situation. Then you move along and they find a

likely those, explained Newton, whose job or career field involve some aspect of education, such as medical and nursing educators.

Newton added that using a pop culture phenomenon with broad appeal—such as a fictional zombie apocalypse—to teach educational theory has been successful and well-received by students, as it provides a relatable context for abstract theories.

“It’s popular, and student feedback has been very positive,” he said. “Maybe in a few years we’ll develop another class that integrates pop culture as a tool to help understand education and organizational life.” ■

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# From Ecuador for engineering education

✍ JAMES SHEWAGA

He travelled 6,388 kilometres from South America to get here, but the journey has been well worth it for Álvaro Espinosa.

The 21-year-old University of Saskatchewan (U of S) student from Ecuador faced an array of adjustments—most notably climate and culture—when he first came to Canada, but eventually found himself at home on campus.

“I had to face some challenges myself and that helped me grow a lot, I think,” said Espinosa, who is from the Ecuadorian capital city of Quito, located only 25 kilometres away from the equator. “It’s been a great experience and it has definitely changed me.”

Espinosa was one of 3,033 International students—out of total enrolment of 23,691—at the U of S in the 2015-16 academic year, including 42 scholars from Ecuador. He initially applied, and was accepted, at a variety of universities across North America, but chose



Álvaro Espinosa

the U of S after weighing all of his options.

“I was looking for a great program in mechanical engineering and (the U of S) has a good internship program, plus I received a lot of financial help too,” said Espinosa, whose command of English comes

from his mother, who taught him the language from an early age. “I was looking for a really high quality education and that is what I have found here.”

Espinosa has established himself as one of the top students in the College of Engineering, and has made the Dean’s Honour Roll in 2015 and 2016 while posting a cumulative grade point average of 90 per cent through his first three years of study. He was also invited to join the prestigious Golden Key International Honour Society—open to only the top 15 per cent students in their particular program or college—whose membership includes the likes of former President Bill Clinton and Nobel Peace Prize recipient Desmond Tutu.

“Álvaro is incredibly engaged and a very hard worker. He is genuinely interested in his research and asks very intelligent, in-depth questions,” said Emily McWalter,

an assistant professor of mechanical engineering at the U of S. “I believe we will hear great things from him in the future.”

McWalter and associate professor of mechanical engineering J.D. Johnston employed Espinosa, through the Undergraduate Student Research Assistantships program, to work over the summer in their Musculoskeletal and Orthopaedic Biomechanical Imaging Laboratory on a biomechanics research project that he quickly took a lead role in.

“Degenerative diseases, such as osteoarthritis, can affect anyone at any point in their lives,” said Espinosa. “Currently, these diseases have no cure and they are usually not identified until after major damage occurs. However, the disease can be better treated if detected earlier, which is potentially possible via quantitative magnetic resonance imaging. So, I had to design a MR-compatible device that simulates daily activities (mainly

twisting, compression and tension) in knee specimens, since this cannot be imaged directly in live subjects.”

His work on the project—designing a loading device for cadaver knee specimens—has proven promising and could help answer some important research questions, according to McWalter.

“He has come up with some great designs,” she said. “This is a long-term project and he really got the ball rolling. Next we will choose a final design and build a prototype. . . Hopefully it will be used in the MR scanner within the next year.”

So what’s next for Espinosa as he finishes his bachelor’s degree?

He is looking to garner more real-world experience by taking part in the Engineering Professional Internship Program. In his spare time, he also wants to get involved in the U of S Huskie Motorsports Team, which designs Formula SAE

SEE INTERNATIONAL, PAGE 15

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 President and Vice-Chancellor, University of Saskatchewan

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# COMING EVENTS

## COURSES / WORKSHOPS

### Fall Conversational Language Classes

For more information, visit [learnlanguages.usask.ca](http://learnlanguages.usask.ca) or call 306-966-4355 or 5539.

