Finding New Rhythms
Maestra Tania Miller takes the stage

Building a Canadian Bastion Against Infectious Disease

Reaching Africa: Sylvia Cholodnuik's New Community

Report to Donors
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Did you know you keep your U of S student email account even after graduation - for free? Simply go to www.usask.ca/alumni and follow the instructions. You’ll need your network service I.D. (NSID) - if you don’t remember it or have never received one, give us a call and we’ll help you get online.

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Alumni Advantage

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**editor’s note**

One of the first things I did when I became editor was descend into the basement of Arts Hall to locate and mail as many back issues of the Green & White as I possibly could. Among the many I was lucky enough to find was a well-worn copy of the first issue published by an enthusiastic Alumni Association in the spring of 1909. Of particular interest to me were the introductory remarks made by the editor, Dr. J.F. Leddy (BA’30, MA’31, LLD’65), who expressed a deep passion and optimism for the future of the University’s alumni publication.

“Your executive feels certain that The Green and White can play a leading role in welding together the Alumni into an organization that will, through close association with the Alma Mater, become increasingly important in the institution...We feel sure that future issues will show a great improvement over this little experiment.”

Over the years, the Green & White has done much to confirm Dr. Leddy’s early intuitions. I know this not only because of the deluge of phone calls, emails, and letters I receive from alumni and friends around the world (just look at our ever-increasing number of Class Notes), but because of the remarkable commitment made by the U of S and the Alumni Association to continue publishing the Green & White for more than 60 years.

I read, too, in Dr. Leddy’s fine editorial a call to future publishers of the Green & White to continually evaluate and improve upon every issue. I’m happy to say that we’ve accepted this challenge in our fall edition. We’ve not only adopted a new look that we hope you will find most enthusiastic as previous issues, but we’re also taking a more inclusive editorial approach that we believe more comprehensively reflects the extraordinary accomplishments of the University and its Alumni Association.

We are, of course, continuing to tell the stories of our graduates. In this edition you’ll meet, among others, Tanis Miller, who is the youngest and only female conductor of a major Canadian orchestra. You’ll also meet Lorne Babiuk, whose innovative work in the field of human health comprehensively reflects the extraordinary accomplishments of the University and its Alumni Association.

As we prepare to move forward into our second century and focus our attention on the many exciting opportunities that lie ahead, we must always remember and continue to celebrate our University’s distinguished past and remarkable record of accomplishment. We have a long, rich history, one that I firmly believe is a living testament to the extraordinary vision of our University’s founders and the people of Saskatchewan — a vision that still guides us today.

The University of Saskatchewan began modestly in 1907 after our provincial legislature passed the University Act to “establish and incorporate a University for the Province of Saskatchewan.” In 1909, the first classes in Arts and Science were held in downtown Saskatoon with a registration of 70 students. Soon after, the first structure on campus, the College Building, opened for student admissions. By the 1920’s, what was stark landscape had transformed into one of the most beautiful campuses in the country.

Indeed, we’ve traveled far, and today the University of Saskatchewan can boast an impressive record of growth and accomplishment. We’ve graduated more than 120,000 students during the past century, and we continue to attract outstanding students locally, nationally, and internationally. Our research revenue has more than doubled in the past decade, and initiatives like the Canadian Light Source, the Vaccine and Infectious Disease Organization, are propelling us forward into new and exciting areas of innovation and discovery.

Our campus, too, is experiencing dramatic renewal and growth. Renovations to the College Building are well underway, and the new Academic Health Sciences Centre, which will be a state-of-the-art integrated centre for teaching, research, and patient-centred health care, is proceeding through a detailed planning process. While our fine record of accomplishment might seem a long way from those first classes held in downtown Saskatoon, we continue to strive to share with our founder’s an inexhaustible determination, imagination, and vision that boldly leads us forward.

This is, I think, one of our most valuable inheritances — our determined belief in the extraordinary value of this University. And in spite of public divestment in post-secondary education and fierce competition from other universities, it is this belief that has led us to a renewed and steadfast commitment to success.

We have, therefore, spent much of the last year looking at where we’ve come from, where we are, and where we want to go. We’ve built upon our Strategic Directions to formulate a new, comprehensive multi-year plan. A Framework for Action: University of Saskatchewan Integrated Plan 2003-07. This plan clearly identifies areas, such as health, public policy, and Aboriginal initiatives, which will be the focus of sustained, University-level support in the years ahead. It also asks us to re-examine the organization and delivery of some of our most crucial programs and initiatives, and challenges us to increase efficiencies in all units across campus. Ultimately, the Integrated Plan focuses on how best to achieve our Strategic Directions, while remaining true to the spirit of our founders and the people of this province.

