

UNIVERSITY OF SASKATCHEWAN

ALUMNI MAGAZINE

FALL 2018

GREEN & WHITE



 UNIVERSITY OF
SASKATCHEWAN

**WHAT ARE YOU
FIGHTING FOR?**

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Editor's note



The cover photo is always the hardest part of putting together this magazine. With so many stories to tell and people to highlight, it can be a challenge to decide who will be the face of them all.

When I read Amy Smith-Morris' story about her role as a cancer survivor and all the great work she's done to help others battling cancer,

I knew she was the natural fit to be the face of this issue and represent our alumni fighters.

Lucky for us, as the photographer started snapping during the photoshoot, her charisma shone. She took direction like a seasoned pro and knew exactly what we were trying to achieve; lifting weights as if it was no problem, rep after rep until we got the perfect shot. I attempted to lift her "warm-up" weight and despite her impeccable tips, have been sore ever since.

Once back at my desk I perused her Instagram. Her feed is peppered with inspirational quotes, photos of her during chemo, tips on what it is like to grow your hair back after treatment. She shows so much vulnerability, but does so to help others. She is fighting to not only beat cancer, but also be a leader for others who are going through the same journey. It is motivating to see her combine the knowledge she received as a graduate of the College of Pharmacy and Nutrition and her own personal experience to serve her community.

You can read Amy's story on page 31. She is just one example of how we can fight, but as you'll see throughout this issue of the *Green & White* many of our alumni fight in one capacity or another.

Fighting to get the job done in the face of a crisis, fighting to go above and beyond after an accident, fighting to break the glass ceiling, fighting to maintain and celebrate culture. These features all have that one specific quality throughout them and I thank our alumni who were so candid in sharing their stories.

The University of Saskatchewan is always fighting and building to be the university the world needs. As USask ambassadors and alumni, I encourage you to fight. Fight for what you believe in; fight for what's right; fight for your voice. It's only when we fight that we start to see the change we aspire.

USask alumni are pinnacle examples of what it's like to fight for the greater good. If you are a fighter, email me. I'd love to hear your story.

Leslie-Ann Schlosser, Editor

ON THE COVER

Amy Smith-Morris (BSP'10), a cancer survivor and national powerlifter, embodies what it means to be a fighter. Read her story on page 31.

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When the crisis of cancer struck Amy Smith-Morris (BSP'10), she seized an opportunity and gave a voice to the hopes and fears of others fighting the disease.

About last issue...



We received a lot of great feedback about last issue's cover photo. The work of Saskatoon artist, Danielle Fulawka, was featured on the cover and throughout the issue.

She strives to portray the short-lived beauty found throughout gardens and flower farms in Saskatchewan. You can find her available work at Little Bird Patisserie and follow along with her artistic process on her social media channels:

 @daniellefulawka
 Danielle Fulawka Art



In last issue's story *Olympic Fever* we failed to mention the incomparable Joan McCusker (BEd'87) who was also a member of the curling broadcast team from the PyeongChang 2018 Winter Olympics and is pictured here on the far left.

McCusker's lists of accomplishments are long and impressive, and include an induction into the Canadian Sports Hall of Fame in 2000 and winning an Olympic Gold Medal in 1998.

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William Allen and the Great War

✍ PATRICK HAYES (BA'80, MA'89)
UNIVERSITY ARCHIVES AND SPECIAL COLLECTIONS, UNIVERSITY LIBRARY

We reached far back into the archives for this issue's *Remember When*. So many of our alumni have fighting characteristics, but one in particular stood out as a story we should share with you.

William Allen was born in England, near Bristol, in 1892 and immigrated to Canada with his family in 1911, taking out a homestead at Smiley, Saskatchewan. This photo of him was taken a year before the creation of the University of Saskatchewan (1907).

He joined the army in 1915, was wounded at the Battle of the Somme in 1916 and sent to the Beaufort War Hospital to recuperate.

The Great War exacted a heavy toll on the university. Of the 345 students, faculty and staff who enlisted, 69 "passed out of the sight of man by the path of duty and self-sacrifice." More than 100 more were wounded and 33 were awarded medals of valour. The College of Engineering closed its doors for the 1916-1917 session when the faculty and students enlisted.

Discharged in 1917, Allen enrolled at the University of Saskatchewan as an associate student in agriculture, transferring to the degree course and graduating in 1922. His studies took him to Harvard and Cornell Universities, and he earned a PhD in 1925. He returned to USask organizing and serving as the first head of the Department of Farm Management.

He resigned in 1938 to accept the position of the first Commissioner to Britain for Canadian Agriculture. In 1941, while enroute to England, he lost his life at sea when the steamship *Nerissaa* he was on was torpedoed.

The Allen Memorial Prize is awarded annually to the top graduating student in agricultural economics. He is also memorialized with a plaque in Convocation Hall, which reads in part: "His sincere, manly character inspired the respect of many friends, especially the farmers of Saskatchewan for whom he did so much." ■



A clean bill of health for the College of Medicine



After hosting a full-site accreditation visit in fall 2017, Saskatchewan's medical school has achieved full accreditation of its undergraduate program from the Committee on Accreditation of Canadian Medical Schools (CACMS).

"The college has worked very hard on improvements in our medical doctor program and we are highly encouraged by this positive acknowledgement," said Dean of Medicine Dr. Preston Smith. "In particular, CACMS does not require a follow-up visit, which is a strong indication of confidence in our team and our program."

The college's work in recent years to improve areas of student services and support, curriculum, faculty engagement and governance were successful, with clean ratings from the accrediting body. ■

A lot goes on between issues of the **Green & White... stay connected.**



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Low oxygen therapy has high potential for spinal cord patients

A new type of therapy is showing promise for people and animals with spinal cord injuries.

Acute intermittent hypoxia (AIH) therapy involves exposing patients to low oxygen levels intermittently for short time periods. This action triggers a chain of events in the nerve cells or neurons as they react to the mild stress, according to Valerie Verge, director of the Cameco MS Neuroscience

Research Center and a professor in the College of Medicine.

In the study, Verge—along with Dr. Gillian Muir from the Western College of Veterinary Medicine and Gordon Mitchell from the University of Florida—looked at cellular changes in response to AIH combined with rehabilitative training. Verge and Muir are optimistic that AIH therapy will have a positive impact on a wide range of injuries and conditions that affect the nervous system. ■



Bright young minds

DAVID STOBBE

Vanier Canada Graduate Scholarships have been awarded to four top University of Saskatchewan PhD students working in health, water and feral horse conservation research.

“It is a great achievement for these four exceptional students to be chosen as Vanier Scholars,” said Karen Chad, USask vice-president research. “We are very proud of these students who have demonstrated the leadership skills and research accomplishments to become tomorrow’s leaders.”

With \$150,000 awarded to each student over three years, the Vanier Scholarship is a competitive federal program that recognizes top-tier doctoral students who demonstrate excellence in academia, research impact and leadership at Canadian universities. ■

International honours

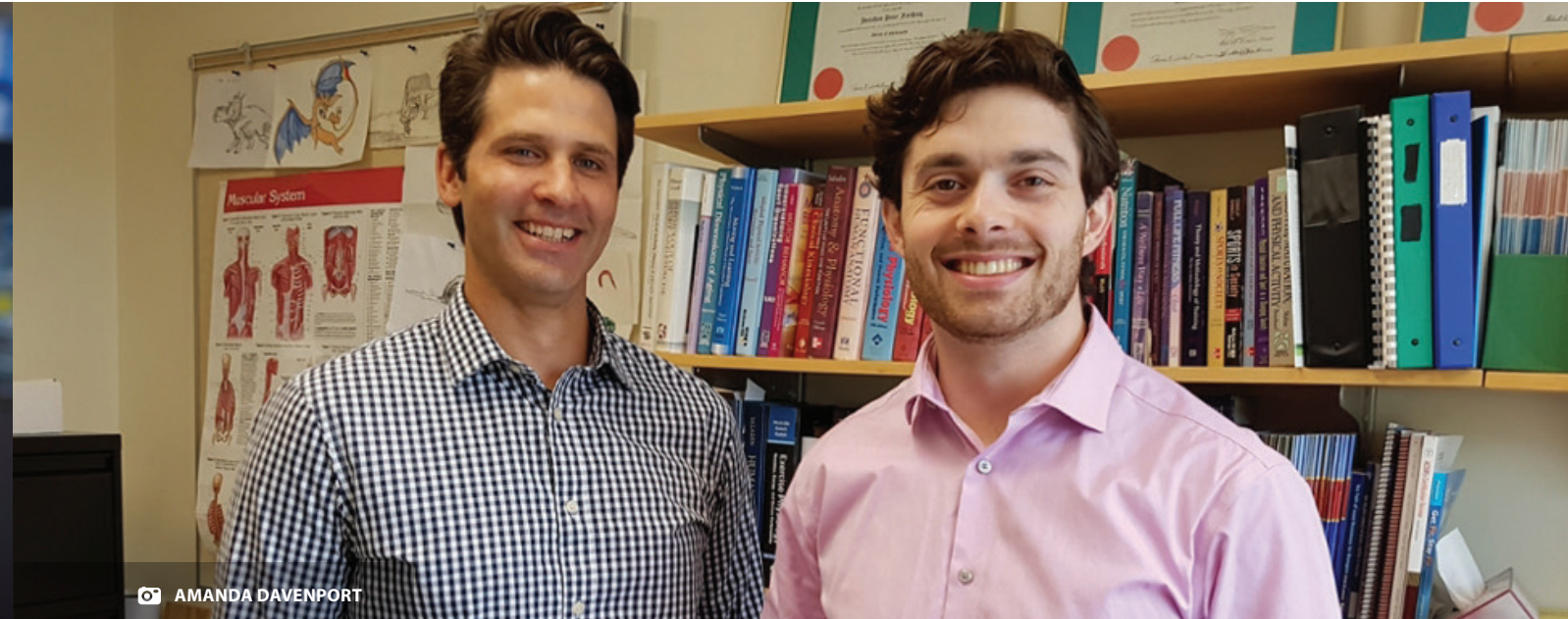


Graduate student Kalhari Bandara Goonewardene is one of five worldwide recipients of the inaugural BioOne Ambassador Award, which recognizes early-career researchers excelling at communicating the importance and impact of their research beyond their discipline.

Goonewardene is a PhD student in the Western College of Veterinary Medicine. Her research focuses on raising healthy chickens, something vital to human health and economic growth. She tested an antibiotic alternative that, via a nebulizing chamber, delivered a synthetic DNA as an aerosol directly into the lungs of newly-

hatched chicks. In turn, the treatment stimulated the chicks’ front line defense mechanisms and significantly protected them against a deadly dose of E. coli.

The next phase of Goonewardene’s research involves partnering with engineers to develop a large-scale poultry nebulizer to test the findings in an industrial setting. ■



AMANDA DAVENPORT

The left hand does know what the right is doing

PhD student Justin Andrushko (MSc’17) and kinesiology professor Jonathan Farthing (BSc’99, MSc’02, PhD’06) have found that when you immobilize an arm, exercising the same free limb on the other side of the body may be key to maintaining strength and muscle size in the immobilized limb.

For their study, Andrushko and Farthing asked participants to wear casts that immobilized their wrists for a month. Half of the students did wrist-flexion training on their non-casted arm, and half did not, so that the researchers could compare changes in muscle strength and size in the immobilized wrists. Students who did the training preserved the strength of their wrist muscles in the casted arm, while in the non-exercising group the strength of wrist muscles decreased by 20 per cent.

These findings, published in the *Journal of Applied Physiology*, may one day be applied to standard of practice for injury recovery. The work was also featured in a recent article in *The New York Times*. ■

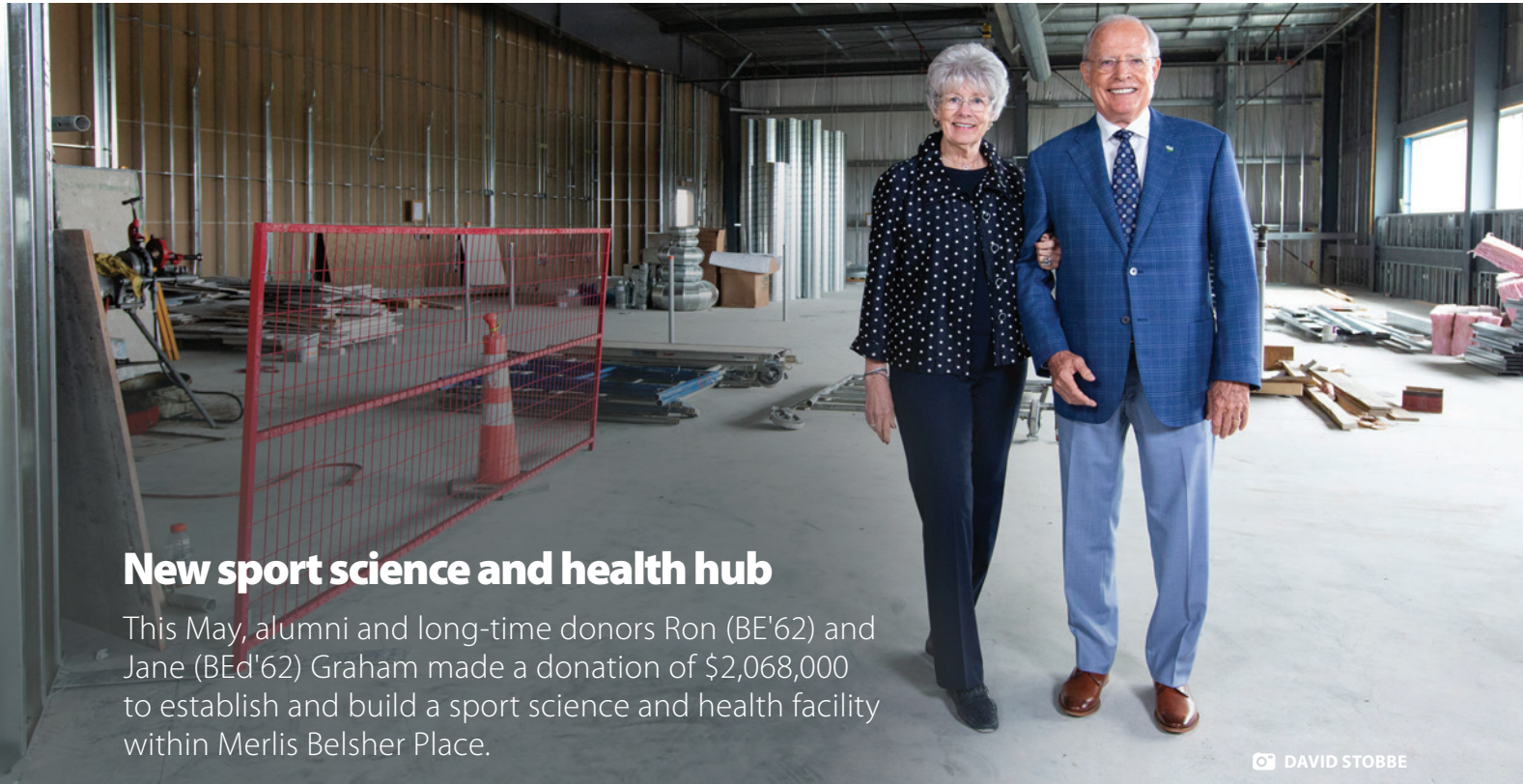


Alumna granted cannabis retail licence

A week before her spring graduation from the Edwards School of Business, Cierra Sieben-Chuback (BCOMM’18) was awarded one of seven licences in Saskatoon—and one of only 51 permits granted in the province from 1,502 applications—to establish a retail cannabis store.

For the 23-year-old, it was the culmination of a whirlwind week of completing her business plan and filing her request for proposal before the province’s April deadline, all while studying for her final exams.

Sieben-Chuback is preparing to put her commerce degree to good use by establishing her first business and getting in on the ground floor of the potentially lucrative recreational cannabis market. She has trademarked her business name, Living Skies Cannabis, drawing on the Saskatchewan licence plate slogan, and is now working on opening her store before the end of the year, backed by her father and local business owner Glenn Chuback. ■



New sport science and health hub

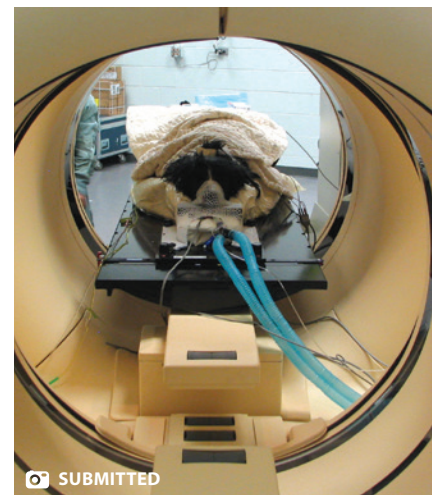
This May, alumni and long-time donors Ron (BE'62) and Jane (BEd'62) Graham made a donation of \$2,068,000 to establish and build a sport science and health facility within Merlis Belsher Place.

