**MESSAGE FROM THE VICE-PROVOST, TEACHING AND LEARNING**

**Youth From Care Bursary**
Beginning this September, the University of Saskatchewan (U of S) will offer a new, uniquely comprehensive fund to encourage youth who were in care of the province’s child welfare system to continue their education. The university’s Saskatchewan Youth From Care Bursary will pay for up to five years’ of tuition, student fees, required books, accommodation, meal plans, and a stipend for personal costs, as well as a laptop and software to help recipients complete their first undergraduate degree. The university has allocated $100,000 annually from its operating budget, which will provide support for up to five students per year. Please see the link to the release here ([news release](#)).

**Reporting on Enrolment**
It has been past practice to report on enrolment to University Council in November and March following Census Day in each term. Full presentations have been delivered on both of these occasions. Following consultations with the university secretary and the Coordinating Committee of Council, we will shift this practice in the coming year to ensure that we are using council’s time efficiently but also ensure that council has the information it requires for decision making. Accordingly, under the umbrella of the Provost’s Report to Council in September of each year, we will include a “snapshot” of enrolment as of the first day of classes (September 3 this year). Given that the provost’s report is submitted weeks in advance of the actual meeting of University Council, there will be a handout provided at the meeting that outlines the snapshot. In April of each year, we will request the opportunity to provide an annual report to council along with a full presentation. At any time during the year, if there are questions about enrolment or strategic enrolment management, they can be addressed directly to the vice-provost, teaching and learning ([patti.mcdougall@usask.ca](mailto:patti.mcdougall@usask.ca)) or the registrar ([registrar@usask.ca](mailto:registrar@usask.ca)). Enrolment data following Census Day in October and February is available publicly through UView ([website link](#)).

**INSTITUTIONAL PLANNING**

**Provost’s Committee on Integrated Planning (PCIP)**

**Reviews**
In continuing our commitment to excellence in teaching and research, and in accordance with normal university policies that require periodic reviews of academic entities, a review of the School of Environment and Sustainability was initiated in August 2015. The review will examine the school’s mission and vision, organizational structure and governance, academic and educational activities, research activities, and partnerships. The external review team site visit is scheduled for early November 2015 and completion of the review is planned for January 2016. This review aligns to our plan for reviewing the three interdisciplinary graduate schools that began in November 2014 with the review of the School of Public Health. It is expected that a review of the Johnson-Shoyama Graduate School of Public Policy will commence in early 2016.
**College Profiles**

There is continued interest in how best to measure and monitor progress against the plans and strategies we have established. Accordingly, we are working to create a data profile for every college and school that will provide insight into activities and trends within the unit. These “college profiles” will consist of a series of indicators, grouped into four categories, which can be used in various ways to assist with planning, decision making and measuring performance. The four categories are: Teaching and Learning, Research, Finances and People. Work on the profiles is in its early stages with a draft profile to be distributed to colleges and schools for review and feedback during the fall. The intent is to finalize the design and content of the college profiles so that they can be easily accessed by campus stakeholders as well as be used to align to other projects underway such as our continuing progress toward implementation of responsibility centre management and TABBS and our ongoing focus to provide a cross-section of information online through our reporting websites to campus users. Institutional Planning and Assessment is leading this initiative on behalf of my office, with more information forthcoming.

**CONGRATULATIONS**

Dr. Kishor Wasan has been elected as the 2015-16 chair of the Council of Deans of Pharmacy, which is one of the governing bodies of the Association of Faculties of Pharmacy of Canada. His election reflects the confidence and trust the academic pharmacy community has in the University of Saskatchewan.

Dr. Wasan will set the agenda for future Council of Deans meetings and advocate on behalf of the deans in a number of areas, including:

1. Developing a new Pharmacy Research Foundation to support research across Canada,
2. Conducting workforce planning, monitoring, and working with Pharmacy Examining Board Canada on a number of issues, and
3. Liaising with the Canadian Pharmacists’ Association, the Canadian Society of Hospital Pharmacists and the federal government.

Congratulations to Dr. Wasan, and good luck in the year ahead.

**COLLEGE AND SCHOOL UPDATES**

**College of Arts and Science**

On June 10, the college released a statement of support for the report of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission: “The College of Arts & Science recognizes the historic significance of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada’s report “Honouring the Truth, Reconciling for the Future.” Specifically, we are committed to supporting, and confident in our capacity to support, the recommendations on Aboriginal student success, culturally appropriate curricula and for-credit programming in Aboriginal languages, and are committed to participating in a collaborative SSHRC national research program.”