We are writing, then, another chapter in the distinguished history of the University of Saskatchewan, one that is inspired by and seeks to build upon our extraordinary record of excellence. Indeed, this is an exciting time, and I look forward to the months and years ahead with great optimism and anticipation.

Peter MacKinnon, President

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**letter box**

Congratulations on a great spring issue of the Green and White! I note with a grin that the top four executives are commerce types. That adds a lot of class.

Al Briggs, BComm’52

As a co-editor of a small publication myself, I know the pitfalls of proofreading, but I just couldn’t resist this one, which appeared in “A Room of Our Own” (Spring 2004). There is also a PLAGUE dedicated to Saskatchewan Rhodes scholars’ (Column 2, para.2). What a memorial to these studious people! As Shakespeare put it, “A Fox on both your houses.”

Joan Bunce, BA’85

Surely it is a bit excessive to dedicate a “plague” to Saskatchewan Rhodes scholars at Exeter (Spring 2004). Perhaps some step is necessary to restore the modesty typically enshrined by a slogan typically enshrined at Oxford. But perhaps some less severe punishment would be appropriate, such as publishing the blurs plaque celebrating the relationship to Oxford.

David Olson, BEd’60, LLB’96

I found it very encouraging to read Patrick and Karen Grosskopf’s story “Room of Our Own” (Spring 2004). My wife Marje and I recently moved back to Saskatoon from Lethbridge, Alberta to own and operate our own pharmacy at the Royal University Hospital under the Medicine Shoppe franchise banner. We are both graduates from the College of Pharmacy, U of S 1993. We are so happy to be back in Saskatchewan and operating our own business. It is our hope that our home province will become a place of opportunity and economic growth where our young people will want to reside.

Jonathan Kiesman, BSc’91

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**on campus**

More Than Just a Facelift

If you thought it was strange to see the College Building vacated and its doors shut indefinitely in November of 1997, it was even stranger to see this designated heritage site standing for most of the summer without a roof.

This was just part of the long-awaited, $20.7-million renovation to the College Building that began late last November. After interior demolition and reconstruction was completed during the winter, work on restoring the exterior of the building began this spring.

The refurbished College Building will not only house University administration and governance, but will also be home to Student and Enrollment Services Division, which will occupy the first floor and provide students with easy access to services that will enhance their experience on campus.

The renovations are expected to be completed in May 2005.

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**president’s message**

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Peter MacKinnon, President

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**New V-P, University Advancement**

On September 13, the University of Saskatchewan announced the appointment of Heather Magiaux as Vice-President of University Advancement, a newly created position. Magiaux, formerly Executive Director and Chief Advancement Officer at the U of S will be responsible for leading major fundraising campaigns and fostering commitment and support for University activities through alumni, development, and communications functions.

A former director of communications at the U of S, Magiaux spent several years as Vice-President of Advancement at St. Francis Xavier University in Nova Scotia, during which time St. FX was ranked first in alumni support and fifth in reputation in Maclean’s annual assessment of Canadian universities.
‘Butting Out’ on Campus
When Saskatoon’s Smoking Control Bylaw 2004 came into effect July 1, there were few noticeable changes on campus except at two popular eating and drinking establishments.

According to the bylaw, among the areas that must be non-smoking are licensed premises, outdoor seating areas, and private clubs (i.e. Louis’ and the Faculty Club). However, both were ready for the change. Faculty Club manager Donna Cram said the club’s board made the decision to go smoke-free even before the new bylaw was approved.

At Louis’ in the Memorial Union Building, site manager George Fousaf said Louis’ was “the only place on campus where you can come and smoke,” and he expects it will take some time for patrons to adjust to the new rule.

CIBC's Million Dollar Boost to Agricultural Entrepreneurship
Thanks to a $1-million donation to the U of S from CIBC, the College of Agriculture will be the first in Canada to offer an undergraduate degree with a minor in agricultural entrepreneurship.

At a campus ceremony June 21, CIBC Senior Vice-President for Small Business Banking Rob Paterson pledged the funding toward a new program in agricultural entrepreneurship. Since 2001, CIBC’s gifts for agricultural entrepreneurship totaled $1.8 million.

The funding will support the work of a teaching scholar in ag. entrepreneurship, and will create five new bursaries of $2,000 each for Aboriginal students entering the College of Agriculture. Also, for each of the next 10 years, $10,000 will go to outreach activities which encourage First Nations economic and business development.

Faculty patronage in the series comes from CIBC, which is funding $1 million of the $1.2 million budget.

In an attempt to demystify the lives of Muslim Canadians, the U of S Division of Media & Technology and Milo Productions Inc. have created a three-part video series called A New Life in a New Land: The Muslim Experience in Canada.

Video Series Demystifies Canada’s Muslim Community
Since the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks in the U.S., some people have reacted to Muslims with fear, hostility, and negative stereotyping. And for many, the religion remains mysterious and misunderstood.