DAVID STOBBE

The new facility, which will be named the Ron and Jane Graham Sport Science and Health Centre, will serve to enhance the performance, conditioning, recovery and education of athletes. The facility will support research in injury prevention, nutrition and conditioning, and performance and recovery.

The Ron and Jane Graham Sport Science and Health Centre will also offer a range of physiological, biomechanical and psychological performance assessments and sport psychology coaching for student-athletes and athletes from across Saskatchewan. ■

Merlis Belsher Place is set to open this fall. Read more about this exciting new facility on page 37.



SUBMITTED

PET-CT for pets

The Western College of Veterinary Medicine (WCV) at USask will soon be home to Canada's first PET-CT unit dedicated to animals, thanks to an Alberta donor whose \$2.5-million gift is the largest private donation in WCV's history.

Edmonton-based businesswoman and philanthropist Cathy Roozen made the personal contribution to the WCV because of her strong interest in the veterinary college's clinical and research programs.

With this technology, the WCV will join a select group; only five other veterinary colleges in North America have a PET-CT unit available for clinical use in animals as well as for animal-human health research studies. ■



All fun and games

MARTIN LIPMAN

Computer science professor Regan Mandryk, whose ground-breaking research involves developing digital game technology to assess mental health, has been awarded one of Canada's highest honours for young scientists.

Mandryk is among six university researchers across Canada who received the prestigious E.W.R. Steacie Memorial Fellowship by the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada (NSERC). Mandryk will be awarded \$250,000 over two years to advance her research, enabling her to devote time and energy entirely to the work. In addition, the fellowship will provide

USask up to \$90,000 a year for a replacement to perform her teaching and administrative duties for the duration.

Working with industry partners such as gaming giant Electronic Arts, Mandryk has done pioneering work in using elements of digital games to design interventions in both physical and mental health. ■

Preserving history

University of Saskatchewan researchers in archaeology and anthropology are assisting the Muskowekwan First Nation and the National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation to preserve the last remaining residential school in Saskatchewan.

They'll join researchers from the University of Alberta at the Muskowekwan Residential School to examine a number of sites that are believed to be the final resting place for several Indigenous children who attended the school.

Located near Lestock, Sask., the school has been left in its original condition. Survivors and community members previously voted against its demolition, electing to leave it intact as a reminder to future generations. ■

Dig it

Ever since she was a young girl, Lauren Rooney has wanted to be an archaeologist.

Now an archaeology student in the College of Arts and Science, Rooney is working toward her dream. Although she is only in her second year of studies, she has already made a significant discovery.

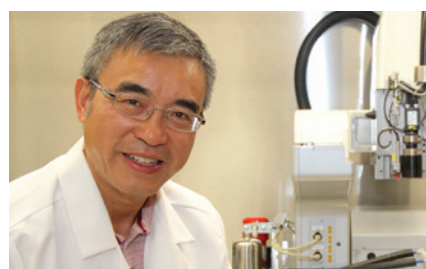
In May 2018, Rooney was at the Wolf Willow dig site at Wanuskewin Heritage Park, a national historic site located five kilometres outside of Saskatoon. It was there that she discovered an Iniskim, a bison-shaped figure collected by the Blackfoot people. While the figure is about 800 years old, it is made from a fossil that is more than 66 million years old, according to Wanuskewin.

"I was very excited when I found the Iniskim. I knew it was going to be something special as soon as I picked it up. It was my first major find of the field school so, no matter what it was, I was going to be over the moon about it," said Rooney. ■



No bones about it

Strand by strand, and layer by layer, Daniel Chen (PhD'02) is inching closer to repairing and rebuilding bones with the use of 3D printing technology.



A leader in the exciting and emerging field of tissue engineering, Chen's interdisciplinary research team is working with the 3D-Bioplotter (printer) in the University of Saskatchewan's Bio-fabrication Laboratory to develop new ways to help restore bone function in individuals who have suffered serious trauma, infection, disease or defects.

Chen was one of 12 USask researchers who were awarded Collaborative

Innovation Development grants in March from the Saskatchewan Health Research Foundation, receiving \$50,000 in funding over the next 18 months for his new project. Chen's team is bioengineering bone substitutes (known as scaffolds) and employing the world-class imaging technology of Canada's only synchrotron in the Canadian Light Source facility on USask's campus to track the effectiveness of their new bone regeneration strategies. ■

A lot goes on between issues of the **Green & White...** stay connected.



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Nominations open for University Senate members

Senators connect the university to the community and have authority over matters such as selection of the chancellor, awarding of honorary degrees and making regulations concerning non-academic student discipline.

Nominations are open for four member-at-large and 10 district positions. Elected senators will serve a three-year term beginning July 1 and are eligible for re-election after three years.

Election procedures

Only members of convocation¹ can be nominated. Nominees for district members must reside in that district; there are no restrictions on where members-at-large reside.

Nomination forms and more information are available at usask.ca/secretariat or by calling 306-966-4632. You may also draft your own form. Nominations must include a 200-word biography, be signed by at least three members of convocation and be endorsed by the candidate.

Send your nomination by March 1, 2019 to:
Beth Bilson, University Secretary
University of Saskatchewan
E281 Administration Building, 107 Administration Place
Saskatoon, SK S7N 5A2
Or by email: senate.nominations@usask.ca

usask.ca/secretariat

1. Convocation includes the chancellor, members of Senate and all graduates of the USask.



SWEETMOON PHOTOGRAPHY

HENRYTYE GLAZEBROOK

The young woman across from Zoey Roy (BEd'17) was terrified.

She'd been skipping class, afraid that Roy was going to hurt her if they crossed paths in the hallways, and as a result the two teenagers had been pulled into a mediation session at their high school.

The goal of the session was to find out exactly what was going on and get everyone back to their studies, but for Roy the sit down turned out to be revelatory.

"People were scared of me," Roy said. "I thought that was powerful, but in that situation she was scared to come to school and that hurt me. I'm actually a very sensitive person, and that was just how I had to portray myself.

"I was trying desperately to be in control of my own life. I guess in some ways that meant controlling other people at that time."

It was this moment of understanding—of discovering, even at just 15 years old, that she had as much power in the role of tormentor as she did in an act of diplomatic empathy—that brought Roy to where she is today, splitting her efforts between

artistic output as a poet and working as a community-based educator in Saskatoon.

Her life up until that pivotal sit down had been one of near-constant disarray, beginning with the moment she left home at 13. The intervening years saw her boarding with whichever friend would take her in, mixing in with bad crowds and racking up four criminal charges and 28 visits to Saskatoon's Kilburn Hall youth detention facility. Roy even relocated to her father's care in British Columbia on a deferred custody order to prevent serving a longer stint in jail.

And it was all spurred on because of a crisis of identity.

"It wasn't like my parents did anything wrong," Roy said. "It was just me trying to make sense of myself and thinking that I needed to play a certain part in order to become what I idolized. I had this perspective of myself that I was Indigenous and Indigenous is synonymous with poor."

After Roy returned to Saskatoon and started buckling down, finding employment and going through that same mediation session at Mount Royal Collegiate, she got to thinking about taking action in the community.

It started with an underpass that flooded every time it rained, forcing her to dodge

the cars on the street above on her way to class. A few calls to the city, the media and her school, and suddenly the newspaper was touting her as an activist.

Next she partnered with the City of Saskatoon, hosting a party that dovetailed speakers from the government and the University of Saskatchewan with pizza, performers and dancing to educate people on the power of voting.

"There was an election and I was eligible to vote, but I didn't know how to vote," she said. "I didn't know why I should vote, where I should vote, who I should vote for—what do these parties even mean? I was asking myself all these questions, and then I thought that if I had these questions then other people do too."

It was the first time that Roy felt she could be a real leader of the people—not just for Indigenous youth or for those who'd been in jail, but for everyone.

The thought was inspiring. Afterwards, Roy went onto a path of ever-expanding successes that includes an education degree through the Saskatchewan Urban Native Teacher Education Program (SUNTEP), working as a focal point with the United Nations' Global Indigenous Youth Caucus, the pursuit of a masters in public policy with the Johnson-Shoyama Graduate School of Public Policy, and collaborating with Marcel Petit and Jeremy Morgan to design and launch the first-ever Indigenous Artist in Residence Position at USask.

Roy plans to one day relocate to Toronto, where she hopes to launch an art-centric, community-based learning program she calls the Helping Young People Engage (HYPE) Foundation. She came up with the concept as a means of giving youth just like she once was—forgotten and angry at the world—an outlet to express themselves through positive means.

She remembers sitting in that mediation room, taking in the helpless gaze of another young woman petrified at the very idea of what Roy then represented, and how something as simple as ceding a little power to that individual helped each of them gain a greater sense of security and control.

"I could award her power just by saying, 'You're safe here,'" Roy said.

"How do I make everyone feel that they're safe? That's really what we're all looking for, isn't it? A feeling of safety." ■



SUBMITTED

NAOMI ZUREVINSKI

When Conrad Neufeldt (BCOMM'10) started working as a mortgage broker in 2014, he quickly realized the mortgage industry was outdated.

From there, the idea for a mortgage app was born. Neufeldt pulled together a team and the first version of his mortgage app was launched in 2015 under the name Kasper.

By changing the face of how Canadians can access mortgage information, Kasper saves clients time and money. Neufeldt's work earned him the Innovator of the Year award in 2015 with Mortgage Professionals Canada. Today, Kasper is an online web-based platform, but it holds the same capabilities as the original app.

We caught up with Neufeldt to see what his advice was for new homebuyers.

For more information on Kasper, visit getkasper.com.

Neufeldt's five tips for new homeowners:

1. Know your budget

What you're qualified for and what you can afford are sometimes two different things. Sometimes people want to get qualified for the largest mortgage they can, and a great broker can get people approved for mortgages that are a lot higher than fits their budget. **Just because you can get qualified for it doesn't mean you should take that full mortgage amount.**

2. Save for a rainy day

Set some of your savings aside for after you buy a home. Furnaces break, dishwashers leak and there's maintenance in everything, so **not dumping everything you have into the property [upfront] is important.**

3. Pre-qualify before you shop around

Before buying a home, find out what you qualify for. People have ideas in their heads and think they'll be able to get qualified at \$450,000 easily, so they start looking in that price range, but then struggle to find a good home at \$380,000, which is what they qualified for. **It's about setting expectations and the best way to do that is to find out right away what you qualify for.**

ALUMNI ADVICE WITH CONRAD NEUFELDT

Making mortgages manageable with Kasper

4. Take free advice with a grain of salt

A lot of people, especially when they're first-time home buyers, want to rely on [family]. There's nothing wrong with that, [but] oftentimes the people giving you advice bought in a very different economic time when approvals, laws and regulations were all different. It's not that their advice is wrong—it was perfect for when they bought, but it may not be the best advice for the current environment.

5. Surround yourself with knowledgeable professionals

Making sure you have a strong network of professionals to rely on is important. **If you know more than your mortgage broker or your realtor, then you are using the wrong one.** ■



Neufeldt is a speaker at USask's newest speaker series, Backpack to Briefcase, where USask alumni offer up skills and advice on issues that matter to you. Visit alumni.usask.ca for more information.

CODE

ORANGE

SASKATOON HEALTH REGION
REGISTRATION SERVICES
STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURES

CODE ORANGE

Registration Services
Refer to individual Code
Orange Plan will be located in the S

Code Orange Definition:
Code Orange is used to alert persons in the
community of casualties to the acute care site

Providing care in response to tragedy

ASHLEIGH MATTERN

April 6, 2018 is not a day anyone is Saskatchewan will soon forget.

Sixteen people died and 13 were injured in a collision between a bus carrying the Humboldt Broncos hockey team and a semi-trailer truck. The crash shook the entire Canadian hockey community and beyond.

Especially in Saskatchewan where hockey ties run so deep, most people remember where they were when they heard the news.

Heather Miazga (BSN'85) heard first through her husband, who had received a text from a fellow hockey dad.

There had been a crash, and it was looking like mass casualties.

"Almost as he was reading that out to me, I got the call," Miazga recalls.

She is the director of surgical services for the Saskatchewan Health Authority, and was on call that week for any clinical leadership advice needed, but the call came from the emergency preparedness director.

"The minute I landed... the charge nurse for the emergency department already had the emergency preparedness manual out," Miazga said. "As I'm still getting my feet on the ground, they had already started thinking through the processes."

Miazga and her family knew some of the people on the bus. Her oldest son had played for the Humboldt Broncos previously. Her younger son had played with some of the players as well.

"Saskatchewan is small," she said. "We know the hockey world."

But she had to put those emotional ties out of her mind to do her work.

"My background is critical care and emergency. Most of my career I've been involved in those areas and you need to be able to function at a high level and not be emotional about it and so I did just go into work mode and put that kind of on hold."

All hands on deck Code Orange is a hospital emergency code that alerts staff to prepare for mass casualties. It's incredibly rare; Miazga said Saskatchewan has never had a Code Orange to this magnitude.

But that doesn't mean the hospitals weren't ready.

Nipawin, Tisdale and Melfort were the nearest hospitals from the crash site and began to receive casualties between approximately five and six o'clock that evening. From there, health-care providers stabilized the injured, who were then transported into Saskatoon's Royal University Hospital (RUH) for further treatment.

"It's part of the work we do every day," Miazga said. "Planning and emergency preparedness; there are several different emergency response codes—we look at

those every year. We review them to ensure they're going to meet our needs and we've occasionally done mock exercises that test different parts of our system."

Miazga's initial task was to work with the transport physician on indexing and triaging the incoming patients. It was 3:30 a.m. by the time they had made a plan to transport the last patient and the hard work was just beginning.

Ongoing work included critical health care for the patients, as well as supporting staff, families, extended families and billet families. All this, amongst a tsunami of emotion and public interest.

"The public interest in it was almost as challenging as the critical care and added a whole other workload that had to be managed," Miazga said.

Even people with good intent, wanting to donate food, for example, created more work. Someone needed to manage that.

"It was a challenging but inspiring weekend to work through on many different levels... We all needed to do different jobs and support the team in different ways. The response to the call out when people were activating their Code Orange—it was astounding how people stepped up to the plate and responded."

Every unit has a Code Orange plan, from the clinical units, to the dietary, to the laboratory, and beyond.

"Once that Code Orange is activated, each unit has a duty and a road map to start to follow," said Miazga.

A Code Orange at one hospital also puts pressure on other health-care facilities; for example, patients had to be diverted to Saskatoon City Hospital Emergency to relieve pressure at RUH and St. Paul's Hospital so they could deal with the most critical patients.

When plans go from paper into action, though, sometimes not everything goes as planned, and critical decision making needs to happen on the fly.

Miazga said the Code Orange worked like it was supposed to, but it also showed some areas for improvement; she said communication between the new provincial teams was one detail that could be focused on for the future.



Dr. Joann Kawchuck, Scott Livingstone and Heather Miazga stand in RUH's trauma room. It was here that many of the patients received emergency care after the accident.

DAVID STOBBE

"It was likely one of the most difficult nights of their career."

SCOTT LIVINGSTONE (BSP'88, MSC'94)

Long-term impact

Scott Livingstone (BSP'88, MSC'94) is the CEO of the Saskatchewan Health Authority (SHA), and he said there have been a number of debriefs with teams, communities and stakeholders since the event to collect information and provide recommendations to improve the Code Orange response.

"Nothing is ever perfect and certainly with a Code Orange and mass casualty of this size, there are lots of things to learn," Livingstone said.

He agreed that communication was a challenge, in part because the previous plans were all written in a time before social media played such a prominent role in our day-to-day lives. Information was coming in at a fast pace, including unconfirmed details through social media, making it a challenge to properly communicate about the changing situation.

The SHA as an organization had only existed for four months prior to the tragedy, having recently made the switch from 12 health regions to one provincial authority. However, the newly formed authority had launched with its emergency response systems intact.

"Seeing how different communities responded as a collective response even when so many different partners were involved, it's reassuring to know our system was doing what it was supposed to do in these types of events," said Livingstone.

