MESSAGE FROM THE VICE-PROVOST, TEACHING AND LEARNING

Scheduling Hub - Registrarial Services
An opportunity has been identified to create a “scheduling hub” within the vice-provost, teaching and learning portfolio. This new hub will bring together existing staff responsible for room scheduling, examination scheduling, and non-credit/conference scheduling/registration under the authority of the registrar. The goal of this scheduling hub is twofold: (1) to increase efficiency and effectiveness in the use of space on campus and to improve communications with and service to the campus community with respect to scheduling, and (2) to lay the groundwork for a future implementation of timetabling software for the institution. As such, early in the new year two staff members in the room scheduling office in the Facilities Management Division will move to the Registrarial Services unit in the VPTL. As well, three staff members responsible for non-credit/conference scheduling and registration currently located in the University Language Centre, VPTL, will also move to Registrarial Services. Transition planning has already begun and communication with the campus community will be ongoing.

Innovative Practice in Collaborative Teaching and Learning
The Provost’s Prize for Innovative Practice in Collaborative Teaching and Learning annually awards a project in collaborative teaching that has been implemented and demonstrated a positive impact on the student learning experience. The 2016 provost’s prize was awarded this year to an interprofessional team from the health sciences programs at the U of S and health professionals from the rural community of Humboldt, SK, who started a clinical experiences program together in 2012, submitted by Hope Bilinski, Arlis McQuarrie, Yvonne Shevchuk, and Tom Smith-Windsor. The program brings together professionals from the Colleges of Medicine, Nursing, Pharmacy and Nutrition and the School of Physical Therapy and approximately 200 students have benefited from the program in Humboldt thus far. One student said, “I enjoyed interprofessional education opportunities because they give each field more respect for each other and they allow the chance to become familiar and appreciate what each profession can bring to the table” - pharmacy student. Additionally, this program was recently replicated in the Melfort and Tisdale area.

The Provost’s Grant for Innovative Practice in Collaborative Teaching and Learning annually awards a proposed collaborative teaching project that is expected to positively impact the student learning experience. The 2016 provost’s grant was awarded this year to an innovative and multidisciplinary course proposal called “Becoming Water: Art and Science in Conversation,” submitted by Susan Shantz and Graham Strickert. The project will bring together the Department of Art and Art History and the Schools of Environment and Sustainability and Public Health as well as local Saskatchewan artists and Saskatchewan communities. The course will integrate experiential learning opportunities through site visits to the Gardner Damn and Cumberland House. The course description states, “students will expand their awareness of water in both art and science: how contemporary, socially-engaged artists have engaged with water descriptively and conceptually and how water, in the context of climate change, has urgent social and political implications.”
University Performance Indicators and Metrics
Work is currently underway within IPA to develop scorecards that will contain a series of key performance indicators and metrics allowing us to track progress towards our stated goals. This work involves collecting and reporting on previously identified indicators (e.g. from our Third Integrated Plan and Strategic Directions) as well as integrating and reporting on new goals and objectives that are identified through stakeholder collaborations as we move into the next planning cycle. The intent of this work is to provide campus leaders with easily accessible and understandable metrics that will assist in planning, decision making and ability to monitor progress towards stated objectives. Early drafts of these scorecards will be circulated over the coming months as we move into discussions on the next planning cycle.

Unit Reviews
Over the summer, the unit review of the Johnson-Shoyama Graduate School of Public Policy was completed by the external review team. Final documents from the review (terms of reference, external report, and the response prepared by the school) can be found on the IPA website: http://www.usask.ca/ipa/institutional-effectiveness/reviews.php.

A review of the College of Engineering is currently underway with the external review team’s site-visit scheduled for October 17-19, 2016. The external review team for this review is made up of representatives from the University of British Columbia, University of Manitoba and University of Alaska Fairbanks. We expect to receive the final report from the reviewers in late-November 2016.

The Next Planning Cycle
The next integrated planning process will begin after the Mission, Vision, Values update is fully complete. Following its approval, we will embark on a campus-wide conversation about the university’s goals, strategies, and plans. Conversations with individual senior leaders and governing bodies regarding refinements to the planning process will continue in the interim.

Responsibility Centre Management (RCM) update
The University of Saskatchewan’s RCM framework and Transparent Activity-Based Budget System (TABBS) are being fully implemented for the 2017-18 fiscal year. Information on the university’s RCM framework can be found at www.usask.ca/rcm.

Final TABBS model results will be ready in October, at which point, college and administrative unit leadership will be invited to meet with the RCM/TABBS team to review the final model, and their individual college or school’s results.

The coming year will be an exciting time for in the university’s history. Working together, we will establish a renewed strategy and goals for the University of Saskatchewan, and of our colleges and units. The mission of the planning office, and our commitment to you is that we will guide a continuously-relevant, evidence-based, planning process.