In an attempt to demystify the lives of Muslim Canadians, the U of S Division of Media & Technology and Milo Productions Inc. have created a three-part video series called A New Life in a New Land: The Muslim Experience in Canada.

The Canadian Light Source (CLS) began routine operations in October after receiving the green light July 14 from the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission to begin regular operations for economic and industrial research. The CNSC gave full approval for the facility to open its doors for high-intensity, light-based experiments.

The $173.5-million, U of S-owned synchrotron is now completing construction on its first set of seven beamlines. A U of S beamline, the Biomedical Imaging and Therapeutics (BMIT) beamline, has received $17,043,440 in funding and will be completed in the next several years along with four more Phase II lines.

Last summer, it was also announced the CLS will receive $19 million in operating funds from NSERC and Western Economic Diversification (WD), bringing the total operating funding over five years to $69.8 million.

A total of 26 other Canadian universities have endorsed the CLS and will be conducting research at the new facility.

The Saskatoon CLS has also attracted interest from international researchers interested in travelling to the facility – one of the most advanced synchrotrons in the world – to perform their experiments.

Canadians are invited to take a closer look at the synchrotron this fall, when CLS hosts its grand opening celebrations.

Making Campus a Safer Place
The University has responded quickly to implement some recommendations of a review of personal safety on campus, and will move forward over the next few months on others, but is mindful of the fact “we’re a private place with public access.”

Tony Whitworth, Vice-President Finance and Resources, said the U of S is committed to implementing most of the 46 recommendations found in the review to ensure the learning and working environment here “is safe and secure as it can be.”

One shortcoming spotted by the review has already been addressed. A new system for alerting the campus community to potential safety threats will now include e-mail notifications within 24 hours of an incident being reported, and written security alerts posted within four hours of an incident on new notice boards in strategic locations across campus.

New Building Integrates Health Sciences Education
Although not allocated a single cent in the last provincial budget, the Academic Health Sciences building project is proceeding through a detailed planning process toward a construction date in 2007.

Charles Baker, Academic Program Co-ordinator on the project steering committee, said the group is “slowly chewing through” $1.3 million provided last year by the province to develop what will be a state-of-the-art integrated centre for teaching, research, and patient-centred health sciences in Saskatchewan.

The project allocates $93 million to new construction and $27 million to renovations to existing facilities. The new construction will include a six-storey structure attached to the northwest side of the existing Health Sciences Building and extending in front of the Saskatoon Cancer Centre. With more space than A and B Wings of Health Sciences combined, the building will include links to Royal University Hospital and to the Arts Building via a walkway over Campus Drive.

Four New Research Chairs
The U of S has received $3.8 million over seven years from the Canada Research Chairs program for four new Research Chairs. Including the new positions, the U of S has now received over $22 million to support 23 Chairs. The new Canada Research Chairs are:

• Sylvia Abonyi (Aboriginal Health) – Recruited from the University of Regina to conduct research into more effective public health programs for Aboriginal people.

• Lisa Kalynchuk (Behavioural Neuroscience) – Recruited from Dalhousie University to study the neurochemical mechanisms that produce anxiety, depression and panic.

• Soledade Pedras (Biorganjic and Agricultural Chemistry) – The U of S chemistry professor will study how disease organisms fight the immune defenses of plants like canola and mustard.

• Jean-Pierre St-Maurice (Environmental Sciences) – Recruited from the University of Western Ontario to study the earth’s ionosphere with high frequency radar equipment. He will also establish a virtual centre for the study of climate change.

The Saskatoon Cancer Centre. With more space than A and B Wings of Health Sciences combined, the building will include links to Royal University Hospital and to the Arts Building via a walkway over Campus Drive.

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These new items are drawn from recent additions of On Campus News, the official newspaper of the University of Saskatchewan. For more up-to-date and current information, visit On Campus News at www.usask.ca/communications
Raising on a modest farm near the small town of Methow, Saskatchewan, Sylvia Cholodnuik learned early on that a community works together and looks out for one another. If you are part of a community, you have a responsibility to make a contribution; it is a place of sharing, participation, and fellowship. While Sylvia had strong roots in her Methow Park community, she longed to experience life in other parts of the world. After receiving her BSc in Home Economics from the University of Saskatchewan, she knew that geography has nothing to do with making a difference.

When it comes to making the world a better place, Sylvia Cholodnuik (BSH EC 85) raises the bar for all of us. While we might be inclined to call up a local charity or volunteer at a neighbourhood Boys and Girls Club, she focused her time and energy halfway around the world and discovered that geography has nothing to do with making a difference. Sylvia is a strong believer in university-sponsored exchange programs. "When you give a student a chance to experience life in another country, it not only builds their citizenship in Canada - they appreciate their own country more - it also builds their ties to the University."

