MESSAGE FROM THE VICE-PROVOST, TEACHING AND LEARNING

Student Gender Reporting and Name Preference

Registrarial Services began working with the Provost’s Advisory Committee on Gender and Sexual Diversity and the Pride Centre about a year ago in response to 1) indications that other universities and colleges were planning to make changes to their information systems, in some cases as the results of legal or human rights cases, regarding gender reporting and name preference, and 2) student and instructor feedback indicating a high level of interest in changing our forms and processes to make our University a more welcome and safe place for students. We are pleased that, as of September this year, we were able to implement changes to various information systems (largely through Sirius+ and DegreeWorks, though other integrated systems were affected as well), to use preferred name instead of legal name (these changes actually apply to the name display of everyone on campus - students, instructors, advisors and staff - within these systems, and not just students). Printed documents that require the legal name such as tax forms, parchments, and transcripts will continue to use the legal name for the time being, though we are investigating this further as several universities have also announced they are allowing preferred name on some official documents. We have also made changes to the options for gender identification that is initially collected on the online admissions application form (for those colleges that utilize Banner central admissions forms). It is our understanding that provincial and federal governments are already planning for use of these options for reporting purposes. Questions and comments can be directed to Russ Isinger, University Registrar and Director of Student Services – 966-6723; registrar@usask.ca - or Maxine Kinakin, Manager and Associate Registrar (Accommodation) - 966-5673; maxine.kinakin@usask.ca.

INSTITUTIONAL PLANNING

Provost’s Committee on Integrated Planning (PCIP)

PCIP met three times in November. On November 5, PCIP had preliminary discussions regarding the president’s planned approach to developing a statement of Mission, Vision and Values and how that exercise will relate to the development of integrated plans. PCIP discussed the use of metrics and institutional performance indicators as they relate to a new project led by the Government of Saskatchewan. PCIP had discussions surrounding the 2015/16 mid-year funding adjustments and investment returns. On November 16, PCIP discussed the procurement policy, support for Huskie athletes, and received a draft of the proposed tuition rates for 2016/17. PCIP also discussed their upcoming and annual work plans. On November 30, 2015 PCIP reviewed the December Board of Governors material.
2016/17 Tuition Consultations with colleges and schools

Institutional Planning and Assessment completed consultations on 2016/17 tuition rates with all colleges and schools as of November 23, 2015. Consultations took into account analysis of comparative information and assessment against the University of Saskatchewan’s tuition principles of comparability, affordability and accessibility, and quality. These meetings provided further opportunity to discuss operating budget expectations for the 2016/17 year, gain insight and commentary on the draft tuition policy document, consider enrolment plans, and provide a high level update on the RCM project. Deans and executive directors provided information on tuition consultations with students as well as any issues brought up during these consultations. The Board of Governors will consider proposed tuition rates at the December 15, 2015 meeting, and tuition rates will be announced to the campus community in January 2016.

Budget Workshops

The leadership team of IPA are presenting a series of workshops for deans and executive directors examining and receiving feedback on the Transparent Activity Based Budget (TABBS) model. Outcomes of the workshops will inform refinements to the model, including the operating revenue and indirect costs modules. Further workshops with the deans, executive directors, and planning and finance staff in the colleges will support the implementation of Responsibility Centre Management at the University of Saskatchewan. The next phase of meetings are planned for the New Year.

COLLEGE AND SCHOOL UPDATES

College of Pharmacy and Nutrition

PharmD proposal submitted to Academic Programs Committee of University Council for initial review

We are pleased to report that the Pharmacy and Nutrition Faculty Council approved the Entry to Practice Doctor of Pharmacy (PharmD) proposal for submission to the University! We have forwarded the proposal and all the supporting documentation to the Academic Programs Committee of University Council for initial review and feedback. Hopefully, it will move through the various stages of the approval process by April 2016. This will ensure that we can make the appropriate announcement about prerequisites and have the new program published in the 2017-18 University Calendar. But this does not mean the work is done! We will now move into the ‘course development phase’. Faculty will be planning course details, developing integrated professional skills activities and determining teaching and assessment strategies. We’ll also be working with preceptors to develop the experiential education program more fully. Watch this site for more information on how you can participate!

U of S trains pharmacists to give flu vaccine

By the end of November, more than 800 pharmacists in Saskatchewan will be trained to administer injections like the flu vaccine.
The College of Pharmacy and Nutrition’s Continuing Professional Development for Pharmacists (CPDP) office at the University of Saskatchewan (U of S) has been training provincial pharmacists since April in preparation for the upcoming flu season. The training program combines online and in-person educational components to ensure pharmacists have the required skills to properly administer medications and the flu vaccine by injection.

“The Pharmacist Immunization and Injection training program is important because it means an increase in accessibility for patients,” said Lisa Bagonluri, manager of the CPDP at the U of S. “This makes it easy for more people to get vaccinated, which will decrease their risk of getting influenza.”

The Pharmacy Association of Saskatchewan provided $350,000 in funding to train pharmacists to administer injections. This training support was put in place to remove any financial barriers and to ensure as many pharmacists as possible are trained to provide injections for the 2015-16 flu season.

To receive the flu vaccine from a pharmacist, members of the public can visit their nearest participating pharmacy. A valid Saskatchewan health services card is required and you must be at least nine years old.

For a list of participating pharmacies, visit: https://www.skpharmacists.ca/patients/flu-shots

**College of Arts & Science**

Recently named the Interdisciplinary Centre for Culture & Creativity’s Aboriginal Fellow in Creativity, Susan Aglukark will mentor students in the Aboriginal Student Achievement Program, delivers a Fine Arts Research Lecture Series in Music and conduct a class titled “In the Company of Music.”:


USSU President and Arts & Science student Jack Saddleback was recently featured in a Globe and Mail article looking at the state of Aboriginal student education in universities across Canada.

The SSRL 2014-2015 Annual Report: Enhancing Capacity outlines the bold steps taken by our unit to advance our collective mission to, “facilitate the design, delivery and dissemination of cutting-edge social science research”.

**College alumna Senator Lillian E. Dyck** (BA’66, MA’70, PhD’81) is doing her best to make sure the issue of missing and murdered indigenous women gets the attention it needs:


In conjunction with The Department of Physics & Engineering Physics free public lecture: 100 Years of Einstein’s General Relativity: From the Big Bang to Black Holes, a series of public tours on campus will also be offered. - See more at:

http://artsandscience.usask.ca/news/articles/162/Physics_Tours#sthash.5h2SWe1P.dpuf

The college is actively seeking an Indigenous person for a full-time tenure-track position in the Department of Indigenous Studies for nomination as a Tier 2 Canada Research Chair (CRC) in Indigenous Community-Engaged Scholarship. The selected candidate will be appointed to the Department of Indigenous Studies at an academic rank commensurate with experience:


**A&S Social Media Directory**: to find out who’s tweeting, posting instagrams, who has YouTube channels, and which FaceBook pages to follow or groups to join, please visit:

http://artsandscience.usask.ca/college/socialmedia.php
OFFICE OF THE VICE-PRESIDENT RESEARCH

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