### Multilingual Conversational Language Classes from Sept. 19–Nov. 28:

- French levels 1–8: \$220 (GST exempt)
- Spanish levels 1–8: \$231 (GST included)
- Japanese levels 1 and 2: \$231 (GST included)
- Japanese for the Traveller: \$257.25 (Manual and GST included)
- German levels 1, 2 and 6: \$231 (GST included)
- Italian levels 1–4: \$231: (GST included)
- Portuguese level 1: \$231: (GST included)
- Cree level 1: \$241.50 (Manual and GST included)

Textbooks and workbooks are extra unless otherwise indicated.

### Spanish Weekender for Beginners Workshop

Oct. 14–16; ideal for the traveller who has little or no Spanish-speaking skills, 20 hours over 2.5 days, cost: \$341.25 (manual, Sat. and Sun. lunch included). GST exempt. Class limited to 14 participants.

### Balance Work and Life Workshop

Oct. 18, 2:30–3:30 pm, Education 2009. Using

the philosophy that those who are happy at home perform better on the job, this workshop was developed for those who feel burdened with too many responsibilities and without enough time for personal enjoyment. This workshop will help participants explore and define home responsibilities, identify career requirements and prioritize leisure time. To register, visit [bit.ly/2dhdm7B](http://bit.ly/2dhdm7B). For more information contact [wellnessresources@usask.ca](mailto:wellnessresources@usask.ca) or call 306-966-4580.

### Mental Health Awareness Workshop

Nov. 9, 3–4:30 pm, Agriculture 1E85. At one time or another, everyone experiences symptoms of mental illness. Too frequently the response to such symptoms in the workplace is confusion, fear, judgement, avoidance and outright rejection. This leads to a worsening of symptoms and a deterioration of performance. This training is designed to reduce the stigma associated with mental illness and to promote ways of supporting one another in the workplace. To register, visit [bit.ly/2dBU1q1](http://bit.ly/2dBU1q1). For more information contact [wellnessresources@usask.ca](mailto:wellnessresources@usask.ca) or call 306-966-4580.

### Mindfulness Meditation Full-day Retreat

Nov. 18, 9 am–4:30 pm, Diefenbaker Centre. Did you know that mindfulness meditation can improve quality of life, decrease stress, improve your attention and promote well-being? It involves being fully aware of one's own thoughts, emotions and sensations,

without attaching any judgment to them. Jeanne Corrigan will lead a full-day Mindfulness Based Stress Reduction. Cost is \$100 and is open to all U of S employees and students. Eligible employees may claim this workshop as part of their flexible spending credit. For more information, email [wellnessresources@usask.ca](mailto:wellnessresources@usask.ca) or visit [working.usask.ca](http://working.usask.ca).

### Edwards School of Business Executive Education

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

- Oct. 12–March 18, The Masters Certificate in Project Management - Saskatoon
- Oct. 13–March 11, The Masters Certificate in Project Management - Regina
- Oct. 18–Nov. 15, Leadership Development Program - Saskatoon
- Nov. 3, Managing Difficult Conversations - Saskatoon
- Nov. 8, Edwards Seminar Series: Stress Seminar - Staying Up in an Upside-down World - Saskatoon
- Nov. 8–9, Grandey Student Leadership Incubator - Saskatoon
- Nov. 9, Leadership Essentials for Supervisors - Saskatoon
- Nov. 10, Women of Influence Breakfast Presentation - Saskatoon
- Nov. 21–23, Digital and Social Media Program: Communication, Engagement and Advertising - Saskatoon
- Nov. 17–18, Business Sales and Strategy - Saskatoon - NEW
- Nov. 21–25, Certified Coach Training Program - Saskatoon
- Nov. 29 and Dec. 6, The Powerful Presenter in You - Saskatoon
- Nov. 30, Emotional Intelligence (EQ) in Team Leadership - Saskatoon - NEW
- Dec. 7–9, June 22, 2017, Empowering Women Leaders Program - Saskatoon - NEW
- Dec. 7–8, Business Writing & Grammar Workout - Saskatoon
- Dec. 12–14, What the Non-Financial Manager Needs to know about Financial and Managerial Accounting - Saskatoon