He also praised the first responders in Melfort, Tisdale and Nipawin. In particular, Livingstone said at the Tisdale hospital, 70 staff responded in less than an hour.

"Their efforts were heroic and their stabilization of the people alive on the scene—the situation could be very different if not for their efforts. Our small community health care is alive and well in rural Saskatchewan," Livingstone said.

He was notified of the collision immediately. He and others on the executive leadership team were tasked with making sure health-care providers on the ground had the resources they needed to perform their jobs.

Livingstone said it was "unprecedented" to have a Code Orange, and he's proud of the work everyone did both that night and in the months since then.

“You’re constantly preparing and training yourself. It doesn’t fully prepare you, but you can certainly rely on those leadership skills and the team based training you’ve done.”

DR. JOANN KAWCHUK (BSC’97, MD’01)

“It was likely one of the most difficult nights of their career,” Livingstone said.

Dealing with catastrophic injuries and a large number of casualties can be a challenge despite the best training and experience, Livingstone said. Mental health and counselling support is in place for any staff members who are struggling to process the experience.

He expects the events that night will have a long-term impact not only on staff, but also on Good Samaritans and first responders at the scene, and, of course, the family members and friends of the athletes.

“A tragedy like this requires not only a healing of the body, but a healing of the mind for those directly involved, and care providers and mental-health professionals are working hard to care for those affected,” said Livingstone.

“Amazing families to stand alongside”

Dr. Joann Kawchuk (BSC’97, MD’01) said she was also grateful for the unstructured support that happens amongst staff.

“An arm around you behind a curtain, to shed a tear in a moment that you need,” she said. “It’s impossible at times to access support when you’re in the middle of those things, and it was apparent very early on that everyone needed to grieve.”

Kawchuk is currently the adult critical care department head. At the time of the tragedy, she was the most responsible physician for the intensive care unit (ICU) at RUH, managing the care for the sickest patients in the hospital.

She said everyone has a visceral reaction to tragedy, that “sinking, awful feeling,” we likely all know. But when you’re in a hospital setting, you put that immediate reaction

aside and your role takes precedence. She calls that secondary feeling “anticipatory.”

“You’re constantly preparing and training yourself. It doesn’t fully prepare you, but you can certainly rely on those leadership skills and the team-based training you’ve done...”

“It feels like rehearsal come to life. The lights are on; it’s time to show what we know.”

Kawchuk said everyone stepped up their game in order to execute Code Orange and take care of the patients’ intense needs, and she has a great deal of admiration for the people who came together to make the system work.

When she thinks of the tragedy, her strongest memories are from the days following that night, in the ICU. It was a situation completely out of the ordinary. She recalls one strange moment when she was doing her rounds as usual and turned around to see the prime minister standing behind her.

The tragedy eventually made international news, garnered celebrity attention, and raised over \$15 million in a crowdfunding campaign, a national record.

But for Kawchuk and her team, they continued to stay focused and worked very closely with families to negotiate the next stages of life, or even passing. Despite the intense national and even international attention, they maintained intimacy for the families of their critically ill patients.

“I have made many gracious thank-yous to the families of people that I am lucky enough to look after when they’re in the ICU, including families specific to that time.... They were amazing families to stand alongside and share emotion alongside.” ■

What is Code Orange?

The Saskatchewan Health Authority (SHA) defines Code Orange as a call that initiates a hospital’s emergency response to a large number of incoming casualties.

The SHA says that while every Code Orange is unique, a basic emergency preparedness plan outlines what a facility’s response should be in a Code Orange situation.

The road ahead

What does the next chapter look like for the survivors?

✍️ LESLIE-ANN SCHLOSSER

“These guys in this accident, but also most of our patients that go through a major injury, are the strongest people I know.”

IVAN ENGLISH (BSC’97)

Like many people in Saskatchewan, Ivan English (BSC’97) was shocked to learn about the bus accident that claimed 16 lives on April 6.

“I was shocked at the number of injuries and how severe the crash was. You don’t ever want to hear anything like that, it was devastating,” said English.

English received his Bachelor of Science at the University of Saskatchewan and went on to the University of Toronto to study physical therapy. He works at the Saskatoon Rehabilitation Centre where he and a team of speech pathologists, social workers, occupational therapists, nurses and doctors work with patients after serious neurological injuries.

After hearing about the crash, English predicted many of the survivors would eventually make their way to the Rehabilitation Centre—which indeed many of them did after they were released from acute care.

“It didn’t take long to realize that some of them would be coming through a program like ours,” said English.

The road to recovery can be long, said English. He said one of the main factors in any patient’s success is if they are motivated to get better, something English saw in the injured players of the crash. Also, the amount of support that each one received was also an important part in adjusting after the tragedy.

“The goal is to try to help them get back to a better level of independence and

quality of life,” said English. “The amount of support that they have had from their own families has been pretty amazing. I think support in general from the public as well. It’s been impressive and overwhelming,” said English.

Of course, some roads to recovery will be a longer road than others. The injuries range and therefore everyone’s recovery has been different. English maintains the main factors to recovery is the drive to succeed and support.

“Hopefully that will take them a long way. That’s one of the major things about getting them better... it’s a journey. This is the early part of physical rehab and then there’s a whole life to lead after this,” said English.

English and his team work with hundreds of patients every year. He watches them grow, adjust, change, strive and even struggle to adapt. He labels himself as “fortunate” because he is able to work with those who have made it and he is continually amazed by the willpower of those that come through his doors.

“You’re working with some of the most motivating people you’ve ever worked with. These guys in this accident but also most of our patients that go through a major injury are the strongest people I know,” said English.

“That’s one of the greatest things of working in this area. You see the best aspects of human nature. It’s pretty inspiring to work with.” ■

PRESERVING A PLACE

USask alumni fight to keep Indigenous culture alive for the next generation.

Kevin Lewis spreads a mixture of moose brains and Dove soap onto a skin to soften it for use as a moccasin.

CHELSEA LASKOWSKI

There is no single Indigenous language or culture.

Across Canada, there may be some common ground between different Indigenous languages and cultures, but there are unique regional dialects and histories.

Dakota, Dene, Cree, Saulteaux, Michif and their different dialects are among the 58 native languages in Saskatchewan. Beyond that, the origin stories of an Indigenous community's place on the land and its cultural customs vary.

With such a wide array of local knowledge and languages of Indigenous people, it is a struggle—and some researchers say, a losing battle—to try to preserve them. The number of people who identify an Indigenous language as their mother tongue in Saskatchewan declined by more than 2,500 people between 2011 and 2016, according to Statistics Canada.¹

Despite this decline, there is a group of dedicated academics, teachers and USask alumni who have taken on the fight to preserve their culture in the classroom. They're building a lifelong understanding of Indigenous history and language not only for Indigenous people, but for students from all backgrounds.

DIY language teaching

When Fellow Pewapisconias (BEd'16) first started teaching Cree to Grade 1 and 2 students at Saskatoon's Confederation Park School, she struggled to find teaching materials.

She could find flash cards to give children a picture and Cree word to associate it with—but the cards would be in the wrong Cree dialect.

"I found that really challenging, when you're trying to reinforce this idea of language but you don't really have those materials to solidify it in the classroom," she said.

At times, she resorted to building materials herself. When she couldn't find Cree medicine wheel materials either in teacher's stores or online, she made her own, using colours and teachings specific to Cree people.

It's not the first time the 24-year-old Pewapisconias has had to lead the way. When she was in Indigenous studies at USask, as well as on the executive on the Indigenous Student Council, she took action when she saw racism circulating on campus at the idea of introducing mandatory Indigenous studies in all classes. She took it upon herself to "myth bust" people's misconceptions about education practices worldwide around the Indigenous peoples of different lands, and to meet with the president and deans to push against Euro-centric views at the university.

The work paid off, with USask now responsible for incorporating Indigenous teachings into every single college classroom.

Her push for more Indigenous education in schools is rooted in

her own experience growing up. She spent half her childhood on reserve, either on Little Pine Cree Nation or Saulteaux territories by Nipawin.

But when her family moved to Regina, she ended up in schools with very few fellow Indigenous students in "upper-class" neighbourhoods. She recalls the students, and at least one teacher, making her feel insecure about her race.

"I spent a lot of time actually trying to talk normal I guess, or in my mind, it's how to talk more white," she said. "I kind of lost myself."

But in university, Pewapisconias rediscovered her Indigenous identity. While student teaching, she found that her mostly non-Indigenous students really absorbed her style.

"If I want the audience that I'm speaking to to really understand what I'm talking about ... I have to show that passion. And in order to show that passion I need to talk about where I came from and how I got to where I am," she said, adding that showing vulnerability by sharing her own stories is a way to build trust and engage students.

Now, she envisions getting her master's degree and creating change from a higher position, helping teachers change their classrooms and clear the way to see Indigenous people as more than just people of the past.

People who have come before her are guiding the way. One of them is Darryl Isbister (BA'96, BEd'97, MEd'08). As the First Nation, Métis and Inuit co-ordinator with the Saskatoon Public School Division, he has been through a long journey.

The Métis man was born and raised in Saskatoon, and was among teachers who started prioritizing Indigenous education long before the province made treaty education mandatory in 2007. He started including Indigenous history throughout the semester in History 30, rather than leaving it as a two-week lesson at the end of the year that teachers try to cram in.

As a man with still-unanswered questions about his family's roots in Batoche and Quebec, he said the lack of focus on Métis history is a factor in his efforts.

"The biggest thing was not seeing [my own Métis culture] in the curriculum, seeing it as an add-on or not even at all," he said.

"I don't think anybody should leave high school without knowing prehistory, the pre-contact history of this land because it does impact perceptions."

To future educators, his biggest piece of advice is to be open-minded.

"Start to know who you are. Know where you are at in terms of your knowledge. And then be willing to find more. Find as much information as possible."

1. cbc.ca/news/canada/saskatoon/indigenous-language-drop-saskatoon-1.4232999



Elizabeth Zdunich embraces the Cree language and culture teachings she's received through the USask Indigenous Language Certificate program.

CHELSEA LASKOWSKI

“The biggest thing was not seeing [my own Métis culture] in the curriculum, seeing it as an add-on or not even at all.”

DARRYL ISBISTER (BA'96, BED'97, MED'08)

A way of life

USask Indigenous studies and Cree language professor Randy Morin (BEd'07) is a storyteller.

His home community is officially called Big River First Nation, but when he starts talking about its traditional name of Whitefish, which the locals call it, Morin's storytelling comes alive.

He can tell you of the origins of his community, when a man named *atihkamék*, which is Cree for Whitefish, came to the land from the muskeg, swampy land around Lake Athabasca. The game there had become scarce, but *atihkamék* fasted and had a vision of a place with plentiful game, lakes, forests and rolling hills. He and his tribe travelled for months until they came to the exact spot from his vision.

“It wasn't a place where we were placed when we signed the treaties. It was where, like we wanted to stay there. This is our land,” Morin said.

Not only does the story of the land hold a place in Morin's heart, but the way he learned to share stories does as well. He describes his upbringing as a simple one, steeped in ceremony and the Cree language (he didn't speak a word of English until Grade 2 or 3), spent trapping, hunting, fishing, running around with his cousins and doing work for local farmers to make money.

It was within the walls of the reserve's pool hall, surrounded by a jukebox and arcade games, that he and other children would sit attentive listening to Elders tell them stories in Cree.

One of Morin's greatest teachers was his kokum, or grandmother, Flora Weenonis who speaks only Cree. At the age of 106, she has always had a sense of peace in the Cree ways, which Morin says are not just linguistic.

Conversation in Cree is full of the deepest gut laughs Morin has ever had, because it's a very descriptive language that creates deep visuals. The sense of humour is, in itself, a part of the culture. The teachings are common sense, he said: to not waste anything, to pass along and share your possessions and the more you give to something the more it feeds you back—whether it's good or bad.

Living in Saskatoon now, Morin speaks Cree as much as he can.

He also seeks the sense of community he grew up with, but finds himself disappointed in how people so often seem to be content to be alone. He's bemused by how people are so fixated on keeping their lawns pristine, while he invites neighbourhood kids to come and play on his lawn—it's in keeping with his belief that the land is meant to be shared.

He speaks Cree to his children, who understand him but don't speak it back. Morin said being surrounded by English, they don't know why it's important to speak Cree. But statistics show that the number of Plains Cree speakers dropped by 2,000 in Saskatchewan between 2011 and 2016.

“It feels like I'm a lonely, lonely island, you know, trying to keep this language alive, even amongst other Cree speakers. I ask them, 'do you speak Cree to your children?' 'No.' 'Why?' 'I don't know why, it's easier to speak English.'”

These days Morin works at the University of Saskatchewan, and is developing a Cree Language Certificate Program. The program is meant to create language teachers who can create fluent speakers.

It's imperative work.

We can expect half of the 6,000-plus languages in the world to risk being lost over the next century, according to a 2010 UNESCO report. In 2011, just 15 per cent of Indigenous people in Canada identified an Indigenous language as their mother tongue. Half a century earlier, that number was 87 per cent, according to the National Geographic Society's Enduring Voices Project.²

Morin said the mentality that “we need to teach them how to read and write” needs to give way for more successful methods that focus on getting people speaking the language first. The languages are structured too differently for the same methods to work for Cree, in which words mean different things depending how they're used in a sentence.

As he squares up to the challenges to come, he keeps in mind the ancestors whose stories he collects and shares.

“They fought, they died, they were persecuted, you know, for us to maintain and retain our languages and our culture. That would be just a big slap to their face if we don't do that,” he said.

Language Learning

Sitting in a lawn chair at Wanuskewin Heritage Park, Kevin Lewis (BA'01, BEd'03, CERTEE'03) watches his USask Indigenous Language Certificate program students scrape hair off a hide that's been stretched out on a wooden apparatus. At another station, other students shake the hide, stretching it out.

The group shares laughs as the older “master speakers,” fluent Cree speakers, discuss what they're doing with the newer speakers. The apprentice-master relationship is a fast way to learn language, Lewis said.

2. utoronto.ca/news/lost-words-how-dozens-indigenous-languages-canada-are-danger-disappearing

His certificate pupils are teachers from across the province who devote their own time each weekend immersing themselves in the Cree language and cultural practices.

Falynn Baptiste drives up from North Battleford, and did the same thing during the school year. Her mother had always spoken Cree to her, and while she understands it she's just now learning to speak it.

There is a sense of urgency and obligation to her studies as knowledge-keeping Elders are dying.

“We're taking fragmented pieces and trying to put together a narrative and it's difficult. It's scary actually. Partway through the course I cried because I thought I'm never going to know what I need to know in this lifetime because there isn't enough time,” she said.

She wrote a paper in Grade 8 about how she thought the Cree language was going to disappear, and turn into something only learned about in books. Now, at 35, she feels things have come full circle.

“I love that I will be a part of keeping it alive,” she said.

Lewis believes learning Cree restores people, not just the language. He said the lessons give people confidence and an understanding that their people had sophisticated societies and technologies before settlers came.

Coming from the Ministikwan Lake Cree Nation, he sees himself in the traditional Cree role of a scout: a man who leaves home but frequently returns to share what he has learned. He has been a teacher, vice principal and band councillor on the reserve.

Growing up at Ministikwan, he learned English through shows like *The Muppets*. And when he started learning the two languages in school he never felt overwhelmed.

“That's what I say to immersion teachers, the students are like sponges,” he said.

Lewis' eyes light up when he talks about the changes he already sees in Saskatoon: a syllabic sign on Broadway Avenue that shows the Cree words for “river and sky,” a playwright who incorporates Cree into his scripts.

He's a visionary. He wants to see a full immersion school in Saskatoon, and has had parents support the idea.

“We have a voice too,” he said.

But on this day at Wanuskewin, Lewis' focus is on the students who need a hand spreading a modern oiling mix of moose brains, Dove soap and other liquids to spread on a skin, softening it up to be used for making moccasins. The plan is for his students to graduate with their moccasins on.

The strong smell lingers in the air as Lewis' gloved hands glide over the skin, and the sound of his students speaking to each other in a mix of new and well-seasoned Cree is a show of culture in action. ■

A TESTAMENT OF STRENGTH

Heather Kuttai at her home in Saskatoon. As a former Paralympian, current writer and activist, Kuttai has fought for the rights of others with disabilities.

LISA LANDRIE

Heather Kuttai (BA'94, MSC'09) was only six years old when a car accident took away her ability to walk.