As the Assistant Manager of Residences, Sylvia is now in a position to influence the students in her charge. It is a responsibility that she takes very seriously, and very much enjoys. "I love what I do. I love helping people discover the potential they don't even realize they have."

She admits that the students she gets to know the most are the ones who, unfortunately, are facing problems or causing problems, but she tries to make a connection with all of them. She talks proudly of the students who come back years later to invite her to their weddings or to send her pictures of their children. "I get to watch them evolve into these incredible people," she says. "I don't think I could have a better job."

In between work, fundraising, and trips to Africa, Sylvia has also volunteered locally for Big Sisters, Folkfest, the Labatt's Biter, and the River Rock/Taste of Saskatchewan. She is an Advisory Board member for Leadership Advantage and sits on a wide variety of University committees.

"I think a lot about how privileged I was to be born in Canada," she explains. "People take that for granted. But I think that since I was born here, I have a responsibility to give back - whether that is within my community, the city, the province, or internationally."

For Sylvia it is the community and their energy that is driving the development. It may have been a catalyst, but they are doing this for themselves."
In an attempt to expose students in Central and Eastern Europe to a broader liberal arts education, the University of Saskatchewan has invited the University of Warsaw to participate in the ‘Great Books’ series, a new international partnership that sees U of S English professors teaching classic literature abroad.

Henderson’s Shakespeare seminar was one of the many offerings aimed at gifted students as part of a university-driven movement—not only within Poland, but also in Central and Eastern European countries—to reform post-secondary education in their respective countries. Throughout the 1990s, networks of the best universities in these countries were struggling to give gifted students the opportunity to break out of the confines of the current system. By dipping into other disciplines, gifted students can work to avoid narrow specializations—a hangover from a time when the shadow of the Iron Curtain lay over the region.

In countries now fractured from the former Soviet Union, and Poland to a lesser extent, independent thinking in the educational system proved quite constrained, especially prior to the 1980s. This lack of free thinking was a product of the system itself, points out Jerzy Axer, a University of Warsaw classics scholar.

"And east from Poland, in the Ukraine and Belarus, it was much worse. It was a very difficult situation for independent thinking."

In Poland, bureaucrats rather than academics oversaw the organization of the academy and, therefore, the quality of education. Although there was some freedom of research, “freedom of teaching and freedom of organizing the academy was very limited,” Axer says. “And east from Poland, in the Ukraine and Belarus, it was much worse. It was a very difficult situation for independent thinking.”

In the 1970s, Axer practiced as a classics scholar, specializing in what he calls the very conservative field of Roman literature. Figuring he’d spend the rest of his academic days “in the ivory towers isolated from reality,” as he puts it, he was made a dean in 1980. “I then realized just how bad the educational system was,” he says.

By 1989, Axer had become a research fellow, and decided to use his authority to erect a self-governing organization within the University of Warsaw, one free to select its own staff, its own foreign university partners, and organize its own research. As the director of The Centre for Studies on the Classical Tradition in Poland and East-Central Europe, Axer called on the best universities in the region to splice their departments of classics and the humanities into a network. Universities would strengthen their ties through a series of annual seminars and other activities. In the 1990s, networks of the best universities in these countries were struggling to give gifted students the opportunity to break out of the confines of the current system.

In Poland, Henderson’s seminar had its doors tight for four years. Because of its proximity to the summit’s venue, the University of Warsaw shut its doors tight for four days. This meant that Henderson’s seminar had to be moved to the Hotel Hera, located in the diplomatic district where the students were staying. One day, as she finished a class at the hotel, an administrator at the University of Warsaw phoned her and said, “Get to your car right away because they’re closing the road!” Fortunately, Henderson managed to make it before the road was closed.

All this intellectual cross-pollination is part of an experiment, a “gamble for changing the educational system,” as Axer puts it. He is quick to admit the difficulty of helping gifted students shrug off the mentality for specialization for a more interdisciplinary approach—and of helping students, especially those in the former Soviet Union, shrug off “group think” for independent thought. Like old ghosts, vestiges of the thought prevalent in the former educational system sometimes emerge in classes, no matter how intellectually gifted the students are.

Fifteen years after The Wall fell, Poland entered another chapter of its history on May 1, 2004: its long-awaited entrance into the European Union. This entrance coincided with the European Summit, triggering the descent of thousands of police into the streets of Warsaw. There was concern about riots—the Polish government hoped to prevent what it most feared upon entering the EU; that is, clashes between those sympathetic to the EU and those sympathetic to the former Communist regime.

And this just happened to be the week of Henderson’s seminar. Because of its proximity to the summit’s venue, the University of Warsaw shut its doors tight for four days. This meant that Henderson’s seminar had to be moved to the Hotel Hera, located in the diplomatic district where the students were staying. One day, as she finished a class at the hotel, an administrator at the University of Warsaw phoned her and said, “Get to your car right away because they’re closing the road!” Fortunately, Henderson managed to make it before the road was closed.