## SEMINARS / LECTURES

### Reconnecting Saskatoon with the River: Towards a Concept Plan

Oct. 17, 10:30–11:15 am, Agriculture 2E83. The South Saskatchewan River has been largely looked at from the top of our bridges which do more to disconnect than to connect the east and the west sides of our city. Paul Van Pul will outline parameters of a concept plan for our river as a common ground where the entire rainbow of Saskatoon's diverse communities can come together. For more information visit, [usask.ca/~akkerman](http://usask.ca/~akkerman).

### Department of Psychology's monthly colloquium series

Nov. 15, 3–4 pm, Arts 263. Professor Jacqueline Cummine, University of Alberta, will give a talk entitled "From Print to Speech: A Framework for Evaluating Basic Reading Process." Members of the university community and the general public are welcome to attend this presentation. For more information, please contact Peter Grant at 306-966-6675 or via e-mail: [peter.grant@usask.ca](mailto:peter.grant@usask.ca).

### Dr. Keith Crocker Memorial Lecture

Nov. 24, 5–6 pm, Gordon Oakes Red Bear Student Centre. Dr. Don Wilson, clinical associate professor at the University of Calgary's Cumming School of Medicine, will be giving his lecture on the topic of Aboriginal women and children's health. A member of the Heiltsuk Nation from the north central coast of British Columbia, Wilson is one of Canada's first Aboriginal obstetricians/gynecologists. He is currently practicing general obstetrics and gynecology in Calgary. This is an open lecture and all interested are invited to attend.

### Spinks Lecture Series: Engineering Education

The Departments of Chemical and Biological Engineering and Chemistry present the Spinks Lecture Series featuring Phillip Wankat. Wankat is the Clifton L. Lovell Distinguished Profess at Purdue University with appointments in Chemical Engineering and in Engineering Education. Wankat will provide two lectures that are free and open to all faculty, staff and students to attend. Oct. 26, 3:45–4:45pm, 107 Physics, Better teaching without increasing preparation time and Oct. 27, 10am–11am, 0D26 Engineering, Historical and modern development of chemical engineering education. For more information, please contact Catherine Niu at 306-966-2174 or [catherine.niu@usask.ca](mailto:catherine.niu@usask.ca).

## THE ARTS

### The Artwork of Robert Newton Hurley

Daily until Oct. 28, Link Gallery, Murray Library. This exhibit showcases the vast collection of materials owned by University Archives and Special Collections that were created by the talented Saskatchewan artist Robert Newton Hurley. To learn more about this British-born, Saskatchewan-made artist, check out the exhibit or visit [hurley.library.usask.ca](http://hurley.library.usask.ca).

### Amati Quartet

Nov. 5, 2 pm and 7:30 pm, Knox United Church. Haydn, Beethoven and Philip Glass. Tickets available from Persephone Theatre 306-384-7727, \$35 adults, \$30 senior, \$15 students. For more information, visit [amati-quartet.usask.ca](http://amati-quartet.usask.ca).

### Sisters United: An exhibit on women's suffrage in Saskatchewan

Daily until March 14, 2017, 9 am–8 pm, Diefenbaker Canada Centre. Sisters United commemorates the centennial of women winning the right to vote in 1916. Explore compelling stories of suffragist leaders who laid the foundation for women's rights in Saskatchewan.