HENRYTYE GLAZEBROOK

She doesn't remember much more than flashes from the crash, both because of her young age and because of the trauma incurred when the vehicle came to a twisting, grinding halt. Still, there's a kind of muscle-memory that has burned into her body even all these years later.

"I remember distinctly being really uncomfortable and lying on the side of the highway," Kuttai said. "They dragged me out and laid me on a piece of cardboard. I remember how the asphalt felt under my fingers. I remember being very uncomfortable and scared, because I couldn't feel my legs at that point."

"It was a big car crash and people weren't exactly listening to the six year old. They were trying to find my dad, who was working on the farm half a mile or so down the road."

It's been 42 years since that fateful night permanently put Kuttai in a wheelchair, but in the intervening time she has carved out a more than comfortable place in the world

for herself. If you ask her directly, she'll refer to herself professionally as a writer, human rights commissioner and disabilities activist. Between those words, you get a clear picture of her as a dedicated mother and warm friend.

What might be lost in that first impression, however, are the years that Kuttai spent among the finest athletes in the world, training tirelessly in pursuit of competition at the Paralympic Games and returning home with one bronze and two silver medals.

Kuttai's introduction to target shooting came through her father, who saw his then 12-year-old daughter struggling to express herself athletically as she entered junior high. He brought her along to some of his own competitions, where she took aim alongside contestants her own age and discovered a natural love for the sport—even finding herself outpacing the able-bodied entrants in her purview, creating a rally for her to move into wheelchair sports despite her reticence. "I didn't have any

peers, I didn't have any mentors and I did not see my disability as any kind of positive," Kuttai said of the change into para-athletics. "It was a thing I tried to cover up and a thing I tried to pretend wasn't there. I was so busy trying to be like everybody else that the concept of wheelchair sport was not only foreign, I wanted nothing to do with it."

Kuttai's father did what any good parent would do when faced with an immensely talented, yet stubborn, child: he bribed his daughter, convincing her with any means he had to chase her skill through to national competition in Calgary, Alta.

"I made the national team," Kuttai said, recalling the moment that hobby transformed into ambition before her eyes. "I still didn't want to be a part of any of it, and then the national coach called me up and said, 'World championships are in a couple of months in California and I would like you to go.'"

"I was 17 and there was an invitation to California, so I went."

Feeding your ambitions

Colette Bourgonje (BSPE'84, BED'85) doesn't have a specific moment when she knew she wanted to chase the Paralympics.

She likes to say that she got all the competitive genes in her family. Even when a car accident left her paraplegic at 18, it wasn't long before the gravitational pull of athletics drew her into sit skiing.

"I just enjoyed competing," Bourgonje recalls. "That really evolved into just being the best that I could be. I think initially it was competing against others, and now it's more evolved into challenging myself and competing against myself."

It's this competitive spirit that has come to define Bourgonje's life. First, she was a success story of someone who'd lost so much and still returned to the athletics she loved. Then she was the first ever student in a wheelchair to earn a bachelor's degree in physical education at the University of Saskatchewan. Later, she rode her stark determination to seven winter and three summer Paralympics, winning four bronze medals at the summer games and another three bronze and three silver at their winter counterpart.

Each of these accomplishments are cherished memories for Bourgonje, but it's her performance at the Vancouver 2010 Winter Games' 10-kilometre sit ski race that

holds a special place in her heart. The race marked the first time in Paralympic history that a Canadian medaled on home soil. To hear her tell the story, it's clear that the race has etched a permanent, crystal-clear impression on her mind even to this day, despite a rocky start.

"I flipped the sled, actually," Bourgonje said. "I was in the lead, and it was going great. I was probably in the best shape ever, really, but I was super aggressive — a little bit too aggressive—and made a little bit of an error on a downhill. I didn't think I was going to make it. I thought if I did get anywhere, it might be a bronze."

"Getting up, my first thought was that I broke a ski or something. I don't even remember the effort. There's only a couple of times in your life where you're so focused and you feel unbelievably strong, and I definitely pounded the rest of the 10K out."

Today, Bourgonje remains as active as ever even though she's since retired from competition, seeking out young para-athletes to coach through a contract with the Saskatchewan Ski Association and training others at various levels—anything to leave her mark on the generation racing behind her, gaining ground each day.

"There's a little guy in Canoe Lake who was in Grade 3 and couldn't ski with his class because he has cerebral palsy," she said of one of her proteges. "His feet wouldn't stay in the boots and he wasn't able to ski with his class, so he was crying. I took him a mountain board, which you can rest the sit ski on so you can train in the summer. He totally loved it."

The next wave

It was someone just like Bourgonje and Kuttai—a Paralympian by the name of Ilana Dupont—who inspired Julian Nahachewsky (BCOMM'13, JD'17) to spring back from the accident that paralyzed him from the waist down.

Nahachewsky was "just a 19-year-old kid" when one wrong jump on his snowboard, too much air and a bad fall snapped his spine at his T-12 vertebrae. Only a month later, an invitation to visit the Cyclones Road and Track Club convinced him his life in sports wouldn't change just because his means of participating had.

"A big part of learning to compete with a disability is seeing others and knowing where to set your standard and quality of



CANADIAN PARALYMPIC COMMITTEE

Colette Bourgonje competes in the Sochi 2014 Winter Games.

"I think initially it was competing against others, and now it's more evolved into challenging myself and competing against myself."

COLETTE BOURGONJE (BSPE'84, BED'85)

"There are challenges that are traumatic that people deal with, but you see the people who are winners and who keep going—I think that's a testament to our strength."

JULIAN NAHACHEWSKY (BCOMM'13, JD'17)

life," he said. "Through that club, I was able to see a whole bunch of really independent people live their lives. A paraplegic driving a full-size F350, getting in and out of that where some people might still be coddled—that was fundamental for me."

Before long, wheelchair athletics grew into a passion. Describing himself as taking "part-time school in order to train full-time," Nahachewsky started pushing himself to compete harder, racing nationally, internationally and even representing Canada at the 2013 paratriathlon world championships in London, England. In his spare time, he helped found a hand-cycling club and took up sit skiing to stay active in the winter months.

"Anybody still continuing to live life after a life-altering injury, it's always good," he said. "It shows human willpower. Obviously there are challenges that are traumatic that people deal with, but you see the people who are winners and who keep going—I think that's a testament to our strength."

It can be difficult these days for Nahachewsky to balance his love of racing with his burgeoning career as a lawyer with Miller Thompson LLP in Regina, SK. But whether he's heading for mountains with his sit ski in tow or staying at the office late finishing paperwork, he's always striving for excellence.

"Why not be some of the best at what you do?" Nahachewsky said. "Racing's fun and it was a good group of people, but I just wanted to be the best. Even now, as a lawyer, I don't want to be average. I want to be among the best."

Beyond heroes or victims

It would be easy to say that it was the first time she sat in her wheelchair, the first time her dad handed her an air rifle, or that fateful trip to California that launched Kuttai toward her many staggering achievements. But listening to her speak, there's no denying that there was always a champion spirit behind each and every accomplishment.

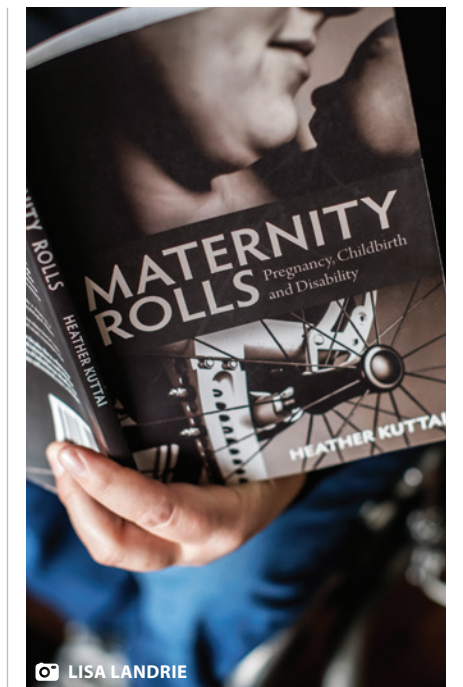
"I don't know why we would want to live any other way," Kuttai said. "We don't get a lot of time as people, and I can't imagine not trying to make a difference every day. It feels like a waste of a gift to not strive for something better."

But even more critical to Kuttai is the importance of denying easy narratives. Hers is a life that skirted catastrophe far earlier than anyone would hope, sure, but it's also one in which she's made bold strides for herself and for others; pioneering the University of Saskatchewan's Disabilities Services for Students and creating several retention programs, becoming a much sought after public speaker and recently authoring *Maternity Rolls*, a book detailing the unique experience of raising children as a paraplegic.

But all obstacles and achievements aside, Kuttai takes umbrage with her story, or that of anyone else with disabilities, being pushed into corners often reserved for superheroes and victims.

She's just living life the only way she knows how.

"That word, 'inspire,' is a tricky one for me," she said. "I don't aspire to live as an



LISA LANDRIE

Maternity Rolls looks at the unique challenges of raising children as a paraplegic.

inspiration. If I'm going to inspire anything, I hope it is to have people see that we are just regular people living regular lives and trying to do the best that we can in this world.

"I hope to inspire disability as an identity—as a positive identity, as an identity that fluctuates and that that's okay. It's okay to feel crappy about it some days and good about it others. It's not an either-or kind of construct." ■

A bold new plan

A message from President Peter Stoicheff



Universities are needed now more than they have ever been, and that is certainly true for the University of Saskatchewan. To be a university for the future, it is incumbent upon us to stay connected to the communities we serve, locally and globally—to contribute to them and, in so doing, to be the university the world needs.

Guiding us towards achieving this aspiration is our 2025 University Plan. Built through consultation and collaboration it evolves from our 2016 Mission, Vision and Values, and is informed by and takes us beyond previous integrated plans.

This 2025 University Plan is grounded in our strengths. As our Vision document

states, “we use interdisciplinary and collaborative approaches to discovery.” No other research-intensive, medical-doctoral university in Canada has the array of colleges and interdisciplinary schools we do. None has the unique scientific infrastructure we have, nor our unique signature areas through which we are having a global influence. We have an unparalleled breadth of expertise in our professional colleges, social science disciplines, humanities and fine arts departments, and fundamental and applied science units. Together, we have the tremendous variety of programming and research—and the faculty, staff and student talent—to serve and inspire our communities: this city, this province, this country and beyond.

Fundamental to all of this is the key role our university plays in reconciliation. This plan must impel us, and clarify our purpose, in this regard. It is fundamental because we will achieve much when we are a strong university of common purpose, a trusted partner in the national imperative of reconciliation, engaging together the many communities we serve in an era of unprecedented political and technological change.

Our challenge, to be met in this plan, is to make this whole greater than the sum of its parts. When we are successful at doing so, students around the globe will see the university in particular as a place to develop knowledge and skills they need to thrive in a future defined by constant change. Faculty will view the university as a place that creates unmatched possibilities for collaboration, discovery and impact. Staff will find inspiration in the opportunity to create solutions—systems, practices, physical spaces—that reflect the university’s ambition. Our diverse communities will engage with and find inspiration in everything we do. We will take our place among the world’s top institutions of higher learning.

And in the process we will be the university the world needs. I invite all of us to join together in reaching that aspiration. ■

Peter Stoicheff
President and vice-chancellor

Grit McCreath (BEd’91), USask honorary ambassador, tells us why alumni have a role to play in the University Plan.

I am a graduate of the College of Education and spent 32 years as a teacher and administrator in both public and private schools at all levels. For the last 13 years, I have felt I owe a debt of gratitude to the university for giving my parents a wonderful opportunity in their new-found homeland and providing a terrific launch for my brothers and myself.

My husband Scott McCreath (BComm’69) and I always stressed the importance of education to our own children. In our immediate family, there are more than 25 degrees from USask. Since 2006, I have proudly served on the USask Senate, the Board of Governors and now as the honorary university alumni ambassador.

Like all of you, our degrees from USask are just the beginning. From the day we graduate, all we do and all we accomplish,

we do as alumni. No matter what we call it—a family, a clan, a network—being a USask alumni is a great connector. We are students for a short time, but alumni for a lifetime! All of us should feel integral to the fabric of this incredible institution.

It’s important to stay connected to our alma mater. This will ensure we remain part of USask forever and we experience a lifetime of learning. We share common roots, work ethic, independent spirit and a strong sense of community—we are USask proud!

As well, we have an unbelievable opportunity to mentor. There are examples of this in every college. How fantastic is it to learn from those who have walked the same path and had similar experiences. My husband Scott is experiencing one of his life’s highlights ▶

Debra Pozega Osburn on the three commitments of the University Plan

Courageous Curiosity

“We’re not afraid to ask the questions that need to be asked. We’re not afraid to confront the things that need to be confronted. You can do that at a big research university and at the University of Saskatchewan you can do it in a powerful way because we have our deep roots in Saskatchewan and we have a certain set of values.”

Boundless Collaboration

“We collaborate and we forge partnerships no matter what we’re doing. Boundless means exactly what it says; there is no limit to our ability and willingness to collaborate.”

Inspired Communities

“The more we can work with and for our communities to inspire the world, the more we can work with and for our communities to address society’s needs for the next generation.”

(cont’d) volunteering as the executive-in-residence with students at the Edwards School of Business.

Alumni are a valuable asset and staying connected is paramount. Alumni want to know what USask is accomplishing so they can spread the word. They are the most passionate ambassadors, champions, advocates and cheerleaders. There is so much to be proud of—the list of the more than 152,000 of us in 120 countries and the accomplishments are formidable! People are willing and enthusiastic about

The discovery process

Becoming the university the world needs

With the updated Mission, Vision and Value statement establishing its path, along with the framework from the existing three integrated plans, the University Plan began to take shape in 2016.

“Those first three integrated plans plus the Mission, Vision and Values allowed us to look at a University Plan that was outwardly facing and focused not on what we want to be as a university but on what the world needs us to be as a university,” said Debra Pozega Osburn, vice-president of University Relations.

From those building blocks, the plan underwent extensive consultation. Pozega Osburn calls this phase the discovery process. Community groups, University Council, leadership teams, alumni, Indigenous leaders and students, among many others, were given the opportunity to provide insight, knowledge and feedback on what they thought the University Plan should be.

“We wanted to bring the community in to the formation of this plan in some really powerful ways,” said Pozega Osburn, who maintained that listening was the key factor in building the guiding commitments of the Plan.

“As we were prompting these conversations and listening, the three commitments developed. These are words that were brought forward when talking about the plan and these are the major ideas that we heard over and over again.”

The three commitments of the University Plan were then framed from the conversation resulting in Courageous Curiosity, Boundless Collaboration and Inspired Communities. From each of these commitments, goals were built, guideposts were developed and aspirations were established. All of the layers were built based on the input from the discovery process.

“What people are telling us and what we heard through this whole discovery process is that people expect great things of us. They think that there are things that we can accomplish, areas in which we can lead, areas in which we can collaborate and partner, things we can do to inspire that will make a big difference in the world,” said Pozega Osburn.

Pozega Osburn said USask alumni played a valuable role by bringing their expertise to the table during the discovery process. Alumni can act as ambassadors, she said, and she is excited for the group’s involvement as the university gets to work moving the plan forward.

“It became clear that alumni want to be involved in our university in new ways, in mutually beneficial ways and in productive ways. That is so important for a university to succeed. It’s a gift to us that our alumni want to be a part of our future,” said Pozega Osburn. “Nobody can tell our story the way our alumni can tell our story.” ■

“From the day we graduate, all we do and all we accomplish, we do as alumni.”

giving back—they just have to asked. Alumni can mentor, provide scholarship funding, collaborate with the university to come up with creative ways to become financial partners for new initiatives. They are generous in sharing wisdom and experiences. Their networks and expertise are barometers that help guide the university.

Alumni are enthusiastic supporters of the University of Saskatchewan and their commitment and influence are treasures. ■

AGENTS OF CHANGE

In Saskatchewan, women have always played a vital role in farming. For some immigrant women, this meant pulling the plow alongside their husbands and children.

For others, it meant a secondary role tending gardens, raising animals, cooking and feeding the male field workers and threshing crews.

DEE HOBSBAWN-SMITH

However, the past is just that: the past. Today looks a lot different from the days of hand plows and horse-drawn machinery. Women are stepping up, seeing greater presence in agriculture's business boardrooms and fields.

According to the World Bank, women make up almost half of the world's farmers. Those numbers vary in the western world. On Saskatchewan farms, the number of women working solo on farms rose marginally between 2011 and 2016, from 1,385 to 1,965. As of 2016, 11,275 women farmed provincially. But, as several USask alumni have proven, the extended world of agriculture and bioresources is vaster than the farms of the prairies.

