AGENDA

PROVOST’S REPORT TO COUNCIL

March 2016

INSTITUTIONAL PLANNING

Institutional Planning and Assessment
PCIP and the IPA continue to lead the move to responsibility centre management (RCM). Workshops were held with the deans in late January identifying outstanding policy decisions and tasks requiring resolution before RCM can be considered fully implemented. In particular, final decisions around the TABBS model are being made; policy decisions around financial risk and responsibility are being articulated; policy statements relating to tuition are being re-examined; work is continuing on developing broadly applicable measures of university activity; processes to establish capital priorities are being developed; and forward-looking financial management tools are being refined.

Tuition Rate Setting Finalization
The U of S will finalize 2016/17 tuition rates for a small set of programs at the March 2016 board meeting. The initial report will go to PCIP for finalization before the board meeting. The programs affected include the DEU course offerings as well as a small set of programs that were approved at the APC since December 2015.

COLLEGE AND SCHOOL UPDATES

University Library
For close to a decade the University Library has been proactively responding to a dramatically changing information landscape through refurbishment and revitalization of library collections, services, and facilities across the library system – examples include renovations to the first and ground floors of the Murray Library (2009), the new Leslie and Irene Dubé Health Sciences Library (2013), and refurbished spaces in the Veterinary Medicine Library (2014). The University Library must continue to evolve to meet changing student and faculty needs and expectations. Over the last year or so, a capital steering committee under my leadership has been planning for the next stages of the University Library Transformation Project (ULTP).

In November, a draft high level vision for the University Library was developed by a working group of the steering committee to establish principles and general attributes for transformed library spaces. Since that date the Associate Deans of the University Library have attended TLARC, University Student Council, and a number of faculty councils to discuss the draft vision. Those visits continue. The steering committee has also endorsed the development of a master plan for the University Library spaces that builds on the extensive Murray Library master plan developed in 2013. This master planning process will occur over the next number of months, with an anticipated completion date of October 2016.

While planning at the broad University Library level progresses, work is happening on the ground. This work is primarily focused on collections – looking at duplicates, utilizing alternative shelving options, and continuing collaboration with our library partners in western Canada – in order to create the space to allow for library transformation. Libraries are at the heart of a university experience, helping to build
communities on campus and beyond. The vision of library transformation is of inspiring physical spaces where students and faculty learn, collaborate, explore, and engage in scholarly discourse. The transformed library will deliver the collections, services, and physical space that meet the needs of faculty and students and align with the educational and research mission of the university.

College of Arts and Science
Faculty Complement in the College of Arts & Science: The College of Arts and Science is very excited to announce that it expects to have made 35 tenure-track faculty appointments between 1 July 2015 and 1 July 2016. This infusion of new faculty will play a critically important role in the college’s future and represents a renewal of more than 10% of our faculty complement. Our faculty directly determines our ability to successfully offer a range of teaching, research, scholarly and artistic programs across multiple disciplines in response to college and university priorities. During this period of renewal, the college will be giving special attention to mentorship and support programs for new faculty.

Congratulations to all the A&S nominees for this year’s Aboriginal Achievement Awards: Morgan balan; Karlei Nordstrom; Taylor Roufosse; Avery Michael; Kayla Peters; Nathan Regnier; Lisa Borstmayer; Steven Langlois; Logan Martin-Arcand; Amanda Gourclay; Jorie Halcro; Mikaela Vancoughnett, and the nominees for the Leadership and Engagement Student Award: Sasha Merasty and Gared Marcotte. This year’s Gordon Wallis Opera Competition was won by Allison Walmsley (BMus ’15):

Professor Jeanette Lynes and the MFA in Writing Program are featured in this University Affairs article on MFA programs in creative writing: http://www.universityaffairs.ca/features/feature-article/mastering-the-fine-art-of-writing/

Alumnus Russ Muzzolini (BSC ’96) has provided both financial and hands-on assistance to establish a new smartphone course: http://www.artsandscience.usask.ca/news/articles/251/Computer_science_alumnus_helps_establish_new_smartphone_cour

Erika Dyck, Canada Research Chair in the History of Medicine, says the potential medical benefits of psychedelic drugs are receiving a closer look as our population ages: http://www.artsandscience.usask.ca/news/articles/250/Historian_sees_resurgence_in_LSD_research

Biology Professor Doug Chivers was part of international research team discovery that found noise puts reef fish at a greater risk of being caught by predators: http://www.artsandscience.usask.ca/news/articles/238/Motorboat_noise_makes_reef_fish_vulnerable

Recent faculty publications by the Department of Chemistry are now featured in their website banner: http://artsandscience.usask.ca/chemistry/

The Department of Computer Science recently had a lecture on Big Data, and a Game Jam – read about them at: http://www.cs.usask.ca/

The Department of Economics hosted an inaugural networking and alumni event in February, with Professor Maxym Chaban as the organizer, and government and professionals attending.

The college’s Science Outreach Office recently hosted a presentation by Canadian Space Agency astronaut and aquanaut David Saint-Jacques, and over 300 elementary students attended. “The Making
of an Astronaut” presentation encouraged the children to consider studying science, and a career in the sciences.

In February, the **Interdisciplinary Centre for Culture and Creativity** presented a lecture by astronaut Roberta Bondar, Canada’s first woman astronaut and the world’s first neurologist in space.