## MISCELLANY

### Canada Savings Bonds/Payroll Savings Program E-Campaign

The U of S is once again offering payroll deduction for the Canada Savings Bonds/Payroll Savings Program to our monthly paid employees. The 2016-17 campaign is open until Nov. 1 (8 pm EST) for new payroll savings program enrolments or to modify an existing payroll deduction. The Canada Savings Bond/Payroll Savings Program plan has been around for 70 years and is a simple, convenient and secure savings tool. You decide how much you would like to save from each paycheck. That fixed contribution amount is deducted from each month-end pay cheque and accrues interest on a daily basis at the interest rate determined by the Minister of Finance for the series and period. More information about this program can be found at [usask.ca/fsd](http://usask.ca/fsd).

### School of Public Health Poster Fair

Oct. 28, 12:30–3:30 pm, Health Sciences D-wing atrium. The School of Public Health will host its annual poster fair showcasing student research and practicum projects undertaken in 2016. Visitors are welcome.

### Take Our Kids to Work Day

Nov. 2, 9:30 am–noon, University Services Building, bring your Grade 9 student to our trade show to meet and speak with trades personnel and a broad range of professionals, see what a day in the life of one of these professions is like, and learn what education is required to do these jobs. Pre-registration can be sent to [jill.repski@usask.ca](mailto:jill.repski@usask.ca).

### Arts and Science Book Club

Nov. 21, Convocation Hall. The College of Arts and Science will welcome Lawrence Hill, award-winning author of *The Illegal* and *The Book of Negroes*, at two free public events this fall.

- 1:30–3 pm, Book Club: *The Illegal*, talk, discussion and coffee
  - 7:30 pm, My Writing Life, talk and book signing
- For more information visit [artsandscience.usask.ca/college/bookclub](http://artsandscience.usask.ca/college/bookclub).

**Next OCN: Friday, Nov. 11  
Deadline: Tuesday, Nov. 1**

# New crops and technologies to address global food security challenges

# International aspirations

FROM PAGE 4

After more than three decades at Cornell University and the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Kochian aims to build upon the U of S's "long-standing excellence in agricultural research and innovation" to advance Canada's capacity as a leader in addressing global food security.

Kochian and his team will develop and use new tools for imaging roots in the soil, looking at how the root systems are laid out three-dimensionally and also investigating their structure and function.

Kochian will lead research into identifying and mapping the genes linked to root system traits that are responsible for nutrient and moisture uptake under drought conditions. This work will involve a cross-disciplinary team of scientists from molecular biology, genetics, and plant physiology, as well as computer

science and engineering.

He anticipates this research will enable increased crop production in less fertile areas such as in developing countries with acid soils, which comprise up to 50 per cent of the world's potentially arable lands.

Access to the Canadian Light Source synchrotron and other revolutionary root imaging tools at the U of S, along with the latest computer technology to digitize desired crop traits (phenotypes), will help his team develop a design for root system breeding tailored to specific growing environments for major crops, both in Canada and around the world, such as wheat, barley, lentils, and canola.

"We're creating a world-class centre for root phenotyping—an understudied area that has recently become of great interest due to

climate change," he said.

Coming to one of Canada's leading agricultural universities, located in a province that is a world leader in crop production and a major supplier of fertilizer, gives Kochian a

natural hub where his team can work with producers and other partners around the world "to promote adoption of new crops and technologies and help address daunting global food security challenges." ■

## FUNDING FOR FOOD RESEARCH

The seven-year funding for the \$20-million Canada Excellence Research Chair (CERC) in Food Systems and Security program comes from the federal government (\$10 million), the U of S Global Institute for Food Security (GIFS) (\$7 million), and the U of S (\$3 million). A further \$800,000 will be contributed by the Canada Foundation for Innovation towards the cost of a \$2-million "Roots of Food Security" research facility to support the work of the CERC team in designing and breeding better crops with more efficient root systems. The remaining funding for the facility will be sought from public and private sources.



race cars to compete against teams from around the world.

"I am hoping to get into that this year because I haven't had much time to go into this club before, but that's something I am really, really interested in and it lines up with my future goals," said Espinosa, who plans to complete his master's in Canada, before possibly heading overseas to work in Germany.