Susan Blair (BSA'88) currently works in southern Ontario in the field of animal health pharmaceuticals. As Boehringer Ingelheim's executive director of animal health, she leads a team that brings preventative and specialty therapeutic pharmaceutical products for livestock and companion animals to market.

"I landed in a very different part of life and in a different part of the country than I would have planned," she commented wryly. "I spend my workdays thinking about three things: the industry itself—the Canadian animal health business; people, both customers and the internal talent we are building; and strategy—where we are going and how we will get there."

Raised on her family's grain and cattle farm near Lanigan, Sask., Blair recalls writing a paper for school in Grade 4 detailing how she was going to get a degree and farm, just like her father and grandfather. But she also recalls her father telling her unequivocally, "You can't just farm, you need an education first. No one can take that from you in tough times."

His words proved prophetic. Blair, who went on to earn both her degree and buy land near the family holdings, lost her land in the economic downturn of the late 1980s, when high land prices and interest rates combined with drought and global trade wars drove commodity prices through the floor. Blair moved laterally into pharmaceutical sales with Pfizer, hoping to eventually return to farming. She never did. Instead, curious and ambitious, she shifted her focus from livestock to companion animals, and took on marketing, leadership and global assignments.

She parlayed her farm background into a corporate leadership role that eventually landed her with Boehringer Ingelheim, a global, research-driven pharmaceutical company. In doing so, Blair received a lot of support but initially her mentors were mostly male. In her turn, Blair has grown into a role as a respected champion of women, notably speaking in 2015 at the annual Advancing Women in Agriculture conference.

Blair's gratitude for her wide-ranging cultural and business experiences has accrued interest.

"I would not be where I am now without that diversified background," she said, laughing. "It's a complicated life," she conceded. "You need to be agile, accountable, adaptive, entrepreneurial, a risk-taker. I aspire to making a positive difference to my people and to the animal health industry."

By all standards, she has achieved just that.

"You need to be agile, accountable, adaptive, entrepreneurial, a risk-taker. I aspire to making a positive difference to my people and to the animal health industry."

SUSAN BLAIR (BSA'88)

Fran Walley (PhD'93) serves as USask's College of Agriculture and Bioresources associate dean (academic). Deeply involved in farm-related research, like current AgBio dean Mary Buhr, Walley's field is literally the ground that farming is built on: soil science.

"I've always been interested in biology," she explained. "Agriculture is in many ways applied biology. That aspect of applied science fascinates me. I'd love to farm, but it's not my path." As a scholar, she has investigated what teems underground—the life in soil—that forms the bedrock of agriculture. But she also has a pulse on the lives of women who enter the field.

"Agriculture continues to evolve and programs within the College of Agriculture and Bioresources have also evolved from a

single undergraduate Bachelor of Science in Agriculture," she said.

"Nowadays, along with the many majors (within the BSA), we also offer Bachelor of Science degrees in renewable resource management, agribusiness and animal bioscience. All of our programs, including the BSA, attract a lot of women. More than 50 per cent of our undergrads are female. In addition to training future farmers, we train scientists and agronomists, researchers, people who go into sales, consulting, environmental consulting, finance, government and academia. The diversity of jobs and careers reflects just how closely our provincial economy is tied to agriculture. This college touches the entire world."

Walley admits that even as societal customs toward child-rearing evolve, women who carry the weight professionally often still have to balance their home lives and careers. "The same issues face any woman balancing family and professional lives, and there can be extra challenges in terms of progressing professionally."

Women are pursuing careers in all aspects of agriculture and contribute meaningfully, she said. "Farming is a very complex business, with many complex considerations—science, agronomy, marketing, food processing for value added. To capture that diversity, education provides a really solid background."

Finding those skilled farmers, male or female, is part of the role played by Debra Hauer (BSA'79), currently manager of Agri LMI (Labour Market Information) in Ottawa. In her youth, Hauer was actively involved on the family farm near Lloydminster, Sask. She earned her masters in education in 2008 in Ottawa, and taught agriculture courses at the college level in Regina, where she served as executive director of the Saskatchewan 4-H Council before serving with an Indigenous women's organization in the North.

In her current role, Hauer returned to her farming education background. She describes her job as finding and identifying people in agriculture, having the right number of people with the right skills, encouraging family businesses, ensuring that there are sufficient well-trained people in the agricultural workforce. To clarify the difficulty, she suggests thinking about children age five to 14 who will be taking over farms in the coming decades. "There are not a lot of kids in rural areas," she said. "Where will [farm] people come from in the future?"

Hauer was never tempted to farm herself.

"At the time when I might have, there was a lot of consolidation, changes that resulted in fewer, but bigger, farms. My roots are in farming, though, and I enjoy working in a farm-related industry," she said.

For women looking to make their names on the corporate side of agriculture, she has some succinct advice. "Women need to grab the opportunities. Find an individual or a group to serve as your personal board of directors. You need a champion to advocate for you if you aspire to a board position."

Katelyn Duncan (BSA'14) bears witness to this need for supportive mentors in farming.

"At age 12, I knew I wanted to be a farmer," Katelyn recounted. "I told my uncle. He said 'Awesome! You will do well.' That's the best kind of support you can get from an older farmer."

She and her sister, Mary Jane Duncan-Eger (BSA'13), manage the family farm south of Regina, where the women and their brother were raised. Duncan-Eger and her husband live and work on their



MARK TAYLOR

own farm near Coronach, two hours from Regina, but she also puts in long hours on the family farm with Duncan, their brother and father.

The path to putting "family" on the farm has not been easy. Duncan's sister had originally planned on a medical career, but changed course and studied agricultural economics. As well, the almost-inevitable conflict arose.

"Dad wasn't ready to let go when I wanted more responsibility, and I thought I knew it all after I finished university," Duncan said.

As a result, Duncan worked on other farms and as an agronomist in Saskatoon for several years. At age 25, sitting in a National Young Farmers conference in Ottawa, Duncan had an "Aha!" moment of clarity: she needed to quit, go travelling for the winter, and then move closer to the farm. "All I ever wanted to do was farm," she said simply. That winter, she used her network to land a job running a combine during harvest in Australia.

"First this guy offered me a job in the kitchen [by long-distance phonecall]," she said. "The next day, when he realized I had real experience, he asked if I'd be comfy with the boys in camper vans for two months. I told him I didn't expect any special arrangements, but I did expect a respectful work environment. My tone convinced him, that and my unwillingness to settle for the kitchen job. I ended up being the first girl he ever hired to drive combine."

After Australia came a month in Zambia, where Duncan worked long hours on an 18-hectare farm owned by an orphanage. "It was humbling, on top of experiencing culture shock," she said. "Here, maybe 12 per cent of people work in farming and related fields, so



After receiving her degree, it took Katelyn Duncan some time abroad to realize that her calling is to take over her family farm outside of Regina.

MARK TAYLOR

the North American disconnect from agriculture is staggering. In Africa, over 60 per cent of people work in food production. And it was all manual labour. We fertilized maize, dug mounds of dirt for sweet potatoes, worked with pigs and mucked out their stalls."

While in Zambia, Duncan made time to visit Ndola University's farm to investigate banana research and make a presentation on agriculture in Canada. She came home inspired.

"Farmers in Africa are passionate about the soil and what they do," she said. "The work ethic is incredible. I am a different person because of it."

As a young alumna, Duncan has already racked up some impressive credentials. During her final year of her BSA, she completed her Agriculture Technician Certificate through Sask Polytechnic. She worked as general manager of SK Ag Young Entrepreneurs, an organization that provides networking and training to young farmers. She currently serves as a director for the Canadian Young Farmer Forum and the local Conservation and Development Association. After a government job in Regina, working with farmers to rebuild trust in modern agriculture and later, in agriculture policy, Duncan and her family arrived at a compromise.

"In university, I was full of pith and vinegar," she admitted. But the situation has changed since: the women's father has started to pass the torch. "We are partners, with different strengths and weaknesses," Duncan said proudly. "My sister is stronger at finance and marketing, and I am stronger on operations and equipment. Succession plans are something every farm has to deal with. We have to make compromises to be happy and to keep the people in our lives happy."

"There's not just one definition of farmer. You have to find the one that makes you happy."

KATELYN DUNCAN (BSA'14)

At 18, Duncan wanted to be a landowner and full-time farmer by age 23. At 28, she is a full-time farmer and partway through a master's degree in policy "to give me a better big-picture understanding of our industry." More importantly, she has grown up. She realized that other experiences could help her before she committed to being a business owner. Along the way, she tapped the shoulders of other farmers and previous bosses—mostly men, all older.

"Those men are the farmers right now, and they are my tribe. But the difference between baby boomer farmers and the young farmers of today is that the new farmers want a life outside of the farm. We chase this thing called work-life balance, and try to leave room in our lives for off-farm priorities, whether that's family, kids or sitting on boards. There's not just one definition of farmer. You have to find the one that makes you happy."

Speaking for her cohort, Duncan was asked, "When is the next generation ready to take over?" Her answer: "When they show up with a long-term vision for the farm. When they show leadership and are conscientious and take the initiative. When you are willing to trust them." ■

OPENING THE DOOR

When the crisis of cancer struck Amy Smith-Morris (BSP '10), she seized an opportunity—to give voice to the hopes and fears of women her age fighting the disease.

KATHY FITZPATRICK

“It's hard to really connect and resonate with someone that's at such a different life stage than you are.”

AMY SMITH-MORRIS (BSP'10)

“How am I going to survive? And secondly, how am I going to financially survive?”

These were the first thoughts that raced through Amy Smith-Morris' mind after receiving the devastating diagnosis of ovarian cancer. It was the fall of 2016 and she was just 30 years old.

It came at a time when life was unfolding in front of her. After completing her degree in pharmacy at USask, she went on to obtain her Doctorate of Pharmacy at the University of Toronto, specializing in oncology and cancer care.

She had just married and come back from honeymooning in Italy and Greece when she found out she had a tumour the size of a football.

The symptoms had been subtle; mild weight gain which she attributed to two weeks spent eating pasta and pizza and drinking wine. There was also bad heartburn.

Her doctor sent her for an ultrasound, which revealed the mass.

Surgery quickly followed, then chemotherapy.

As cancer patients often do, Smith-Morris turned to support groups to help her through the ordeal. The problem was, those groups did not speak to her particular concerns.

“I was the youngest person there by 20 or 30 years sometimes,” she explained. The age gap meant that, even though they all had cancer, their struggles were different.

For instance, while many had grown children and paid-off mortgages, Smith-Morris wondered if she would ever be able to have children and how she could pay off her student debt.

“It's hard to really connect and resonate with someone that's at such a different life stage than you are,” she said.

Although she didn't know it then, that observation would lead her into a series of unexpected ventures.

Smith-Morris went home to Abbey, Sask. for Christmas. A question from someone in her community inspired her to act. He had confused chemotherapy with radiation.

MATT RAMAGE



Smith-Morris, who returned to powerlifting after her chemotherapy treatments, has focused her life on helping others battling cancer.

📷 MATT RAMAGE

Smith-Morris decided to livestream her chemo sessions on her Facebook page *Amydee PharmD*, to help people become better informed with the cancer treatment process.

"I just felt like if people don't know what this is like, then it's going to be even more terrifying," she explained.

It was an uncharacteristically vulnerable step for someone who thinks of herself as normally a private person.

Smith-Morris was overwhelmed by the response. The livestream received more than 26,000 views and garnered plenty of comments. They came from loved ones of cancer patients, and cancer patients themselves—including young ones like her.

"It just really seemed to break open a very quiet discussion," helping people overcome their fear of asking questions, Smith-Morris said.

In social media, she had found her support network, one that still extends around the world.

"It's so nice to be able to have someone that's parallel in your experience," she said.

Out of that came a special labour of love. Her book, *Surviv(her)*, tells the story of Saskatchewan women battling cancer.

Smith-Morris teamed up with Warman photographer Nancy Newby to produce the book, a simple collection of candid

portraits and brief passages in the women's own words. It was released in December 2017.

The inspiration came from the photo blog and book *Humans of New York*, Smith-Morris said.

In her own profile, she wrote "I was just starting. I was just getting warmed up."

Still, even among younger women with cancer each story is unique, with a power all its own. Smith-Morris mentions Christina who was diagnosed at just 19 years old. She feels a special connection with her father. He died of cancer after she recovered from hers.

"She's just so selfless," Smith-Morris said of the compassion Christina reflects in her story.

Proceeds from the book, which sells for \$40, go directly to women's cancer research. Since its release, over 250 copies have been sold. As Smith-Morris says on the *Surviv(her)* website, "Detecting and treating women's cancers needs to improve. With survival rates for ovarian cancer unchanged in the last 50 years, it's time to start demanding change."

Along with her undertakings as a print author, Smith-Morris also shares her sometimes harrowing experiences on Instagram and Facebook to educate patients and their supporters about living with cancer. And if her pursuits as an activist

"I just felt like if people don't know what this is like, then it's going to be even more terrifying."

AMY SMITH-MORRIS (BSP'10)

"If I can just help one person, then this makes it worth it."

AMY SMITH-MORRIS (BSP'10)

and author weren't enough, following surgery and chemotherapy, she has since returned to competing as a powerlifter on the national stage.

As a cancer pharmacist, she said knowledge gained through experience helps her better relate to what other patients are going through. There are some things that aren't mentioned in academic training, such as toenails that hurt and fall off after chemo.

Her efforts to educate and support other young women with cancer aligns with the philosophy she has lived by from early on in her pharmacy career: "If I can just help one person, then this makes it worth it ... my career ... my education, my exams."

Smith-Morris is focusing her attention on her Facebook and Instagram accounts. She uses Facebook to publicize charity events such as Deadlift 4 Cancer (scheduled for October 27, 2018), and share information useful to young cancer patients. She said she uses Instagram as a kind of abbreviated

blog space—putting up ideas, questions for discussion, and passing thoughts to document her experience.

Meanwhile, life for Smith-Morris is on the upswing again. She finished chemo in March 2017, and is now feeling very well and back "doing the things that (she and her husband) really love, in good health."

In addition to her work in cancer care, she is also a researcher and guest lecturer in the College of Pharmacy and Nutrition at USask. Last fall she was named one of CBC Saskatchewan's Future 40 (young leaders), winning in the Teaching and Healthcare category for her work on social media and *Surviv(her)*.

Through her experience, both as a cancer survivor and as a cancer educator, Smith-Morris is in a unique position to see all sides of everyone's story. She is certain of this: "Helping people with cancer in some regard will be in my life forever. It's like a part of me now." ■

Smith-Morris gives us her three main tips when talking to someone with cancer. For more insight, visit her website survivorher.ca.

Some days it seems like cancer is all around. As a friend or family member standing on the sidelines, it's difficult to know what to say or do when someone you love is facing this terrifying diagnosis. As both a cancer pharmacist and cancer survivor, I have learned what works and what does not. Below are three tips when talking to someone with cancer.

Don't ask for a miracle

Cancer is often thought of as just one monstrous disease but it is actually a thousand different diseases all under one umbrella term.

Some types of cancers are deadly but others are curable. Saying to someone that you're "praying for a miracle" when a cure is not only probable but likely, can be both startling and insulting.

Without knowing the specifics of a diagnosis, it's impossible to know the outcome. Some types of cancer need medicine and science rather than a miracle.

Don't over do the positivity

Everyone has bad days and this doesn't differ after a cancer diagnosis. It is completely normal and allowed. But some feel the only way to interact with someone battling cancer is to flood the conversation with positivity.

There is nothing more irritating than having rainbows and sunshine shoved at you when you really just need to get something off your chest. Statements like "well at least you have..." or "look on the bright side..." are not going to be helpful.

If someone with cancer is expressing a frustration, listen. It's that simple. Listen, provide your opinion, and move on.

Don't ask 'what can I do'

"Let me know what I can do for you" is a reflex statement almost entirely empty of meaning.

Instead of asking if there's anything you can do to help, just do. Leave supper, shovel snow, or walk the dog. It does not have to be complicated or involve a lot of planning. If you want to help, just do.

WHAT I KNOW NOW

While 3,700 students crossed the stage this past spring to receive their degrees at convocation, every USask graduate has their own unique story. Here's a look at five of our newest alumni, as they prepare for their next chapter.



What advice do you have for new students just starting university?

Prioritization and time management are very important skills to consolidate. Focus on your goals, and plan your days and study time accordingly.

