

**UNIVERSITY NEWS**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – June 29, 2009

501-121 Research Drive  
Saskatoon SK  
S7N 5C8 Canada  
Telephone: (306) 966-6607  
Facsimile: (306) 966-6815  
Email: [communications@usask.ca](mailto:communications@usask.ca)  
Website: [www.usask.ca/mediaroom](http://www.usask.ca/mediaroom)

**University of Saskatchewan W. Brett Wilson Centre for Entrepreneurial  
Excellence presents Sask INC Innovation Forum**

Sask INC (Innovate, Network, Create) 2009, a public innovation forum, will connect business leaders, researchers, students and financiers from key economic sectors to discuss innovation opportunities and needs for Saskatchewan in two streams of strategic importance: natural resources and health.

“With intense competition, along with rapidly developing markets and technologies, no one needs to be convinced of the importance of innovation. How to innovate is the key question,” says Sanj Singh, director of the W. Brett Wilson Centre for Entrepreneurial Excellence and host of the Sask INC Innovation Forum.

The forum, to be held on September 14 and 15, 2009 at TCU Place in Saskatoon, will give delegates, presenters and students the opportunity to participate in discussions on leading edge issues and on innovation in Saskatchewan. “Saskatchewan is full of opportunities and can lead the recovery from the current economic downfall through innovation and entrepreneurship,” adds W. Brett Wilson, chairman of First Energy and co-honourary chair of Sask INC’s innovation in natural resources stream. “We need to work together and leverage the greatest asset we have – our knowledge resources.”

With training from Johns Hopkins University, an internship at the Cleveland Clinic, surgical residency and a fellowship with a Master of Surgical Research at the Mayo Clinic, the keynote speaker, Dr. Richard Satava, comes well prepared to discuss the importance of an innovative mind and culture. Dr. Satava, currently a professor of surgery at the University of Washington Medical Center and a senior science advisor at the US Army Medical Research and Materiel Command in Ft. Detrick, Maryland, has been active in surgical education and surgical research, with more than 200 publications and book chapters in diverse areas of advanced surgical technology.

“This is like no other forum or conference I have attended or seen,” stresses David Dube, another keynote speaker and co-honourary chair of Sask INC’s innovation in health stream. “Anyone who is interested in knowing how to compete and build wealth can’t miss this.”

Also speaking at the forum are Betty Ann Heggie, former senior vice-president of corporate relations at Potash Corp, and Ken Coates, dean of the Faculty of Arts at the University of Waterloo.

Topics to be covered at this event include: mega projects for Saskatchewan, including the role of researchers, universities and future grads in the new economy, commercialization of biomedical research, materials science and infrastructure, capitalization of natural resource opportunities, and how to build an innovative culture and mindset. There will also be an ‘idea forum’ where researchers will showcase their innovative work and hold a workshop on how to build innovative collaborations.

This event is open to the public and will be of particular interest to anyone who is interested in innovation and participating in a growing Saskatchewan economy: industry, financiers, regulators, researchers, students, entrepreneurs and the general business community. If you would like more information or would like to register for this event, visit: [www.saskinc.com](http://www.saskinc.com) or contact the W. Brett Wilson Centre through their website [www.innovate.usask.ca](http://www.innovate.usask.ca) or call 966-8675.

Media are invited to attend the event.

**Forum participants and sponsors represent a wide range of Saskatchewan organizations, research centres and institutes, and financiers, including but not limited to:**

D. Black Communications  
Canadian Light Source  
Canadian Venture Capital Association  
Centre for Alternative Energy and Renewable Resources  
College of Arts and Science, University of Saskatchewan  
College of Agriculture and Bioresources, University of Saskatchewan  
Department of Computer Sciences, University of Saskatchewan  
College of Engineering, University of Saskatchewan  
College of Medicine, University of Saskatchewan  
College of Nursing, University of Saskatchewan  
Drug Discovery and Design Research Group, College of Pharmacy and Nutrition, University of Saskatchewan  
Edwards School of Business, University of Saskatchewan  
Industry Liaison Office, University of Saskatchewan  
Innovation Place Research Park  
International Centre for Governance & Northern Development  
Northern Saskatchewan Business Association  
MGI Securities, subsidiary of Jovian, a Murray Edwards company  
NuCoal  
Raymond James  
RBC Dominion Securities  
Saskatchewan Chamber of Commerce  
Saskatchewan Health Research Foundation  
Saskatchewan Research Council  
Saskatoon Regional Economic Development Authority (SREDA)  
Saskatoon Chamber of Commerce  
SaskInteractive  
TR Labs  
Vaccine & Infectious Disease Organization/PREVENT  
W. Brett Wilson Centre for Entrepreneurial Excellence  
Wescap Management

Located in the heart of Saskatoon, the University of Saskatchewan is one of the leading medical doctoral universities in Canada. With 58 degrees, diplomas and certificates in over 100 areas of study, the university is uniquely positioned in the areas of human, animal and plant studies. World-class research facilities, renowned faculty and award winning students make the U of S a leader in post-secondary education.

-30-

**For more information, contact:**

Sanj Singh, Director  
W. Brett Wilson Centre for Entrepreneurial Excellence  
University of Saskatchewan  
Tel: (306) 261-5189  
Email: [singh@edwards.usask.ca](mailto:singh@edwards.usask.ca)  
[www.innovate.usask.ca](http://www.innovate.usask.ca)