By Matt Barron
The protests in Warsaw that week were largely peaceful, but they showed how history is still very much a force in the region. Its force was also felt in Henderson’s makeshift classroom at the Hotel Hera. Henderson expected her students to write a paper on one of the three tragedies she had time to teach: Othello, King Lear, and Hamlet.

One student wrote an argument that Hamlet was fighting bourgeoisie values, but Henderson says she had been showing the students all along that Hamlet had been working “to find his way in a corrupt court.” In her comments on the student’s paper, Henderson pointed out that she couldn’t think of any characters in the play who could be called bourgeois or middle class. The student had been “drawing on some Soviet criticism,” she says.

A psychology student interpreted Iago, the villain in Othello, as a psychopath. “What I liked about these students—and I didn’t bring it to them, they brought it to the seminar—was the way they were themselves bringing together ideas from their various courses and that’s what the educational reform is encouraging them to do.”

Axer also noted the students’ ability to do this. But he points out that students’ grasp of history—a major part of Soviet-era education—has suffered dramatically since the wall fell and independent thinking arose. This was one of the reasons Henderson was asked to coach her teaching of Shakespeare in the historical era in which the plays were set. But, Axer says, despite Henderson’s cogent attempts to get the students to appreciate the 16th and 17th-century history that informs the plays, during the first week the students kept resisting.

The current lack of interest in history is, to some extent, Axer concedes, a global phenomenon. But it’s also a regional crisis of historical identity, where students express their freedom by ignoring history.

“In Canada, it may be different because it’s a society of so many different elements,” he says. “But in countries like Poland and Russia, historical memory was a very important reference point, especially in countries which were under occupation. So when the country became free, it became free from history, also. So for a teacher, it’s a very interesting situation. In my generation, history was one of the most beloved and important things.”

In the case of Henderson’s seminar, Axer said he was pleased with the students’ grades on their research papers. Despite the comments sprawling over each page, only one of the 24 students in the seminar failed, and the marks were in the higher range. And Henderson says the students were operating at what would be called the honours level in the Canadian system, despite working in a language not their own.

But most important, Axer stresses, was the fact that the students were engaging the text closely, carefully, were considering historical context; were receiving the benefit of Henderson’s meticulous scrutiny.

“Normally in our traditional education in this post-Soviet space, professors devote insufficient time to students,” he says. “They are giving marks without explaining anything. Only very rarely do they work with the student to make the essay better.” This stems from the tradition of placing more emphasis on writing examinations than on writing research papers.

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The current lack of interest in history is, to some extent, Axer concedes, a global phenomenon. But it’s also a regional crisis of historical identity, where students express their freedom by ignoring history.

“In Canada, it may be different because it’s a society of so many different elements,” he says. “But in countries like Poland and Russia, historical memory was a very important reference point, especially in countries which were under occupation. So when the country became free, it became free from history, also. So for a teacher, it’s a very interesting situation. In my generation, history was one of the most beloved and important things.”

In the case of Henderson’s seminar, Axer said he was pleased with the students’ grades on their research papers. Despite the comments sprawling over each page, only one of the 24 students in the seminar failed, and the marks were in the higher range. And Henderson says the students were operating at what would be called the honors level in the Canadian system, despite working in a language not their own.

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He is one of Canada’s most prominent and highly cited scientists in this area, says Singh, the scientific director of the Institute. “That in itself speaks volumes of his talent and collaborative abilities. We are delighted to have him to allow us to frame what Canada should be doing in infection and immunity research.”

Singh, a longtime Herl, colleague, and collaborator, says Babiuk is a highly regarded scientist and speaker, able to lead tough negotiations and provide a very focused approach to scientific research.

“He brings all of these things together in a single individual, which is really remarkable,” he says.

“I mean ‘do vaccines cause autism?’—the answer is no, but it doesn’t stop people from believing it.”

Despite the accolades, Babiuk jokes that he is a “slow learner,” still on his way back to Vancouver where he met his wife Betty Lenny and finished his PhD over 30 years ago.

He had just finished a post-doctoral fellowship at Toronto General Hospital through the University of Toronto. Not wanting to head back to Vancouver so soon after finishing his doctorate, he took a job at the Western College of Veterinary Medicine (WCVM) at the University of Saskatchewan, his alma mater from his undergraduate and master’s degrees.

“I was interested in the disease process or pathogenesis. The vet school obviously provided a fantastic opportunity to look at animal models,” he says. “But it was my full intention to move to Vancouver a few years after that.”