The Trish Monture Centre for Student Success (TMC) is starting its second year as a space where students in the Aboriginal Student Achievement Program and University Transition program can study and receive academic supports from coaches, advisors, and peers. The TMC offers creative study space,
computer access, and is prominently situated at the top of the ramp in Arts. The TMC has hosted important campus events such as the Aboriginal Students’ Center’s Soup and Bannock lunch, the signing of the MOU with the College of Education, and Balanced Living Lunches – wherein students are given the time and opportunity to focus on their mental, spiritual, physical, and emotional health. Come visit us! (see link)

The U of S Wind Orchestra gave three performances at the prestigious World Association for Symphonic Bands and Ensembles (WASBE) Conference in California in July. Director Darrin Oehlerking (Music) led the Wind Orchestra to be one of 15 ensembles from around the world invited to the biennial international conference. One of the only invited ensembles made up entirely of undergraduate students, the Wind Orchestra was in the company of elite musicians from Israel, Japan, Germany and the United States, and was sponsored by the U of S President’s Student Experience Fund, the College of Arts & Science, and a RocketHub crowdfunding campaign. This is the third time in its 41-year history that the U of S Wind Orchestra has been invited to a WASBE Conference.

The Arts & Science Transition Program recently worked with and assisted students from Oskayak High School with the interdisciplinary course “Strategies for Academic Success”: (see link)

The Department of Native Studies has been renamed the Department of Indigenous Studies, effective July 1, 2015. Consideration of the name change began three years ago as part of the department’s curricular review and renewal process: (see link)

The college helped to organize and deliver the Summer Institute of Global Health and Development in June in India. Students from various institutes learnt how to contribute to global health and development at Indian Institute of Technology Gandhinagar: (see link)

The dean hosted a College of Arts & Science Donor Reception in June at Louis’ Loft. Also in June, the college participated in hosting an All-Alumni Canada Day Reception in California.

John Pomeroy (Geography & Planning) provided a large number of media interviews recently regarding his research and knowledge about glacier melt and drought: (link one) (link two)

Chijin Xiao and Akira Hirose (Physics and Engineering Physics), members of the U of S Plasma Physics Laboratory, are in August conducting fusion experiments in the college, along with scientists from eight other countries, as part of a technical meeting sponsored by the International Atomic Energy Agency and supported by the Fedoruk Centre: (link)

Congratulations to Raj Srinivasan, Head of the Department of Mathematics and Statistics, for being elected to the Canadian Mathematical Society Executive Committee as Vice-President – West.

Bill Rafoss, a political studies sessional lecturer, has been elected to a two-year term with the board of directors for Amnesty International Canada.

Congratulations to the U of S Jazz Ensemble, who released its 6th CD entitled “Bumper Crop VI Continuance.” Dean McNeill (Music) is the Ensemble Director, who organized a reception and mini-concert in June.

Kathleen Solose (Music) has released a CD of a live performance of John Cage’s Sonatas and Interludes for prepared piano: (link)
The **Social Sciences Research Laboratories** are holding a Research Methods Institute November 9-13: (link)

Read the **Department of Chemistry**'s inaugural newsletter: (link)

The **Department of Computer Science** has a brand new website – their news & events are at: (link)

Recent graduate **Shelby Lechman** (BFA 2015) has been named one of 12 regional winners from across the country in the 13th annual BMO 1st Art! Invitational Student Art Competition: (link)

Students and faculty from the college were well-represented in the **2015 PotashCorp Fringe Theatre Festival**: (link)

*Half-Blood Blues* by Esi Edugyan is the **2015-2016 College of Arts & Science Book Club** book of the year – read our interview with the author, and be sure to mark October 22 on your calendar for exciting events when the author visits Arts & Science: (link)

**College of Education**

**September 2nd 2015 – Pinning Ceremony**: The pinning ceremony is an opportunity for everyone to recognize the teacher’s commitment to not only the field of education, but to recognize the significance of a teacher’s commitment to society. It signifies the teacher’s acknowledgement and acceptance of the responsibility to the learning and development of the whole child, and the broader commitment to society to engage and understand; to support and transform. It is a ceremony to signify the teacher’s commitment in their third year, prior to beginning their field experiences in schools, the pinning ceremony marks a milestone of commitment to lifelong learning and professionalism.

**Mentor Positions in ITEP**: The College of Education has created and filled two mentor positions for ITEP (Indian Teacher Education Program) based on the mentorship program at the University of Waikato. Serving as instructors and mentors, these employees will provide wholistic instruction and supports for First Nations students in the program while maintaining connections to departments, faculty, and the First Nations communities which we serve.

**College of Engineering**

The College of Engineering went through an accreditation process for all its undergraduate programs during 2014/15, conducted by the Canadian Engineering Accreditation Board (CEAB), which operates under the regulating authority of Engineers Canada. The CEAB accreditation process followed a new, outcomes-based approach involving assessments of pre-identified graduate attributes and the U of S College of Engineering was among the first accredited engineering schools in Canada to participate in the new process.

