MESSAGE FROM THE VICE-PRESIDENT FINANCE AND RESOURCES

Thorvaldson Building

With the completion of the D and E Wings of the Health Sciences project and the B Wing scheduled for completion in 2016, space in the Thorvaldson Building has become available for other institutional priorities and needs, as the relocation of programs within the College of Pharmacy and Nutrition continues.

Preliminary planning (as provided to the Planning and Priorities Committee in November of 2013) noted that a Thorvaldson Building capital project:

- Will include comprehensive renovation and rejuvenation to space where the College of Pharmacy & Nutrition was allocated that would deal with deferred maintenance in the 1966 Wing of the Thorvaldson building
- Preliminary consideration includes the relocation of the Department of Mathematics and Statistics from McLean Hall as well as the development of centralized multidisciplinary teaching and research facilities.

The long term strategy for the Thorvaldson Building renewal is currently under development. The overarching intent is to de-intensify research activities due to the building’s limited mechanical system and the current concept allocates space for:

- Ground floor: Instructional Centre – classrooms (STEM, interactive); undergraduate teaching labs; graduate student space
- First floor: College of Graduate Studies and Research; Instructional Centre – multipurpose teaching facilities
- Second floor: Mathematics and Statistics
- Third floor: Mathematics and Statistics; research labs and office space; decant space for RenewUS

Recent developments (such as the recent $37.2 million CFREF award which required that Office of the Vice-President Research (OVPR) staff be relocated from the NRC Building by March of 2016 in order to convert the vacated space to research laboratories) and a desire for permanent operational savings of approximately $1.0M annually necessitated the utilization of vacated space in the Thorvaldson building for an interim period. The current allocation for space is:

- Ground floor and a portion of the third floor: Advancement and Community Engagement (ACE)
- Second floor: Office of the Vice-President Research (OVPR). The re-location of the College of Graduate Studies and Research and the Department of Mathematics and Statistics is not impacted by the interim allocations.

A capital project steering committee to initiate the planning and design for the re-location of Mathematics and Statistics will be established in January of 2016.
INSTITUTIONAL PLANNING

Tuition and fees
The Board of Governors approved tuition rates for the 2016-17 academic year on December 15, 2015.

The process for setting rates this year included extensive consultation with deans, executive directors and program heads, and included a representative of Student Enrolment and Services Division for enrolment considerations. Consultations included review and discussion of the current tuition-setting processes, practices, and the university’s tuition policy. Four key issues arose: the international tuition differential, standard graduate tuition rates, tuition predictability, and affordability for students. The tuition policy is currently being revised, and will be presented to the Board of Governors for approval in 2016. Revisions will be subject to extensive consultation, including the Academic Programs Committee, and Planning and Priorities Committee of Council, beginning in 2016.

Deans and executive directors engaged students between October and December 2015 to solicit feedback on tuition rates, and to communicate the importance of tuition revenue for program quality and student experience. Consultation in some colleges will continue in to January.

The fees review committee approved 2016-17 student fees in November 2015.

The 2016-17 tuition and fees announcement will be made to the campus community January 13, 2016 and more information can be found at usask.ca/tuition.

Institutional Effectiveness

Reviews
The external review team has concluded their review of the School of Environment and Sustainability (SENS) and submitted a written report of their findings to the provost’s office and SENS leadership. SENS is in the process of finalizing their response to the report and once this is finished, the review will be completed and information posted on the office of Institutional Planning and Assessment’s website (http://www.usask.ca/ipa/institutional-effectiveness/reviews.php).

The site visit for the review of the University Library has been confirmed for January 20-22, 2016. The external review team consists of representatives from the University of Alberta, Western University, and the Association of Research Libraries (ARL). This review is expected to be concluded in early March 2016.

Finally, planning is still underway for the review of the Johnson-Shoyama Graduate School of Public Policy. We are in the process of assembling the external review team and confirming dates for the site visit (expected to be in early April, 2016). Further updates will be provided on this and other reviews in the coming months.

COLLEGE AND SCHOOL UPDATES

University Library
The University Library is preparing for the site visit of the external review team happening at the end of January. The members of the review team are all seasoned professionals who in their own right have already made many contributions to librarianship, nationally and internationally. The members of the review team are:
External Reviewers:

Mr. Gerald Beasley – Vice-Provost and Chief Librarian, University of Alberta
Gerald Beasley was appointed Vice-Provost and Chief Librarian on July 1, 2013. His previous library experience includes leadership positions at the Canadian Centre for Architecture, Montreal; the Avery Architectural and Fine Arts Library, Columbia University, New York; and Concordia University, Montreal. He has also worked at the Royal Institute of British Architects and the Wellcome Institute for the History of Medicine in London, England. He is currently President of the Canadian Association of Research Libraries (2013-2015).

Education
M.A. English Language and Literature, Oxford University
M.A. Library Studies, University College London

Ms. Joyce Garnett – University Librarian Emeritus, Western University
Joyce Garnett is university librarian emeritus at Western University in London, Ontario, and recently served as interim dean of the University Library for Iowa State University. Ms. Garnett has 40 years of experience as a librarian, including 33 years teaching and 34 years in leadership positions both at universities and in the private sector.

Education
M.L.S. McGill University
B.Sc. McGill University

Dr. Elliot Shore – Executive Director of the Association of Research Libraries (ARL)
Elliott Shore has served as the executive director of the Association of Research Libraries (ARL) since January 2013. From 1997 to 2012, Dr. Shore served as the Constance A. Jones director of libraries and professor of history at Bryn Mawr College. Dr. Shore speaks and publishes widely, most recently with a focus on the future of research libraries and the need for coherence at scale in higher education.