Today, Babiuk’s office at VIDO is a study in barely contained chaos. Papers, books and magazines cover virtually every horizontal surface, testament to both a staggering workload and a remarkable capacity for multitasking. At any given time, Babiuk may be vigorously lobbying governments for funding, working on a proposal for a new multi-million dollar research institute, furthering his own proposal for a new multi-million dollar governments for funding, working on a capacity for multitasking. At any given staggering workload and a remarkable capacity for multitasking. At any given time, Babiuk may be vigorously lobbying governments for funding, working on a proposal for a new multi-million dollar research institute, furthering his own proposal for a new multi-million dollar governments for funding, working on a capacity for multitasking. At any given staggering workload and a remarkable capacity for multitasking. 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Finding New Rhythms: Maestra Tania Miller Takes the Stage

Currently the youngest—and only female—music director of a major Canadian orchestra, Tania Miller (BA’91) is setting the stage for a new generation of Canadian conductors. With her youthful exuberance and gentle demeanor, she’s challenging traditional perceptions of the stern, white-haired conductor and reshaping them in her own image.
Her heels click across the wood planks of the Carmel Centre auditorium. The bells of her shiny-embellished costume flutter slightly behind her. The audience applauds warmly. She steps onto the conducting platform, poised momentarily while sweeping her eyes across the 53 members of the Victoria Symphony. Then, with the authority of a general, Tania Miller raises her hand holding a slender, silver baton. As her arms descend, the orchestra bursts into an animated rendition of John Estacio’s Variations on a Memory. The concert’s opening score is a fitting choice for the orchestra’s new music director; like Tania, it’s energetic, youthful, and Canadian.

While once orchestras were ruled by aging men with batons, today’s symphony music director has changed. The job now includes women, as well as surprisingly young musicians. At 33, Tania is not only the youngest current music director of a major Canadian orchestra, she’s the first Canadian woman to hold such a significant post.

Tania was appointed to the Victoria Symphony’s top role in the summer of 2003, but takes on her permanent position in the fall of 2004. She explains that a music director’s job goes far beyond conducting. “We decide in advance what kind of season the orchestra will offer the following year,” says the green-eyed, brown-haired musician. “We choose the repertoire, rehearse the concerts, and assign the guest conductors. I am responsible for rehearsals and selecting new orchestra members as positions open up.”

At concerts, she verbally introduces the audience to the musical selections, describing their background and musical import. “I focus on why this music affects us,” Tania says with characteristic fervor, “its themes and recurring motifs. In this way, I serve as the connection between the orchestra and the audience. That relationship between players and listeners is crucial. It’s one of the important things I learned at the University of Saskatchewan.”

Music at the University of Saskatchewan

Tania’s dream of being a concert pianist grew shaky when, during grade 12, she developed tendonitis in her hands. So she opted to enroll in both the piano performance and music education program at the University of Saskatchewan in the fall of 1987.

“I spent years at the U of S doing phytotherapy to work around the tendinitis problem,” she says. “But I never conquered it. So I changed my passion from performance to music education.”

She chose the U of S for its excellent reputation for both performance and music education. Her parents encouraged her too, saying that teaching is an opportunity to share your love of music with others. That’s something to aspire to.”

Tania took advantage of the many musical opportunities offered at the U of S. She studied piano with Cecile de Roumis, whom she calls “Tun, lively and animated.” She also sang with the Greystone Singers, an a cappella choir. Practicing at least an hour a day, she was well rewarded, it performed in Toronto, Montreal, and Plattsburg, NY. Tania calls her travels to these

A Prairie Girl

Many classical musicians were surrounded by music from early childhood. Mozart’s father was a composer and performer; James Levine, who has conducted the New York’s Metropolitan Opera for a quarter century, received a conductor’s podium and baton for his eighth birthday. Walter Bruno decided to become a conductor at the age of 13. Bernstein’s first formal conducting gig took place when he was 22. Moreover, these men were raised or educated in such rich musical centres as Salzburg, Berlin, and New York.

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She grins while reminiscing about her History of Music professor: Walter Kreizig. “I respected him for his total dedication to teaching us. He used a textbook by Donald Grout and urged us to hold evening meetings for further study. We called them ‘Grout parties. But we never told Kreizig that our get-togethers focused much more on partying than on Grout.”

En Route to Conducting

After graduating in 1991, Tania began four years of teaching music in Outlook, Saskatchewan, returning occasionally to the University to assist Don Harris, who ran the Saskatchewan Band Association’s workshops. During this time, she noticed the University of Calgary was offering a three-week summer conducting workshop. She signed up. “Being a conductor hadn’t been on my list of career choices,” she muses. “It all kind of happened naturally.”

Unknown to her then, the workshop would have a profound effect on her life. Robert Reynolds, the University of Michigan music professor who led the program, was so impressed by Tania’s talent, determination, and energy that he invited her to enroll at his home university. That fall, Tania joined the orchestral and opera conducting program. An extremely focused and determined student, Tania earned her master’s and doctorate in musical arts in only five years.