**College of Pharmacy and Nutrition**

**Testing the market: Nutrition Students Introduce Farmers Market**

![Nutrition students Nadine Nevland and Kara Friesen](image)

The atrium of the agriculture building was a-buzz Friday, February 5, as a student-organized farmers’ market offered fresh, local food and handcrafts to the campus community.

Local growers and businesses, such as Good Spirit Bakery, Simpkins Farms and Uncle Mike’s Natural Products, among others, were on hand for the university’s first farmers’ market, which students in pharmacy and nutrition hope will not be the last.

The market, a pilot project to determine if the university can sustain a similar market on campus more regularly, is also the senior project of Kara Friesen and Nadine Nevland, both third-year students in the College of Pharmacy and Nutrition. They partnered with the Office of Sustainability to help get the event off the ground.

The duo initially encountered a few logistical challenges in trying to co-ordinate the market. However, it all worked out for them.

In turn, the campus community came out in spades to support the market, with many of the vendors running out of products early and having to leave or get more.

With the event over, Friesen and Nevland will now conduct a feasibility report to see if this type of market is sustainable on campus. The project, as part of the Living Lab program in the Office of Sustainability, supported by Fisher Scientific.
With 35 delegates at the 2016 CAPSI Professional Development week, the University of Saskatchewan had an impressive showing at the national conference. The conference took place January 6-9 in Niagara Falls, Ontario, and key results for the U of S include:

- Congratulations to our team who placed first in the national compounding competition. Team members included Jayesh Changela, Darren Bogle, Madison Schmidt, and Trista Zacharias.
- Jayesh Changela accepted the CAPSI-Pfizer Consumer Healthcare Guy Genest Passion for Pharmacy Award for Saskatchewan.
- U of S placed third overall for our 2014 IPSF Health Campaign on Diabetes. This campaign was organized by AJ Havlicek and Heather Hodgson.
- Taylor Raiche’s submission, “Moving Forward by Giving Back: How the Pharmacy Student Can Propel Canadian Pharmacy Practice Forward by Participating in Civic Engagement,” placed fourth in the national Student Literary Challenge.
- Paraag Trivedi represented the U of S in the debate session and was a part of the winning team.

Our students’ participation in other events included:

- Cara Wirachowsky and Jayesh Changela represented the U of S by competing in the national Patient Interview and Over the Counter Counselling competitions.
- Jaydon Tsui competed in the national “Canada’s Next Top Pharmacist” and impressed the crowd with his saxophone playing skills and break dancing.

The CAPSI National Council met during the four days of the conference and discussed pertinent topics and strategic planned for the upcoming semester. National Council members from U of S include, Kelsey Joorisity (CAPSI Senior), Kaitlyn Tress (CAPSI Junior), Paraag Trivedi (Finance Officer), Shelby Scherbey (Executive Secretary) and Caitlin McGrath (President-Elect).

The U of S will continue to be engaged with CAPSI on a national level during the 2016-17 year:

- Sophie Chatillon successfully ran for and was elected into the National Finance Officer position for the 2016-17 term.
- Caitlin McGrath will successfully transition and become the President of CAPSI National in the 2016-17 term.
- Kaitlyn Tress will transition to the CAPSI Senior position for the 2016-17 term.

Congratulations to all those who proudly represented the U of S!
Edwards School of Business
The Edwards School of Business has received approval to move to the final stage of AACSB accreditation. This involves producing a Self-Evaluation Report based on 15 standards and inviting an international review team for a site visit. This approval signals that AACSB believes we have closed all gaps over a sustained period of time. For example, 90 percent of our faculty – permanent, full-time term, and sessional – have clear and recent evidence of engagement in the filed in which they teach. We have policies, processes, and a culture of continuous improvement. Assurance of Learning has been integrated into our curriculum and the decisions we make.

College of Education
New English as an Additional Language Certificate:
The U of S College of Education launched a new language-training certificate in response to the growing number of K-12 students who are learning English as an additional language (EAL).

The EAL certificate aims to increase the number of teachers who have the knowledge, specialized skills and expertise required to work with English language learners at all grade levels so that those students can successfully meet credit requirements and graduate from Saskatchewan schools.

The Ministry of Education supported the development of the EAL Certificate at the U of S. Nadia Prokopchuk, a senior program manager of EAL and Languages helped the College of Education develop the certificate.

The Nellie Awards:
Congratulations to Dr. Alex Wilson, Department of Educational Foundations, for earning a spot on the 2016 Nellie Awards Winners List. The "Nellies" honour women who have followed in Nellie McClung’s footsteps, pursuing social justice, women and human rights. This award recognizes and honours women whose endeavours model the spirit and advance the legacy of women like Nellie McClung who fought for the right of women to vote.

Think Indigenous Education Conference 2016:
Showcasing the strengths and attributes of Indigenous education to as many people as possible is one of the major goals of the Think Indigenous Education Conference.

The Think Indigenous Education Conference takes place March 16-18 in Saskatoon and is hosted by the University of Saskatchewan’s Indian Teacher Education program.

Think Indigenous brings people together, to network, to showcase some of the great work that’s been done and inspire teachers to start thinking from an Indigenous perspective when they’re teaching.

Sessions include those on cultural competency development, Indigenous politics, institutional change, environmental protection and ancestral knowledge.

OFFICE OF THE VICE-PRESIDENT RESEARCH
The research highlights for the month of March are reported in the attachment by the office of the vice-president, research.