Education
PhD History, Bryn Mawr College
M.S. Library Science, Drexel University
M.A. International History, London School of Economics and Political Science
B.A. History, Temple University

Internal Reviewer:

Dr. Jay Wilson – College of Education, University of Saskatchewan
Jay Wilson is an associate professor and Department Head & Graduate Coordinator of Curriculum Studies with the College of Education. He works at improving the experience of pre-service and graduate teachers and has extensive practical experience in the area of technology and its application to teaching and instruction. He is also skilled in the areas of multimedia production, program evaluation, and delivery of professional development.

Education
Ed.D., University of Southern Queensland
M.Ed. Educational Communications and Technology, University of Saskatchewan
B.Ed. Elementary Education, University of Saskatchewan
B.A. History, University of Saskatchewan
College of Arts and Science

Fourth-year music student Megan Bauman (saxophone) was recently named as one of the winners in the 2015 International Woodwinds and Brass Competition organized by American Protégé. As a result, Bauman will be performing at a concert in New York’s Carnegie Hall on May 1, 2016.

In conjunction with the World University Service of Canada (WUSC), the U of S is taking steps to double the number of refugee students sponsored at the U of S from three to six. Gabriela Mangano (Geological Sciences), WUSC representative for the U of S, has been active in arranging this partnership.

Computer science professor Carl Gutwin was recently selected as a Distinguished Scientist by the Association for Computing Machinery (ACM), the world’s largest educational and scientific computing society. The award celebrates the exceptional contributions of leading members in the computing fields. Prof. Gutwin was one of only three Canadians to make the list this year.

Award-winning hip hop artist Lindsay Knight (BA’10, MA’13), aka Eekwol, has joined the staff of the Saskatchewan Arts Board.

Professor Emeritus David Carpenter (English) has received a number of accolades for his most recent edited book, "The Education of Augie Merasty." Written by Joseph Auguste (“Augie”) Merasty, the book describes Merasty’s boyhood experience at St. Therese Residential School at Sturgeon Landing, where he and his fellow students suffered cold, hunger, the loss of their culture and physical and sexual abuse.

A novel dedicated to emeritus professor of biology R. Jan F. Smith has won this year’s Aurora award for Best English Novel. A Play of Shadow (published by DAW books) was by written Julie E. Czerneda, who did her graduate studies in biology at the University of Saskatchewan.

“Dreams and Spaces in Between,” a short film directed by John Graham (Art & Art History), has won the Best Film Award at the 2015 Saskatchewan Independent Film Awards.

Zachari Logan (BFA’05, MFA’09), one of the college’s Alumni of Influence, will be an artist-in-residence at the renowned Wave Hill Botanical Gardens in Bronx, NY.

Leona Theis (BA’80) has received American Short Fiction’s first place prize for her story “How Sylvie Failed to Become a Better Person Through Yoga.” Theis has been a mentor in the college’s MFA in Writing Program.

Writing North is a two-day writers’ festival (January 22-23) that targets Saskatoon and a wider Saskatchewan community of aspiring writers and anyone interested in writers and books. Now in its sixth year, Writing North features five established writers: http://www.skwriter.com/home/716

College of Pharmacy and Nutrition

Doctor of Pharmacy Update
It is with great pleasure to announce that our entry to practice Pharm D Program and new tuition proposal to support this program have been formally approved by the University Council and University Board of Governors respectively.
This is a major milestone for the college and I want to congratulate everyone for your time and efforts on making this happen. A special thank you to Linda Suveges, Yvonne Shevchuk and Shauna Gerwing for leading the process.

The proposal will now go to University Senate in April 2016 for final approval.

**College Research Day**
On Tuesday, November 10, the college held a Research Day at the Western Development Museum, which included 11 oral presentations, over 50 research posters, and an inspiring keynote address. The research presented during the day included applied and bench sciences in both pharmacy and nutrition, and gave our graduate students and faculty to learn more about each other’s’ work.

Thank you to keynote speaker Dr. D. Lynn Kirkpatrick (BSP, 1978; PhD 1981) for joining us for the day. Dr. Kirkpatrick’s career has focussed on cancer drug discovery and development, and she now heads the biotechnology company Phusis Therapeutics.

Dr. Adil Nazarali designated Fellow of the Society
The Royal Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain has designated Dr. Adil Nazarali as a Fellow of the Society. Fellowship is awarded to members who have made an outstanding original contribution to the advancement of pharmaceutical knowledge or attained distinction in the science, practice, profession or history of pharmacy.

Dean Wasan selected for Prix Galien Canada Jury
Congratulations to Dean Kishor Wasan who has been selected for the Prix Galien Canada Jury. The Prix Galien Canada is the most prestigious award in the field of Canadian pharmaceutical research and innovation. Read more.

**OFFICE OF THE VICE-PRESIDENT RESEARCH**

The research highlights for the month of January are reported in the attachment by the office of the vice-president, research.
UPDATE - SEARCHES AND REVIEWS

My office is currently engaged in a variety of decanal searches, as well as the review for the vice-provost, faculty relations. The search committees for the dean, College of Law and College of Kinesiology met in December 2015. The Edwards School of Business search committee will meet again in late January 2016. The review process for the vice-provost, faculty relations will begin in mid-January, with requests for feedback being sent out in early February. I am currently awaiting the report of the School of Public Health taskforce prior to determining the next steps in the executive director search. Search committees are formed for the decanal searches in the College of Arts & Science, University Library, and College of Graduate Studies. My office is in the process of determining a search consultant for each search, after which meetings will then be scheduled. The searches for the dean, College of Engineering and College of Nursing will begin later this year, once academic reviews of the colleges are undertaken.