During her studies, she worked with the Michigan Student Opera Works and conducted fully-staged performances of Handel’s Semiramide, Purcell’s Dido and Aeneas, and Mozart’s Cosi fan Tutti. This exceptional working experience led to conducting opportunities at the Carmel (California) Bach Festival during the summers of 1997-2001. The Vancouver Symphony asked her to be an assistant conductor in 2000 and so appreciated her musicianship and drive, they promoted her to associate conductor for the 2003-2004 season. It was during her compelling 2002 guest conducting performance of Tchaikovsky’s Symphony No. 5 that the Victoria Symphony learned of her talents and snapped her up as its new music director.

Indeed, the last year has been a hectic one for Tania. While continuing her role as associate music director of the Vancouver Symphony, she has worked with the Victoria Symphony to create the 2004-2005 season.

And then there are the cross-country airplane flights. The hallmark of a successful musical career—be it as classical performer, rapper, or rockers—is guest appearances. Tania has conducted operas at McGill in Montreal and conducted in Winnipeg, Oregon, Toledo, and Saskatoon.

In November, she made her debut with the Toronto Symphony, which prompted Globe and Mail music critic Ken Winters to write, “She is certainly no fool, neat, little, self-possessed yet unaffected figure on the podium, thoroughly prepared, with a crisp stick technique and a vivacious sense of Smetana’s lucid and disarming score, she established at once a high level of legtendmary. The orchestra responded beautifully.”

The Maestra

Since classical music audiences tend to be older, how will Tania attract those teenagers whose headphones emit the constant din of Abstract Rude Boys Only, or Avril Lavigne? How can classical music compete when some 7-11 stores and the Montreal subway system play Paganini and Puccini to scare away teenagers hanging around sidewalks and platforms?

“Connecting to contemporary audiences is a dilemma,” says Tania. “But I believe in classical music and the emotion it evokes in our hearts. I believe in the power of live performance on the stage that the conductor and orchestra bring to it.” She adds that music is very much part of society’s fabric and is enriching and exciting for everyone. She wonders, however, that popular culture moves fast and is “revved up.” Recalling a Canucks game she recently attended, she comments on the almost raucous audience involvement: “There was a response to music with fans applauding, and rising on cue.”

She believes that audiences can respond to classical music in the same way, provided they can experience the beauty of it personally. She intends to explore musical themes as catalysts, relating them to jazz, film, fairy tales, religion, and to holidays like Christmas and Valentine’s Day. She sees herself as a role model. “I’m so enthusiastic about music. I want people to ask, ‘why is this young person so chumped up?’ I want to connect these people to the composers, their lives, their history, and how all of that relates to today.”

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On Fire with the Calgary Flames!

Dooe Seaman (BE’80H, Hon. LL’92), Murray Edwards (BComm’82), Byron Seoman (BE’45, Hon. DSC’92), and Saskatchewan-born Bud McGaug could have been happier last spring after their NFL franchise eliminated three division winners—Vancouver, Detroit, and San Jose—to secure a spot in the Stanley Cup finals. In an effort to support the alumni-owned franchise, the Alumni Association reached out to thousands of grads across the country through the We’re on Fire with the Calgary Flames contest, a promotion that offered two free tickets donated by the Flames’ ownership to Game 4. Although the Flames were unsuccessful in their bid for the Stanley Cup, Lloyd to Tampa Bay in seven games, Melanie Popp (BE’00), who won the tickets after correctly answering the not-so-skill-testing question “Who’s the current President of the U of S,” enjoyed the May 31 game at the Pengrowth Saddledome with her father, Lorrie.

On the Rhodes Again

While moving is enough to give most of us the headache to end all headaches, JanaLee Cherneski (BA’01) didn’t mind tackling her belongings this summer with a smile. Exactly 100 years after the first Rhodes Scholarship was awarded to a Canadian, she is one of only three recipients of the prestigious award from Saskatchewan, Manitoba, and Alberta, and will be attending Oxford University in the fall.

The Huskies Challenge

When U of S Huskies fans flocked to McMahon Stadium in Calgary on Friday, September 3 to attend a pre-game party, there was more to their motivations than simply having a good time before the game. You see, the U of S Alumni Association issued a challenge to the U of C a few weeks before to see who could get the most fans out to the game. And the stakes were high; the Executive Director of the Alumni Association has the least amount of fans attending Oxford University in the fall.

London Calling!