Also, have realistic expectations of yourself—do not get discouraged and **always remind yourself why you have chosen to further your education and what your goals are.**

MONKIA BZDEL
MASTER OF NURSING – PRIMARY CARE NURSE PRACTITIONER



What's something you learned at USask that didn't come from a textbook?

I learned a lot about effective teamwork within a research team. My committee **provided strong mentorship and good communication** which kept me motivated and passionate.

LORELEI FORD
MASTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABILITY



Overall, how was your USask experience?

My experience at USask was very educational, fulfilling and well rounded. I transferred from Lakeland College after receiving a diploma, hoping to finish my degree and get into the work force. I ended up running into some **great professors at the university that involved me in using some unique scientific tools to conduct research**, mainly the Canadian Light Source. This research sparked the need to further my education past a bachelor's degree.

ZACHARY PERSON
BACHELOR OF SCIENCE AGRICULTURE ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE



What did you learn about yourself during your time at USask?

I learned I am very good at time management and that sometimes you have to let certain things go. For me it was Netflix, laundry and housework! This would be my advice for new students as well—use your nursing skills and **prioritize the important things in life.**

JAIMIE PETERS
MASTER OF NURSING



What advice do you have for new students just starting university?

It is about the people not the grades. **Focus on creating a reputation of positivity and deepening a relationship** with your classmates, professors, TA's and the professionals in the community.

LUCAS PUST
GEOLOGICAL ENGINEERING, MINING



“The back to school buzz was alive and well as students came back to campus this September, and our alumni were also involved in this exciting week to pass the torch to new students.”

President's message

Greetings USask alumni! Fall is such a wonderful time of year on our USask campus. The canopy of trees around the Bowl are slowly turning yellow and the air in the evening is getting brisk.

The back to school buzz was alive and well as students came back to campus this September, and our alumni were also involved in this exciting week to pass the torch to new students. Many of our alumni volunteered to lend a hand during residence move-in day and we were thrilled to have their involvement in the orientation celebration this year and welcome the future class of 2022 into our ever-growing alumni family.

This past September we celebrated eight outstanding alumni who made significant contributions to society. It was an honour to be a part of this celebration and to learn more about these inspiring individuals. Their careers and accomplishments are astounding and I am proud that USask was a prominent stepping-stone in their renowned lives. Many congratulations to this year's recipients and welcome to the esteemed group of Alumni Achievement Award winners. You can read more about each of these individuals on page 41 and 42. I encourage all alumni to nominate a peer who is deserving of this prestigious recognition.

ALUMNI NEWS

The awards gala was just the beginning of our 2018 Alumni Weekend celebrations and foreshadowed what would be a successful event. Filled with tours, lectures and celebrations, it was wonderful that so many of you came out to enjoy the festivities we had planned. Thank you to all the volunteers and committee members who made the weekend possible. Volunteers are an essential part of everything we do and we are so grateful of the time, talent and treasure that many of our alumni give back to the University of Saskatchewan.

Looking forward to 2019, I'm very excited for what is ahead. This is an exciting time for the Alumni Relations Office as we continue our work uniting alumni at home and around the world. We are committed to continue building upon our promise to be the association you need to keep you connected to your alma mater.

Even though you may no longer be on campus every single day, the bond between you and your alma mater can be as rewarding as you want to make it. Our alumni family is made stronger through your involvement! ■

Kelly Strueby (BComm'84)
President, USask Alumni Association



Read it anywhere, on any device or online at usask.ca/greenandwhite



If you no longer wish to receive a printed copy, let us know at alumni.usask.ca or, 306-966-5186 or 1-800-699-1907.



Update your contact info at alumni.usask.ca/update to make sure you get monthly e-news, event invitations, college news and more.



To read more about each of our new alumni visit us online: usask.ca/greenandwhite



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VOLUNTEER HIGHLIGHT KEN READY (LLB'76)



Ken Ready (LLB'76) has had a fulfilling career as one of the top lawyers in Canada over the past several decades. He has been recognized with many awards and accolades, including the Best Lawyer in Canada awards in Health Care Law and Medical Negligence.

Along with his impressive accolades in the legal community, Ready is a dedicated volunteer. He has been a part of many boards and organizations including the Saskatchewan Baseball Association, several theatre companies in Regina, the Arthritis Society and the Lakeview United Church.

G&W: What specifically attracted you to volunteering?

KR: I was raised in a large family where volunteering was important. As a parent, there is always an expectation to participate and to support whatever organization your children are involved in. My wife and I raised five children, each of whom were actively involved in a variety of activities; particularly sports, music, and theatre. We would dutifully volunteer. Occasionally we had to take a course or training to be a certified coach.

In almost everything that we have volunteered in, the child would move on, but either my wife Judy or I would be left behind and would continue as a volunteer. Sometimes years past the family connection. For example, I have been the commissioner for baseball for the Saskatchewan Baseball Association for about 20 years, almost all of which have been after my last child played the sport. My grandchildren are now involved. So I guess the clock has reset.

I have also been an active volunteer in other organizations because the cause or the purpose was interesting to me, personally. Like the Arthritis Society, or the Queen City Marathon or the church board that I chair. Not because I had to do these things, but because I wanted to and I enjoyed being a volunteer.

G&W: What keeps you motivated to continue to volunteer?

KR: I think that as a volunteer you need to enjoy a sense of purpose. It helps if the cause is fun or interesting work. Preferably both.

You want the organization to be successful. You want your role or contribution to be valued and to be relevant. I served on the national board of the Arthritis Society for a number of years, including acting as the national board chair. As much as I may have contributed to the success of that organization, I also found a sense of personal fulfillment. Not a measurable

factor. Just the idea that maybe I had something worthwhile to offer and that the effort was appreciated.

G&W: What types of relationships and learning experiences have you taken away from volunteering?

KR: There are some basic skills that come with almost everything you take on. I think that over time you learn a lot about the human condition—how do people think, what motivates them, how do you accomplish something cooperatively. I think that a good volunteer is a good person. Like-minded people tend to be drawn to similar interests. You usually get to work with people who are interesting, and sometimes pretty passionate about whatever the cause is. I can't easily think of anyone that I have worked with as a volunteer that I would describe as fundamentally selfish.

G&W: How do you aim to inspire others to get involved?

KR: I think most people will volunteer if asked. I am always a bit surprised when someone presents themselves and asks if they can help. I was never that self-confident. The challenge is probably in understanding if there is a good match of person and purpose. I suppose in my own circumstances, I hoped that the person who asked me to volunteer had already identified that I might be a good fit.

Although this is not news to anyone who grew up on the prairies, there is definitely a common willingness to help each other. Whether this is a cultural thing, or this is because we share miserable weather for a good part of the year and occasionally need someone to help push our car out of the snow, we seem by default to think in terms of "how can I help".

At the end of the day, I think you can very well get more out of volunteering than you put into it. That seems like a pretty good deal. ■



USask celebrates the value of volunteering.

Visit alumni.usask.ca/volunteer to check out volunteer opportunities.

USASK ALUMNI weekend

On Sept. 20-22, USask alumni returned to their roots to celebrate Alumni Weekend 2018.

Thank you to all of those who came out and to those who volunteered as we learned, connected and celebrated our USask alumni.

For more photos of the weekend, visit alumni.usask.ca



1. Rain or shine (or snow!) Despite some unseasonal weather, the BBQ in the Bowl and Pregame party were still the place to celebrate with fellow alumni!
 2. Alumni got a sneak peek at the world-class Merlis Belsher Place as part of the Alumni Weekend tours.
 3. Jay Famiglietti enlightened alumni with his lecture on 21st century fresh water security.
 4. Hundreds of USask alumni attended this year's Alumni Weekend and checked out Alumni Central in Upper Place Riel.
 5. Dr. Ivar Mendez wowed the crowd Saturday morning with his lecture on the future of medicine.
 6. On Sept. 20, eight outstanding alumni were honoured at the 40th annual Alumni Achievement Awards.
 7. Everything that glitters is still gold! The golden grad ceremony gave alumni who have graduated 50 years or later a chance to walk the stage at Convocation Hall one more time.

Achievement Awards

2018 USASK ALUMNI

Their legacies are incomparable, their stories impactful and their influence unwavering. From a legendary athlete to an international research expert, a philanthropic pair of doctors to a provincial court judge, this year's diverse group of Alumni Achievement Award winners embody what it means to be dedicated and committed to one's profession and community.

Nominated by their peers from a group of more than 152,000 alumni, recipients of the USask Alumni Achievement Awards represent alumni who are changing the world one idea at a time.

On September 20, USask recognized these eight extraordinary alumni for their contributions to their community, professions, and the university. **The Alumni Association is proud to present the 2018 Alumni Achievement Award winners:**



Gary Carlson, BSA'61, MSc'64

A community volunteer for more than 50 years, Gary Carlson has lived a life of thoughtful contribution, supporting and giving back to the agricultural community in Saskatchewan.

Among his many accomplishments, Gary was the lead organizer in the formation of the Saskatchewan Agricultural Hall of Fame, Saskatchewan Farm Vacations Association and Nuffield Canada.

Gary's love for the University of Saskatchewan shines through his ongoing dedication and involvement. He was a member of both the Senate and Board of Governors. He and his wife have also established the annual Carlson College of Agriculture Scholarship.



David Christensen, BSA'58

David is internationally recognized for his research in dairy nutrition and feed development. His research has involved cattle mineral nutrition, forage and other feed evaluation.

David has also demonstrated strong support for and interest in international development, working in Uganda in the early 1970s to develop a graduate program, teach undergraduates, establish an analytical nutrition laboratory and advise on government dairy policy.

He received the Order of Canada in 2002, and was inducted into the Saskatchewan Agricultural Hall of Fame in 2011. As professor emeritus, he continues to teach, supervise and consult for several companies and organizations. He and his wife recently established the Christensen Family Award Fund for Animal Science.



Kathryn J. Ford, Q.C., BA'71

Kathryn Ford has practiced law in Saskatoon for over 40 years and specialized in family law and mediation, specializing in 'conflict resolution.'

Along with her career in the legal world, Kathy is widely known for her broad-ranging commitment to community. In the late 1970s and early 1980s, she was a board member and president of the YWCA during the organization's very successful Capital Fundraising Campaign and new building construction. She was also a board member of the Saskatoon City Hospital Foundation, Saskatoon City Hospital, the Saskatoon Health Services Authority, Saskatoon Community Foundation, USask Board of Governors, Riverside Country Club, and LutherCare Communities, among many others.

In 2017, Kathy was awarded the YWCA of Saskatoon Women of Distinction Lifetime Achievement Award.



Tim Hodgson, LLB'83

Tim played for the USask's men's Huskie hockey team from 1979 to 1983, being fortunate enough to be part of a hockey program that evolved from obscurity to prominence in those years.

The Men's Huskie hockey team won three CWUAA Championships in his four years on the team, culminating with a national championship at the 1983 CIAU National finals.

Most recently, Tim readily accepted the role as the volunteer Saskatoon chairperson for the Home Ice Campaign, which was the fundraising campaign to build Merlis Belsher Place. Tim was unwavering in his passion to see the successful attainment of the fundraising target so the university and community could reap the benefits of this facility as soon as possible.



Hon. Gerald M. Morin, JD'87

The Honourable Judge Gerald M. Morin has dedicated his life to the Canadian justice system for the past 45 years, travelling around Canada and lecturing on law, the Cree Court, criminal law, self-government and First Nation political issues and the human condition.

He is *nēhiyow* (Cree) from Peter Ballantyne Cree Nation and grew up traditionally in Cumberland House, SK. In 1999, he was the first Indigenous person in Saskatchewan to receive the Attorney



Dr. Suzanne Yip, BA'58, MD'60 and Dr. Ivan Jen, BA'57, MD'60

Drs. Ivan Jen and Suzanne Yip are an exceptional couple who have made outstanding contributions to the medical profession, the artistic community and more broadly as generous philanthropists.

As newcomers to Canada from Hong Kong, Ivan and Suzanne overcame significant obstacles to attend the University of Saskatchewan. They met while attending medical school and were the first two Chinese-born immigrants to graduate from the College of Medicine in their respective specialties of dermatology and radiology.

Today, their philanthropic endeavors reach many supporters of the hospital foundations, University of Saskatchewan, Remail Modern, Saskatoon Community Foundation, Heart and Stroke Foundation of Saskatchewan, Meewasin Valley Authority, and others.



Patricia Lawson, BA'50, BEd'53

Pat Lawson was the most distinguished female athlete in Canada during the 1950s with an unmatched athletic legacy. As a student-athlete, she represented the university on 13 teams over four years including basketball, swimming, tennis, and track and field.

Pat was a member of the Canadian women's basketball team at the 1959 Pan American Games, a seven-time member of the Saskatchewan amateur golf team, and claimed Canadian titles in basketball, speed skating and golf.

It's a good thing there is no limit to the number of Halls of Fame one can be in, because Pat would've exceeded that number a long time ago. She earned her inductions in the University of Saskatchewan Athletic Wall of Fame, the Saskatoon Sports Hall of Fame and the Saskatchewan Sports Hall of Fame to name a few.

General's Queen's Counsel designation and by 2001 was appointed to the Provincial Court of Saskatchewan where he led the introduction of the Cree language into the court process.

Judge Morin continues to sit in many communities, most in the northern regions of Canada. He has also worked with the College of Law to initiate the *Wunusweh* annual lecture series on Indigenous law. In 2007, he was awarded the Willy Hodgson Award from the Law Society of Saskatchewan.

CLASS NOTES

Share your story. Tell us the recent highlights of your career, achievements and personal updates.

Your story will be shared online in class notes and may be published in the next issue or in college publications. Visit alumni.usask.ca/classnotes.



COME EXPLORE THE WORLD WITH USASK JOURNEYS!

We are travelling to incredible places in 2019 and we invite you to come along! Leave the details to our travel experts and enjoy a truly memorable educational holiday.



WINTER GET-AWAY

New Zealand: land of the long white cloud
February 5-15, 2019

From Maori culture to city life to fiords, experience New Zealand on a 13-night adventure. Discover urban life in Auckland and Dunedin; explore Maori traditions and see the intense haka war dance, and immerse yourself in New Zealand's incomparable outdoors. Cruise Lake Manapouri and Doubtful Sound fiord in Fiordland National

Park. Trek through the enchanting backdrops of "The Lord of the Rings" movies, and stand before the Franz Josef Glacier. Embark on an inspiring TranzAlpine train ride through the beautiful Southern Alps to Christchurch. This small-group trip features first-class accommodations, enlightening lectures, extensive meals and wine with dinner. ■



For more information: alumni.travel@usask.ca or alumni.usask.ca/travel

Memorable moments from USask Journeys:



"Iceland is an incredible country, on every level! Well worth a trip to see and learn about it. Thanks again for the U of S support of these fantastic travel adventures."

SYD AND VIVIANE BARBER
ICELAND: GOLDEN CIRCLE AND RING ROAD
JUNE 2018

"There was a good mix (and choices) for on-shore activities. The locales and the scenery were superb. The ship's condition, staff, amenities and food services were excellent."

RICHARD BARTLUK
CRUISE THE FACE OF EUROPE
MAY 2017

"Everything was prepaid so you were not constantly dipping in your wallet. Good value for your dollar. We enjoyed the lectures included in our tour."

HOWARD AND SHIRLEY GANGE
DUTCH WATERWAYS
APRIL 2018

1950

Mr. Merlis M Belsher, BComm'57, LLB'63, LLD'18, of Saskatoon, SK, received an honorary Doctor of Laws from the University of Saskatchewan and was inducted into the Junior Achievement of Saskatchewan Business Hall of Fame.

Mr. Austin B Fennell, BA'54, of Lethbridge, AB, has ministered in united churches throughout western Canada for 62 years and was honoured by St. Andrew's College with a Doctor of Divinity at convocation, May 2018.

Mr. Jacob E Kreiser, BA'56, BEd'68, MA'74, of Victoria, BC, began his career in education in Saskatchewan as a high school teacher and principal in Moose Jaw, Uranium City, Killaly and Esterhazy. His most recent postings were at Victoria High School and Spectrum Community School in Victoria, British Columbia before retiring on June 30, 1994.

Mr. Gunter E Rochow, BA'58, MA'65, of Cumberland, ON, along with his wife, Reinhilde, published their memoirs, *The World as We Saw It*. This book is available in digital and paperback formats. (www.memoirs.rochow.info)

1960

Ms. Sharon A Butala, BEd'62, BA'63, PGD'73, DLIT'04, of Calgary, AB, has published her first mystery novel, *Zara's Dead*. *Zara's Dead* is Butala's nineteenth published book.