Our vision is that the collaborative process of institutional planning, and the plan itself, will result in renewed energy, focus, pride and momentum internally, and greater impact, reputation and support externally for the University of Saskatchewan.
COLLEGE AND SCHOOL UPDATES

College of Arts and Science

- Two College of Arts & Science PhD students have been awarded Vanier Canada Graduate Scholarships, the country’s most prestigious and competitive federal scholarship for top-tier graduate students. Congratulations to Kimberly MacKay, a PhD student in bioinformatics (supervisor Tony Kusalik) and Jacques Desmarais, a PhD student in geological sciences (co-supervisor Yuenning Pan and John Tse)
- Congratulations to College of Arts & Science students Andrew te Linde and Alana Krug-MacLeod on winning Schulich Leader Scholarships, which are entrance awards for high school graduates enrolling in a science, technology, engineering or mathematics (STEM).
- Bonita Beatty (Indigenous Studies) and Tasha Hubbard (English) were honoured at the second annual Strength of our Women Awards, organized by the women’s commission of the Federation of Sovereign Indigenous Nations, to recognize outstanding achievements by Indigenous women in Saskatchewan.
- Congratulations to Angela Lieverse (department head, Archaeology & Anthropology) and Brenda Macdougall (BA’94, PhD’05), a 2016 recipient of the College of Arts & Science Alumni of Influence Award, who will be elected as a new members of the College of New Scholars, Artists and Scientists at the Royal Society of Canada’s annual general meeting Nov. 17-19 in Kingston.
- Department of Geography and Planning hydrologist John Pomeroy speaks about “Global Water Futures: Solutions to Water Threats in an Era of Global Change.” The university-led research initiative launched with $77.8-million in funding from Canada First Research Excellence Fund: http://www.theglobeandmail.com/news/alberta/five-questions-with-hydrologist-john-pomeroy/article31812482/
- Alum Percy Paul (BSc’99, MSc’10) has overcome trauma, racism and mental illness to work alongside some of the world’s top minds in physics: http://thestarphoenix.com/news/local-news/he-could-have-a-tremendous-impact-indigenous-physicist-recruited-by-perimeter-institute
- The Collaboratorium (Department of History), led by Keith Carlson, held an open house to celebrate another year of community-engaged history: http://artsandscience.usask.ca/news/articles/542/History_Collaboratorium_Open_House
- Check out our featured courses and programs website: http://artsandscience.usask.ca/news/news.php?c=14
- The students of the wîcêhtowin Aboriginal Theatre Program (ATP) are conceiving, writing and designing an original stage production as the capstone to their two years of shared study and training: maskihkiyiyiwan nehiyawin: Re-igniting the Fire is an original theatrical collage of scenes, movement and music created by the ATP students that explores the challenge of balancing Indigenous cultural identities in the 21st century: http://artsandscience.usask.ca/news/articles/545/Aboriginal_Theatre_Program_final_production

For more news and events please visit: http://artsandscience.usask.ca/news/

College of Pharmacy and Nutrition

University of Saskatchewan researchers recognized by the Canadian Academy of Health Sciences
University of Saskatchewan (U of S) researchers in the **Colleges of Pharmacy and Nutrition and Medicine** have been recognized by the Canadian Academy of Health Sciences (CAHS) for their work to advance academic health science.

Debra Morgan, professor and chair of Rural Health Delivery at the Canadian Centre for Health and Safety in Agriculture (CCHSA) in the College of Medicine, and Susan Whiting, professor in the College of Pharmacy and Nutrition, have been elected as fellows to CAHS. Fellows elected to CAHS are recognized by their peers nationally and internationally for their contributions to the promotion of health science. They have demonstrated leadership, creativity, distinctive competencies and a commitment to advance academic health science.

Kishor Wasan, dean of the College of Pharmacy and Nutrition and also a CAHS fellow, was elected as secretary to the CAHS board. His two-year term will begin later in September.

CAHS conducts assessments based on evidence reviews and leading expert opinion to provide conclusions and recommendations on urgent health matters that affect Canadians. It is one of three academies that comprise the Council of Canadian Academies.

**College of Education**

- Professor Maggie Kovach was honoured by the Royal Society of Canada as a new member of the College of New Scholars, Artists and Scientists. She specializes in Indigenous curriculum development, research methodologies and higher learning, as well as distance and adult education.
- The college has been awarded a grant by Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada’s Post-Secondary Partnerships Program to launch a new northern Practical and Applied Arts certificate program.

**OFFICE OF THE VICE-PRESIDENT RESEARCH**

The research highlights for the month of June are reported in the attachment by the office of the vice-president, research.