"If I go into the aerodynamics field, I would want to later go to Germany because the automotive industry is really developed there and I would love to become an automotive designer or an aerospace engineer at one of those firms," said Espinosa, who has also taken language lessons to prepare for the move. "That's one of the reasons why I started learning German in the first place, so that I could go there eventually. So that's the long-term plan." ■



**McKERCHER LLP**

**Lecture Series**

at the College of Law



Unjust justices: The United States Supreme Court, the problem of slavery, and modern human rights

**PAUL FINKELMAN**

Ariel F. Sallows Visiting Professor of Human Rights, College of Law

**OCT. 17, 2016**

12PM, ROOM 150 LAW



Saskatchewan Law Review Lecture: Movement on access to justice or access to justice movement?

**HON. THOMAS CROMWELL**

Supreme Court of Canada

**OCT. 25, 2016**

7PM, ARTS 241, U OF S

Credit: Philippe Landreville, Supreme Court of Canada Collection



Electoral reform in Canada: A panel discussion on whether our voting system should be changed and if so, how

**JOHN COURTNEY**

Political Studies, U of S

**DAVID MCGRANE**

Political Studies, U of S

**BONITA BEATTY**

Indigenous Studies, U of S

**OCT. 24, 2016**

12PM, ROOM 150 LAW



Title: TBD

**HON. CHIEF JUDGE CRABTREE**

Provincial Court of British Columbia

**OCT. 31, 2016**

TIME TBD, ROOM 150 LAW



There are fascinating statues, artifacts and fun objects located all over the University of Saskatchewan campus. Get to know them a little better with this year's *On Campus News* back page feature: Interviews with inanimate objects. If you know an inanimate object, tell us about it at [news@usask.ca](mailto:news@usask.ca).



## Hermes and Dionysus

**LOCATION:**  
THE MUSEUM OF ANTIQUITIES,  
PETER MACKINNON BUILDING

■ **Tell me a bit about yourself.**

My name is Hermes. I'm known as the Greek messenger god, so sometimes I wear wing sandals to get me to where I'm going even faster. Of all the gods, I can move between the worlds of mortality and divinity pretty easily. I also have a reputation as a cunning prankster.

■ **When did you get here?**

I've been part of the museum since 1975. I am a replica of a statue from the Musée du Louvre in Paris, France. The original was found in 1877 at the Archaeological Site of Olympia, Greece, now a UN World Heritage Site. Other historic works nearby include Nike of Paionius and the Temple of Zeus.

■ **Who created you?**

I was sculpted by Praxiteles, a prominent Greek sculptor from the fourth century BC. Among

his talents, he was the first artist to sculpt nude, life-size females, the most celebrated—and controversial—being *Aphrodite of Cnidos*. She's missing her head and arms, but her torso is there.

■ **Who are you carrying?**

This is my little brother, Dionysus. Or rather, another half-brother. My mother is Maia. His mother is Semele, a mortal. Zeus, the king of the gods, is our father. Anyway, as the god of wine, Dionysus is already pretty rowdy—I think he's going to be a handful when he grows up.

■ **Where are you going?**

I have been tasked with taking Dionysus down to the forest to be raised by nymphs and satyrs. As you may know, Zeus likes to get around, and it's best if his wife, Hera, doesn't find out about yet another love child. She actually instigated the death of pregnant

Semele by tricking Zeus into appearing to her as a bolt of lightning, and she was burnt to a crisp. Then he stitched the fetus of Dionysus into his thigh and carried him to term. Never a dull day around here.

■ **What's the best prank you ever played?**

Once, I played a great prank on my other half-brother, Apollo—I stole all his sheep! Anyway, he tattled on me to Zeus, and I got in trouble. I did feel some regret about it, though, so I made Apollo a lyre, similar to a harp, out of an old turtle shell. He really liked it and we called it even. But still—I was only a day old when I did that, so you have to wonder if he was even paying attention.

Information provided by Tracene Harvey, Museum of Antiquities.