Mr. Bob L Calder, BA'63, MA'65, of Saskatoon, SK, published his eleventh book, as author or editor, *A Hero For the Americas: The Legend of Gonzalo Guerrero*. It was published by the University of Regina Press in November 2017. Mr. Calder is also a recipient of the 2018 Saskatchewan Order of Merit.

Mr. Maurice A Delage, BSA'69, MSc'78, of Indian Head, SK, is a recipient of the 2018 Saskatchewan Order of Merit.

Mr. Len J Edwards, BA'67, MA'69, LLD'18, of Nepean, ON, received an honorary Doctor of Laws from the University of Saskatchewan on June 5, 2018.

Mr. George Fedak, BSA'63, MSc'65, of Ottawa, ON, has been awarded the 2017 Vernadsky Gold Medal from the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine.

His Honour Tom T Molloy, LLB'64, BA'64, LLD'09, of Regina, SK, is the 2018 recipient of the Ramon John Hnatyshyn Award from the Canadian Bar Association.

Mr. Jack D Neumann, BComm'69, BA'70, of Calgary, AB, received the CoSIDA Lifetime Achievement Award.

Dr. Ross E Petty, MD'65, DSc'18, of Vancouver, BC, received an honorary Doctor of Science from the University of Saskatchewan on June 7, 2018.

Dr. Alan M Rosenberg, BA'69, MD'74, of Casa Rio, SK, received the Canadian Rheumatology Association's 2018 Distinguished Rheumatologist Award, on February 23, 2018. The award honours outstanding contributions to rheumatology in Canada.

Mr. Manny Sonnenschein, BA'62, JD'63, of Saskatoon, SK, received an Honorary Lifetime Membership in the Saskatchewan Trial Lawyers Association. This is his third Honorary Lifetime Membership. The other two being in the Law Society of Saskatchewan in June of 2014 and in the Canadian Bar Association in 2014.

1970

Mr. Doug G Curliss, JD'79, of Saskatoon, SK, was appointed a Senior Justice of the Peace for the province of Saskatchewan in November of 2017, having retired as a Lieutenant Colonel from the Canadian Forces (Reserves) in the office of the Judge Advocate General and as Senior General Counsel in the Public Prosecution Service of Canada.

Dr. Anne F Doig, MD'76, LLD'13, of Saskatoon, SK, has been elected

to the University of Saskatchewan Senate as a district 13 representative (Saskatoon). This is a three-year term from July 1, 2018 to June 30, 2021.

Mr. David T Elder, BEd'78, of Saskatoon, SK, will be inducted into the Saskatoon Sports Hall of Fame on November 3, 2018.

Ms. Elinor M Florence, BA'71, of Invermere, BC, had a long career in journalism. Beginning as a farm reporter at the *Western Producer* in Saskatoon in the 1970s, it included writing and editing for daily newspaper and magazines including *Reader's Digest*. Ms. Florence's first novel, *Bird's Eye View*, was published in 2014 and became a national bestseller. Her second novel, *Wildwood*, was published in 2018. She writes a monthly column for *The Senior Paper*, and also maintains a website and monthly blog called *Wartime Wednesdays* in which she interviews Canadian veterans and tells true stories of Canadians in wartime. (www.elinorflorence.com)

Mr. Dennis H Gruending, BA'70, Arts'84, of Ottawa, ON, has written a book entitled, *Speeches That Changed Canada*. It was released by Fitzhenry & Whiteside in April 2018. (www.dennisgruending.ca)

Mr. Trevor N Herriot, BA'79, Arts'81, of Regina, SK, received two Saskatchewan Book Awards in the categories of University of Saskatchewan Non-Fiction Award and City of Regina Book Award for his book, *Islands of Grass*.

Mr. Dave D King, BAPE'71, BEd'72, LLD'18, of Scottsdale, AZ, was the assistant coach of the Canadian Men's Hockey Team at the 2018 Winter Olympics.

Ms. Janet R (Minuk) Wees, BEd'73, of Calgary, AB, published her first novel, *When We Were Shadows*. Ms. Wees has been published in national and international educational journals and *Alberta Retired Teachers' magazine*. Since retiring after 29 years of teaching, she volunteers as a school debate coach, a World High School Debate judge, a White Hatter at the Calgary Airport, and as a fundraiser

for 41 years for Ski for Heart at Lake Louise. She is an adventurous world traveler and a tutor for children with special needs.

Ms. Christine A Wesolowski, BEd'78, of Saskatoon, SK, has been elected to the University of Saskatchewan Senate as a member-at-large. This is a three-year term from July 1, 2018 to June 30, 2021.

Ms. Nettie Wiebe, BA'71, Arts'73, MA'76, of Delisle, SK, received an honorary doctor of laws degree from the University of Alberta on June 3, 2018.

Ms. Colleen L Wilson, JD'79, of Saskatoon, SK, was inducted into the Junior Achievement of Saskatchewan Business Hall of Fame on June 12, 2018.

Mr. Ross G Wilson, BA'70, BEd'73, of Saskatoon, SK, was inducted into the University of Saskatchewan Huskie Athletics Wall of Fame on May 12, 2018.

1980

Dr. Angela Bowen, BSN'86, PhD'07, of Saskatoon, SK, received the 2018 - Patient-Oriented Research Leader Award from Saskatchewan Health Research Foundation and the Saskatchewan Centre for Patient-Oriented Research on May 14, 2018. This award is given for projects focused on Indigenous health, mental health and addictions. Dr. Bowen's project was *Walking With Mothers: The Journey to Culturally Secure Birth in Saskatchewan*. This program is meant to improve the birth experience of Indigenous women who are often forced to leave home in rural or remote areas for a hospital.

Mr. Donald B Campbell, BA'82, CTEsL'97, of Saskatoon, SK, continues to have success as a playwright. His play, *Sextet: Six Short Plays about Love, Sex and Relationships* was rated the number two production at the 2017 Saskatoon Fringe Theatre and moved to the esteemed Broadway Theatre for the 2018 Saskatoon

Fringe. His short and full-length plays have been performed in several locations around Saskatoon, Regina, North Battleford and Edmonton. He loves his day job of teaching English as a Second/Additional Language to adult immigrants at the Saskatoon Open Door Society.

Dr. Brett Fairbairn, BA'81, of Saskatoon, SK, will be inducted as the president and vice-chancellor of Thompson Rivers University on December 1, 2018.

Dr. Gary Groot, MD'82, PhD'11, of Saskatoon, SK, received the 2018 - Patient-Oriented Research Leader Award from Saskatchewan Health Research Foundation and the Saskatchewan Centre for Patient-Oriented Research on May 14, 2018. This award is given for projects focused on Indigenous health, mental health and addictions. Dr. Groot's project was Community Health and Epidemiology, College of Medicine: The Indigenous Health Collective: Advancing Indigenous Health Knowledge in Saskatchewan. Engaging Indigenous patients in the North as partners to pinpoint and address identified local health care needs is the goal of this research program, which will establish an Elders council to provide culturally appropriate guidance to researchers.

Dr. Carl A Gutwin, BSc'88, MSc'91, of Saskatoon, SK, received the Distinguished Researcher Award from the University of Saskatchewan at spring convocation on June 5, 2018.

Dr. Lorraine F Holtslander, BSN'85, MN'05, PhD'08, of Saskatoon, SK, was the recipient of a 2017-2018 SHRF Collaborative Innovation Development grant. Noting the invaluable role of family caregivers in the health system, Dr. Holtslander and her co-applicants are aiming to develop an Internet-based smartphone tool that will support and help caregivers. The goal is to eventually extend the reach of this app to rural and remote communities.

Ms. Christine J Hrudka, BSP'82, of Saskatoon, SK, was elected chair of the Canadian Pharmacists Association for 2018-2019 during a June 2-5, 2018 conference in Fredericton.

Ms. Cecile M Hunt, BSN'85, MN'92, of Kinistino, SK, has been elected to the University of Saskatchewan Senate as a member-at-large. This is a three-year term from July 1, 2018 to June 30, 2021.

Ms. Barbara A Jiricka, MN'89, of Saskatoon, SK, received the 2018 YWCA Women of Distinction Award for Health and Wellness on May 31, 2018.

Mr. Martin S Kenney, LLB'83, of Road Town, was selected as one of the Top 40 Thought Leaders of the Legal Profession in 2017 by Who's Who Legal International and as the world's leading offshore asset recovery lawyer.

Ms. Peggie M Koenig, BusAdm'82, BComm'87, MBA'96, of Saskatoon, SK, received the 2018 YWCA Women of Distinction Award for Leadership in the Professions on May 31, 2018 and has been appointed chair of the Greater Saskatoon Chamber of Commerce for 2018-2019.

Ms. Margaret A Kuzyk, BE'83, of Saskatoon, SK, was recently featured in the book Women of Innovation: The Impact of Leading Engineers in Canada (2018). The book was published by the Canadian Institute of Mining, Metallurgy and Petroleum and details the stories of 20 inspiring women engineers in Canada who overcome obstacles and excelled in their fields.

Ms. Joanne H LaBrash, BEd'82, MEduc'10, of Saskatoon, SK, has been nominated for the 2018 Education Award by YWCA Saskatoon.

Dr. Don J Listwin, BE'80, LLD'01, of Woodside, CA, was appointed CEO of iSchemaView Inc. on April 16, 2018.

Ms. Wendy M Paddock, BEd'83, of Regina, SK, received the Friend of the Professions Award from APEGS on May 5, 2018. She was also bestowed with the designation of Honorary Fellow from Engineers Canada in honour of exceptional contributions to the engineering profession in Canada on June 3, 2018.

Mr. Kerry J Preete, BComm'85, of Chesterfield, MO, was appointed to the board of directors of Univar Inc. on May 2, 2018.

Ms. Debbie L Rolfes, BA'85, CACE'97, of Saskatoon, SK, received the USSU Teaching Excellence Award from the University of Saskatchewan on March 25, 2018.

Ms. Joan M Steckhan, BA'88, of Saskatoon, SK, received the Sovereign's Medal for Volunteers on April 17, 2018. The Medal for Volunteers recognizes the exceptional volunteer achievements of Canadians from across the country in a wide range of fields. As an official Canadian honour, it also pays tribute to the dedication and exemplary commitment of volunteers.

Mr. Lee A Swanson, BComm'84, MBA'95, of Saskatoon, SK, was the recipient of the 2018 Provost's College Award for Outstanding Teaching from the University of Saskatchewan.

Dr. Mitch J Taillon, DMD'84, of Assiniboia, SK, has been elected president of the Canadian Dental Association. He will serve a one-year term ending in the spring of 2019.

Mr. Brad J Wall, BA'87, of Swift Current, SK, was inducted into the Junior Achievement of Saskatchewan Business Hall of Fame on April 17, 2018 and joined the Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt LLP effective May 1, 2018 as a special advisor.

Minister Jonathan D Wilkinson, BA'88, of Ottawa, ON, was appointed Minister of Fisheries, Oceans and the Canadian Coast Guard for the Government of Canada on July 18, 2018.

Mr. David T York, BA'88, Arts'96, MA'01, of Saskatoon, SK, received the USSU Teaching Excellence Award from the University of Saskatchewan on March 25, 2018.

Ms. Heather L Zordel, BComm'86, of Toronto, ON, was elected as a bencher of the Law Society of Ontario in January 2018. She then became a member of the law society's Audit Committee and Government Relations Committee.

1990

Senator Yvonne M Boyer, JD'96, of Merrickville, ON, was appointed as an independent senator for the province of Ontario by Prime Minister Justin Trudeau on March 15, 2018.

Ms. Susana Chan, BEd'91, BA'91, of Saskatoon, SK, was nominated for the 2018 Education Award by YWCA Saskatoon.

Mr. Brooks B DeCillia, BA'95, of Calgary, AB, completed his PhD at the London School of Economics and Political Science and has been elected to the University of Saskatchewan Senate as a member-at-large. This is a three-year term from July 1, 2018 to June 30, 2021.

Mr. Scott A Flory, BE'99, of Saskatoon, SK, was inducted into the Canadian Football Hall of Fame on September 14, 2018.

Ms. Lisa N Hermiston, BEd'95, BA'99, of Saltcoats, SK, has been elected to the University of Saskatchewan Senate as a district six representative (Wynyard-Yorkton-Esterhazy). This is a three-year term from July 1, 2018 to June 30, 2021.

Ms. Leanne R Johnson, BA'95, JD'98, of Saskatoon, SK, was nominated for the 2018 Leadership and Professions Award by YWCA Saskatoon.

Mrs. Nathalie M Johnstone, BComm'99, MPAcc'00, of Martensville, SK, received the USSU Teaching Excellence Award from the University of Saskatchewan on March 25, 2018.

Dr. Shelley P Kirychuk, BSN'90, MBA'01, PhD'08, of Saskatoon, SK, was the recipient of a 2017-2018 SHRF Collaborative Innovation Development grant. The goal of the research project is to better understand if measures of mould levels in floor dust samples are an effective method to estimate the influence of mould on the respiratory health outcomes of Saskatchewan residents. The findings will help with mould control and remediation strategies.

Dr. Bart A Lardner, BSA'91, MSc'93, PhD'98, of Saskatoon, SK, received the 2018 Distinguished Alumni Award from Grande Prairie Regional College on March 13, 2018 and is the recipient of the Extension Award from the American Society of Animal Science Western Section.

Mr. Colin P Laroque, BSc'93, of Saskatoon, SK, was the recipient of the 2018 Provost's Themed Teaching Awards - Provost's Outstanding Teaching Award - Innovation (College of Agriculture and Bioresources) from the University of Saskatchewan.

Mr. Alastair J MacFadden, BSc'99, Arts'99, MA'02, of Regina, SK, was appointed deputy minister of the new Ministry of Immigration and Career Training for the province of Saskatchewan on March 1, 2018. He was previously assistant deputy minister of Immigration and Labour Services.

Dr. Daniel Chen, PhD'02, of Saskatoon, SK, was the recipient of a 2017-2018 SHRF Collaborative Innovation Development grant. Chen and his team are researching the development of novel 3-D printed bone substitutes (scaffolds) that incorporate biomaterials as a way to restore permanent bone function. Dr. Chen also received the 2018 Outstanding Achievement Award from APEGS on May 5, 2018.

Judge Natasha D Crooks, JD'04, of Saskatoon, SK, was appointed as a judge to the Provincial Court in Saskatoon on March 23, 2018.

Ms. Samantha L Simpson, BSc'97, of Calgary, AB, was inducted into the University of Saskatchewan Huskie Athletics Wall of Fame on May 10, 2018.

Ms. Glorie B Tebbutt, MA'91, MEduc'99, of Saskatoon, SK, was the recipient of the 2018 Provost's Themed Teaching Awards - Sylvia Wallace Sessional Lecturer Award (College of Arts and Science - English) from the University of Saskatchewan.

Dr. Christine L Theoret, MSc'95, PhD'00, of Mont-Saint-Hilaire, QC, has been appointed dean of the faculty of Veterinary Medicine at the University of Montreal, for a five-year tenure, commencing effective June 1, 2018.

Ms. Susan C Toews, LLB'93, of Vancouver, BC, is the new general counsel for Equinox Gold Corp effective April 4, 2018.

Ms. Nicole R Wilton, BA'91, MEduc'85, of Saskatoon, SK, was nominated for the 2018 Education Award by YWCA Saskatoon.

Ms. Tracey A Wray, BusAdm'96, of Saskatoon, SK, as a member of the Nunavut JD Program, was a recipient of the 2018 Provost's Project Grant for Innovative Practice in Collaborative Teaching and Learning from the University of Saskatchewan.

2000

Ms. Amanda L Brindley, BComm'03, of Saskatoon, SK, was nominated for the 2018 Health and Wellness Award by YWCA Saskatoon.

Ms. Tenille K Campbell, BA'07, of Saskatoon, SK, received two Saskatchewan Book Awards on April 28, 2018 in the categories of Rasmussen, Rasmussen & Charowsky Indigenous Peoples' Writing Award and The O'Reilly Insurance and The Co-operators First Book Award for her book #IndianLovePoems.

Dr. Daniel Chen, PhD'02, of Saskatoon, SK, was the recipient of a 2017-2018 SHRF Collaborative Innovation Development grant. Chen and his team are researching the development of novel 3-D printed bone substitutes (scaffolds) that incorporate biomaterials as a way to restore permanent bone function. Dr. Chen also received the 2018 Outstanding Achievement Award from APEGS on May 5, 2018.