The College of Engineering received the outcome of the accreditation process in June 2015. Seven of the university’s eight undergraduate engineering programs were awarded full accreditation for the maximum allowed six year period through June 30, 2021. Environmental Engineering, a newly formed program, was awarded accreditation for three years to June 30, 2018, with possibility of extension of accreditation to June 30, 2021, upon review of a report from the college due to the CEAB in June 2017. The CEAB accreditation decision provides the college and university with solid affirmation that we are
offering high-quality undergraduate education that effectively prepares our students for careers in engineering.

**College of Graduate Studies and Research**

For the upcoming academic year 89 graduate students have been awarded a total of $2.3 million in tricouncil scholarships. A further $2.3 million has been awarded to 165 student in the form of CGSR dean’s scholarships. One hundred and seven students benefited from $1.2 million in Saskatchewan Innovation and Opportunity funding. CGSR also provided an additional $1.6 million in scholarships to 169 students in the form of University Graduate Scholarships, Graduate Research Fellowships, Graduate Teaching Fellowships, Teacher Scholar Doctoral Fellowships and New Faculty Graduate Scholarships. $3.6 million in scholarship funds was devoted to the college.

**University Library**

**University Library and Indigenous Voices**

This fall sees the launch of the University Library’s Indigenous Voices & Intercultural Competence Program for library faculty and staff! Almost 40 employees from across the library system will be participating in the unique opportunity to increase their knowledge of Indigenous cultures, worldviews and ceremonies, and the process and impacts of colonization.

The program launch is an important milestone in the library’s program of activities related to Aboriginal Engagement and Outreach and is the culmination of several months of planning and collaboration with Gwenna Moss Centre for Teaching Excellence (GMCTE).

**Library Exhibition Program – It’s a horse, of course!**

“It’s a horse, of course!” is an exhibition that celebrates the enduring bond between humans and horses. The exhibition features a wide variety of materials from the collection of the University Library. There are fiction and non-fiction works depicting horses in art, mythology, history, literature (especially for children), and music. Equine biology including behaviour, breeding, training and medicine is considered as well as their participation in war, and in popular culture with a focus on life in western Canada. University Archives and Special Collections is home to archival, rare and unique materials such as photographs, postcards, posters, paintings, and primary documents such as correspondence and ephemera that reveal the role horses have played in work and recreation especially in the lives of our prairie descendants. The exhibition, curated by librarian Jill Crawley-Low, will be on display until October 30, 2015 in the Link exhibition space on the first floor of the Murray Library.

**Welcoming the Council of Prairie and Pacific University Libraries (COPPUL)**

This week, Dean Williamson and the University Library is hosting Deans/Directors from COPPUL for the annual fall meeting. This library consortium is comprised of 23 university libraries located in Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Alberta and British Columbia. Discussions, including consideration of the next steps in the development of the Shared Print Archive Network (SPAN), take place over two days. COPPUL provides leadership in the development of collaborative solutions addressing the academic information resource needs, the staffing development needs, and the preservation needs of its member institutions. More information about COPPUL’s programs and activities can be found here: [http://www.coppul.ca](http://www.coppul.ca)
**Johnson-Shoyama Graduate School of Public Policy**

The announcement of leadership change in the Johnson-Shoyama Graduate School of Public Policy, including the appointment of Dr. McNutt as the executive director, and the appointment of Dr. Rayner as the director at the U of S campus can be found at this link: [link]; and the appointment of Giselle Marcotte as the director of the Outreach and Training Unit at the University of Regina campus can be found at this link (link).

The significant efforts of Michael Atkinson as former executive director of the school; and Wynne Young as the former director, Outreach and Training are gratefully acknowledged.

**College of Pharmacy and Nutrition**

**Clara Hughes to speak at Pharmacy PED**

Canadian Olympian Clara Hughes will speak this fall to University of Saskatchewan students and the public about mental health.

The event will be held in the Sid Buckwold Theatre at TCU Place on Tuesday, October 6, at 6:30 pm. The College of Pharmacy and Nutrition’s annual fall professional development event has been opened up to the public this year in the college’s effort to reach out to the Saskatoon community and engage people on important health issues. The event has traditionally been student-driven, but the college and the Saskatchewan Pharmacy and Nutrition Students’ Society (SPNSS) have partnered to create an event that is open to the public and addresses an important healthcare issue.

**CDRD Saskatchewan Innovation Fund Call for Applications**

In February 2015 the University of Saskatchewan (through the College of Pharmacy and Nutrition and VIDO-InterVac), Innovation Saskatchewan, Ag-West Bio and the Centre for Drug Research and Development (CDRD) **established a new $2 Million Dollar Innovation Fund**. This fund is to support the development of new technologies to enhance the commercialization. We are hoping to solicit applications for funding from the local community.
OFFICE OF THE VICE-PRESIDENT RESEARCH

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