Judge Natasha D Crooks, JD'04, of Saskatoon, SK, was appointed as a judge to the Provincial Court in Saskatoon on March 23, 2018.

Adam Z Csank, MSc'06, of Reno, NV, has been appointed as the National Geographic Nevada Geography Steward.

Ms. Amanda S Doucette, BA'04, LLB'07, of Saskatoon, SK, was the recipient of the 2018 Provost's College Award for Outstanding Teaching (College of Law) from the University of Saskatchewan.

Mr. Trevor W Ethier, BEd'00, of Saskatoon, SK, will be inducted into the Saskatoon Sports Hall of Fame for hockey and softball on November 3, 2018.

Dr. Leah J Ferguson, BA'07, MSc'09, PhD'14, of Saskatoon, SK, was the recipient of the 2018 Provost's College Award for Outstanding Teaching (College of Kinesiology) from the University of Saskatchewan.

Ms. Mackenzie D Firby, BComm'03, of Saskatoon, SK, was nominated for the 2018 Entrepreneurship Award by YWCA Saskatoon.

Mr. Matt D Goudy, BE'08, of Lacombe, AB, was appointed chief administrative officer for the City of Lacombe, Alberta on March 6, 2018.

Ms. Megan O Hrynchyshyn, BEd'07, BSKl'07, of Saskatoon, SK, was inducted into the University of Saskatchewan Huskie Athletic Wall of Fame on May 10, 2018.

Ms. Bonnie K Hughes, BA'03, MA'05, of Saskatoon, SK, as a member of the Nunavut JD Program, was a recipient of the 2018 Provost's Project Grant for Innovative Practice in Collaborative Teaching and Learning from the University of Saskatchewan.

Mr. Jeffrey R Long, BSc'04, MSc'06, of Saskatoon, SK, received the USSU Teaching Excellence Award from the University of Saskatchewan on March 25, 2018.

Ms. Michelle J MacDonald, BComm'03, of Eston, SK, has been elected to the University of Saskatchewan Senate as a district five representative (Kindersley-Delisle-Lucky Lake). This is a three-year term from July 1, 2018 to June 30, 2021.

Dr. Rae R Mitten, JD'00, LL.M'04, PhD'11, of Redvers, SK, has been acclaimed to the University of Saskatchewan Senate as a district one representative (Weyburn-Estevan-Carlyle). This is a three-year term from July 1, 2018 to June 30, 2021.

Ms. Kelley D Moore, BA'00, MA'13, of Saskatoon, SK, has been elected to the University of Saskatchewan Senate as a member-at-large. This is a three-year term from July 1, 2018 to June 30, 2021.

Mr. Kris G Odegard, BA'07, BEd'07, of New York, NY, will be inducted into the Saskatoon Sports Hall of Fame for racquetball on November 3, 2018.

Dr. Noelle K Rohatinsky, BSN'02, MN'08, PhD'13, of Saskatoon, SK, was the recipient of the 2018 Provost's College Award for Outstanding Teaching (College of Nursing) from the University of Saskatchewan.

Mrs. Viola S Yanik, BA'09, of Saskatoon, SK, will be inducted into the Saskatoon Sports Hall of Fame for wrestling on November 3, 2018.

2010

Ms. Kayla S Brien, BA'12, BA'13, of Saskatoon, SK, received the 2018 YWCA Women of Distinction Award for Community Building on May 31, 2018.

Ms. Colby J Budnick, BComm'15, of Martensville, SK, was nominated for the 2018 29 and Under Award for Young Women by YWCA Saskatoon.

Ms. Heather L Bury, BSKl'10, of Saskatoon, SK, has been named a 2018 CSTA Rising Star by the Canadian Sport Tourism Alliance at their annual PRESTIGE Awards (Program Recognizing Exceptional Sport Tourism Initiatives, Games & Events). She was also appointed to the CSTA's board of directors for a second-straight term.

Mr. David C Carpenter, DLITT'18, of Saskatoon, SK, received a honorary Doctor of Literature from the University of Saskatchewan on June 5, 2018.

Dr. Adam L Crane, PhD'18, of Saskatoon, SK, received the Governor General's Gold Academic Medal at the University of Saskatchewan's spring convocation on June 5, 2018.

Dr. Anas El-Aneed, MBA'12, of Saskatoon, SK, has been appointed to the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada governing board.

Ms. Vanessa E Leon, BA'12, of Saskatoon, SK, received the Academic Advising Award from the University of Saskatchewan on March 25, 2018.

Mr. Justin A Pater, MSc'14, of St. John's, NL, has accepted a postdoctoral research position at the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute at Harvard University to study nerve sheath tumors.

Mrs. Elizaveta Petelina, MSEM'14, of Saskatoon, SK, received the 2018 YWCA Women of Distinction Award in Research and Technology on May 31, 2018.

Dr. Kalyani Premkumar, MBA'16, of Saskatoon, SK, was the recipient of a 2017-2018 SHRF Collaborative Innovation Development grant. The research project by Premkumar and co-applicants aims to provide strong evidence on how Swedish massage therapy act in improving sleep,

fatigue and stress of breast cancer survivors. Evidence from this research can potentially promote and support recommendations on the use of specific therapies for patients treated for breast cancer.

Ms. Molly M Rayner, BSKl'18, of Saskatoon, SK, received the Governor General's Silver Academic Medal at the University of Saskatchewan's spring convocation on June 7, 2018.

Mr. Francois Roewer-Despres, BSc'18, of Saskatoon, SK, received the Governor General's Silver Academic Medal at the University of Saskatchewan's spring convocation on June 5, 2018.

Ms. Naheda M Sahtout, GPSC'17, of Saskatoon, SK, has been elected to the position of president of University of Saskatchewan Graduate Students' Association for 2018/2019.

Ms. Megan L Vandendriessche, BA'14, of Saskatoon, SK, received the Academic Advising Award from the University of Saskatchewan on March 25, 2018.

Mr. Colton R Wieggers, BComm'16, of Saskatoon, SK, has been elected to the Greater Saskatoon Chamber of Commerce board of directors for 2018/2019. He will serve a two-year term.

Dr. Jamie L Willems, BSc'13, PhD'17, of Saskatoon, SK, received the Governor General's Gold Academic Medal at the University of Saskatchewan's spring convocation on June 6, 2018.

IN MEMORIAM

The Alumni Association has noted, with sorrow, the passing of the following graduates.

In Memoriam include those who have passed prior to August 15, 2018. Names are listed by decade of receipt of their first U of S degree. Date of death and last-known address can be found online at usask.ca/greenandwhite.

1940

- Chapuis, Evelyn M (Fernholz), BA'49, MA'56, BEd'57
- Elias, Wilma E, BA'47, MA'50
- Forsberg, Donald E (Don), BSA'49, MSc'51
- Fuller, Constance M (Marie) (Turtle), BA'47
- Gurian, Joan B (Christie), BA'49
- Hall, John E, BA'48
- Hamilton, William G, AGRIC'45
- Harms, Alvin, BA'49
- Hubbard, Geraldine C (Grant), BHSC'44
- Jaenicke, Peter E, BEd'49
- Lehmann, Arnold L, BA'40, MED'41
- MacKay, John W, BE'45
- Mantle, John B, BE'41
- Martin, Donald F, BE'49
- McLean, Marguerite I (Howes), BACC'44
- Melsness, Allen R, BA'49
- Mitchell, Ronald G, BA'48, BEd'49
- Moody, Harry J, BE'48, MSc'50
- Olynyk, Peter J, BE'48
- Reeder, Wesley F, BE'45
- Renzaglia, Josephine E (Betty) (Guidinger), BHSC'44
- Scurfield, Sonia (Onishenko), BA'49
- Spellman, Robert G, BA'46
- Stephenson, Kenneth R, BACC'45
- Walls, Gerald M, BComm'48
- Ward, Lyle C, BE'46
- Wilkinson, Mary K (Varey), BA'45

1950

- Banevicius, Vytautas A, BE'53
- Bilokury, Omar G, BSA'55
- Bird, Harold G, BE'51
- Brant, Marion L (Currant), BA'50
- Byrnes, Merle E, BSA'59, Educ'60
- Chapman, Gerald, Acc'57, BusAdm'58
- Cholod, Anne (Zaharia), NURS'57, BEd'75
- Connors, Ramona M (Barber), BA'50
- Doyle, Walter W, BSA'51
- Ehman, Dennis R, BSA'58, BA'59
- Elliott, Richard S (Dick), BE'56
- Goldstein, Benjamin, BA'50, LLB'58

- Hambleton, Donald C (Don), BEd'56
- Harris, Clive D, AGRIC'57
- Hopkin, Lorna C (Dowswell), BComm'53
- Johns, Carole-Ann (Parkes), NURS'59
- Kitchen, Theodore (Ed), BSP'55
- Krynowsky, William J (Bill), BA'51, Educ'53, BEd'55, ME'70
- MacFadyen, Charles R (Chuck), BE'55
- McLellan, Thomas A (Tom), BComm'55
- Meneley, Daniel A (Dan), BE'58
- Moss, Anastasia N (Barsky), BEd'50
- Nickel, John P, BEd'53
- Preece, Michael J, AGRIC'51
- Prenevost, James E, BSP'55
- Schmeiser, Douglas A (Doug), BA'54, LLB'56
- Schulte, Lawrence F, BSP'51
- Stolee, Bryan J, BE'59
- Sutherland, John R, BE'53
- Watson, Howard J, BA'55
- Woods, Margaret E (Brand), BA'52
- Zaparinuk, John C, BA'54

1960

- Bell, Joan P (Coates), BEd'66, PGD'73, ME'77
- Bright, John A, BComm'68
- Burak, Daniel M, BComm'67
- Burrows, Beverley D, BEd'66, BA'73
- Byrnes, John L, BusAdm'68
- Chester, John D, BA'63
- Chouinard, Lynn D, BA'64, Educ'65
- Collins, Alphonse B (Bernie), BE'68
- Deptuck, Nick J, LLB'66, BA'81
- Derald, Gary D, BA'63
- Fast, Sandra E (Smith), BSN'65
- Goodman, Arni S, BSA'64, MSc'74
- Gordon, Philip H, MD'66
- Graf, Terence G (Terry), LLB'69
- Hanson, Andrew R, BE'61
- Hoover, James M, BE'62
- Hurd, Linsell A, BA'63
- Jones, Phyllis M (Waters), BEd'60
- Lane, Thomas C, BComm'64
- MacCrimmon, Ronald F (Ron), AGRIC'64, AGRIC'64

- MacKenzie, Gordon W, DVM'69
- Mandri, Hania T (Horbaczewski), BA'68
- McLeod, Gordon G, BComm'64
- Muttart, Kathleen M, BA'69, BEd'77, Meduc'85
- Negrych, David, BSP'62
- Olson, Stanley M, BA'62, BEd'63
- Rees, James T, BE'60
- Robertson, Earle W, BA'62, BASHON'63, Educ'67, BEd'67
- Rozon, Gordon M, BComm'69
- Schurr, Ruben C, BE'63
- Thon, William C (Bill), BEd'69, PGD'77, ME'89
- Wiks, Donald, BEd'65
- Wylie, Wesley W, BusAdm'62

1970

- Bauer, Marcella M (Medernach), BEd'70, BA'71
- Blake, Joyce M, BA'71
- Chatterson, Ronald D, BA'72
- Fowlie, Neil S, BComm'72
- Greer, James E (Jim), BSc'73, BEd'76, SC'84, ME'84
- Harden, Myrna E (Orthner), PHYSIO'73
- Horvey, Levern K, BSA'73
- Knowles, Wayne V, BA'76, MBA'79
- Lalonde, Florence E (Hatch), BEd'74, BA'91, ME'94
- Lee, Richard W, BA'74
- Maxwell, Carol L (Thompson), BSN'73
- McCulloch, William B, PERADM'73
- McMaster, Howard W, BSPE'76
- Moulding, Michael B (Brent), BSCMLT'77, DMD'82
- Nelson, Doris A, BSN'72, MD'77
- Nowlan, Diane L, BSN'71
- Peltier, James M, BSA'77, LLB'87
- Perrin, David J, DVM'73
- Roy, Ernest S, BEd'76
- Sand, Marina M (Weiman), BEd'75
- Schmidt, Lawrence D, BEd'79, BA'99
- Tegenkamp, Elizabeth (Bain), BEd'76
- Wolan, Wallace T, BA'72, BComm'76

1980

- Briant, Keith W, BA'86
- Gendron, Barbara B (Drinkle), BEd'80
- Griffin, Garth B, AGRIC'81, BSA'86
- Korvemaker, Bette L (Burns), BComm'83
- Mustard, Lorne G, BEd'84
- Neufeld, Shirley A (Boldt), BEd'80
- Sanderson, Joan W (Webster), PGD'86, MCTGED'92
- Sutherland, Colin A, BEd'87, PGD'95, ME'99

1990

- Khaseipoul, Rehanni (Rashid), DVM'94
- Kunz, Brenda M (Kolbeck), BA'96, MA'07
- Leung, Maggie L, BUSADM'90
- Linklater, Walter E, BEd'94
- Nicolas, Karie L, BSA'99, CACE'02, MCTGED'09
- Prodanuk, Shaun R, BE'99, PGD'03
- Schuck, Joseph T, BComm'93, LLB'96

2000-2010

- Arthur, Jaclyn D, BSNT'02
- Poole, Murray P, BSA'03
- Moseley, Christine J, CTESL'15

Faculty and staff

- Bock, Alfred A
- Bright, John A
- Dear, Myrtle M
- El-Serafi, Ahmed M
- Engstrom, Christine S (Kris)
- Greer, James E (Jim)
- Haile, Abeba
- Jacek, Linda
- Khachatourians, George G
- Leung, Maggie L
- Melsom, Eleanor I
- Miller, Leonard G
- Moulding, Michael B (Brent)
- Nicolas, Karie L
- Nikiforuk, Peter N
- Schmeiser, Douglas A (Doug)
- Williams, Charles M (Red)
- Willis, Lucy D

THE DUFF SPAFFORD ALUMNI BOOK COLLECTION

Named in honour of

Duff Spafford

(1936 - 2014)

ROXANNE MCHATTIE

The Alumni Book Collection has moved into its new permanent home in the Murray Library, and has been named in honour of Professor Emeritus Duff Spafford (BA '59, MA '61), who was the driving force behind the collection.

Spafford began his long association with the University of Saskatchewan in 1955 studying political science and economics, and serving as editor-in-chief of *The Sheaf* from 1956 - 1957. After graduate studies at the London School of Economics, he returned to USask as a political scientist in the College of Arts and Science for nearly 40 years, until his retirement in 2002. During his time on campus, he developed a keen interest in university history, particularly in the achievements of its alumni, and even rediscovered several long forgotten notable graduates.

Not long after retirement, Duff spearheaded the development of an alumni project unique among Canadian universities—the U of S Alumni Book Collection.

With enormous dedication to the task, Duff compiled a list of over 3,000 titles representing diverse works by USask alumni produced as early as 1922. Over the course of a decade, almost 800 of these works were gathered for the collection, many of which were purchased and donated by Duff himself.

Alumni authors are welcome to donate to the collection by sending books to:

The Duff Spafford Alumni Book Collection
301 Murray Library, 3 Campus Drive
Saskatoon SK S7N 5A4



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For more information or to donate, visit give.usask.ca/students or call 1-800-669-1907.

Jordanne Estergaard and Christina Luross are passionate about teaching. The two students are in their final year of the early childhood education program in the College of Education, thanks to an estate gift left from a similarly impassioned donor.

The A. Marion Clarke Education Trust re-established the early childhood education undergraduate program at the University of Saskatchewan in 2016. The program provides a deeper understanding of the youngest minds in the education system—pre-kindergarten to Grade 3—at a time when their brains absorb information like a sponge.

Thanks to Marion Clarke's gift, the College of Education can continue to support programming for teacher candidates like Jordanne and Christina, and train teachers with a strong foundation in early childhood principles.

You can make a difference to students like Jordanne and Christina by leaving a gift to the university through your will, like Marion Clarke. For more information, contact:

Bev Cooper, Gift Planning, University Relations
306-966-2416 or 1-800-699-1907
gift.planning@usask.ca, usask.ca/giftplanning

“Without Marion Clarke this experience would not have been possible, and with it we have come to recognize the inspiration, passion and motivation within each other towards becoming the best early childhood educators.”

CHRISTINA LUROSS
COLLEGE OF EDUCATION