Well known for its Canadian food and inviting atmosphere, The Maple Leaf pub in the heart of London, England was the setting for a U of S alumni pub night on May 18th. As luck would have it, President Peter MacKinnon, who was in England attending a conference, was able to attend and share news from back home with the 25 alumni and friends in attendance. As far as plans go for future get-togethers at the renowned U.K. watering hole, President MacKinnon said, “Meeting U of S alumni from around the world and hearing about their experiences after graduation is one of the best parts of my job. I’d happily meet with alumni again at The Maple Leaf.”

ParticipACTION Comes To U of S

Dr. Donald Bailey (BA’55) and Rass Kidby (BAPE’67) were thrilled when they heard the news that the U of S would be the permanent home of the archives of one of the most successful and innovative physical activity campaigns in the world—ParticipACTION. Bailey, one of the longest serving members of ParticipACTION’s national Board of Directors, and Kidby, long-time president of the organization, were honored with a wooden box containing the archives and instrumental in bringing the ParticipACTION archives to the U of S.

The archives will include thirty years of magazine and newspaper advertisements, television and radio spots, and hours of oral history interviews. The University and ParticipACTION are also producing an interactive website featuring a considerable amount of the archival information.

Universe of Saskatchewan invites alumni from graduating classes to celebrate a reunion for all college years of 1945, 1950, 1955, 1960, & 1965 June 23–25, 2005 For a complete list of upcoming reunions, class contacts, or for assistance arranging your own class reunion, please check our website at www.usask.ca/alumni or contact the University Reunion Office at 306-966-5186 or 1-800-699-1907 or by e-mail at alumnireunion@usask.ca.
Saskatoon Alumni Branch Out on U of S Day
On September 11, the Saskatoon Alumni Branch attracted more than 70 alumni and friends to its "Third Annual Alumni Branch" held at Marquis Hall. For many, this was a first step on their way to the annual Dog Day Afternoon - the Huskies' home opener, which they lost to the U of A Golden Bears 18-16.

This year the alumni brunch was held the day after Saskatoon Mayor Don Atchison and President Peter MacKinnon declared September 11 University of Saskatchewan Day, the purpose of which is to recognize and celebrate the importance of the University in the life of the city of Saskatoon. If you're interested in volunteering with the Saskatoon Alumni Branch, please email saskatoon.branch@usask.ca.

Sanderson Foundation Promotes Excellence in Track and Field
Huskie track and field became one of Canada's premier university athletics programs during the 37 years under Lyle Sanderson's leadership. A successful team reunion in August 2003 and Sanderson's retirement at the end of the banner 2004 season sparked creation of the Sanderson Foundation and the Sanderson Athletic Fund, established to promote program excellence under new leadership.

Generations of runners, jumpers, and throwers were fiercely loyal members of "Lyle's gang" and are determined to contribute to the program's continued success. Soon they will launch a website and communications network designed to maintain the traditions of Huskie success and to raise money to help it happen.

To get involved in and support the Sanderson Foundation, contact either Laurel Rossnagel, Advancement Officer in the College of Kinesiology (306) 966-1105 or Dale Yellowlees (dale.yellowlees@usask.ca).

Journey of the Czars
What could be better than a 14-day tour through the waterways of Russia? As it turns out, nothing. Just ask the 18 U of S alumni and friends who embarked on one of the four cruise ships last summer that began in Moscow and ended in historic St. Petersburg.

Part of University Advancement's Alumni Travel program, the cruises provided travelers with an opportunity to explore Russia's rich culture and history. Highlights included visits to Lenin's tomb, Red Square, and the Kremlin, as well as an exclusive ballet performance at the Czars' once-premier university athletics programs during the 37 years under Lyle Sanderson's leadership. A successful team reunion in August 2003 and Sanderson's retirement at the end of the banner 2004 season sparked creation of the Sanderson Foundation and the Sanderson Athletic Fund, established to promote program excellence under new leadership.

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2004-2005 Events Calendar:

Friday, October 29
All Canadian Universities Alumni Event
Chicago

Saturday, October 30
U of S Pre-Game Alumni Event, Fox and Fiddle Restaurant, Vancouver.

Sunday, October 31
Sanderson Foundation Gala @ the Free Press Centre, and Game of Follow.

Monday, November 8
Board of Governors Community Dinner, Regina

Tuesday, November 9
Board of Governors Community Dinner, Moose Jaw

Wednesday, November 24
President's Provincial Tour, Estevan

Thursday, November 25
President's Provincial Tour, Red Deer

Friday, November 26
President's Provincial Tour, Hamilton

Saturday, November 27
All Canadian Universities Alumni Event, York.

For more information on these events and other events, contact University Advancement at 1-800-699-1907 or (306) 966-5186, or email alumni.office@usask.ca.

Alumni of Achievement - Dr. Ernest Gordon Walker (S.O.M., BEd’71, BA’72, MA’78, PhD’80) - Emie Walker is a professor of anthropology and anthropology at the U of S, and was the driving force behind the establishment of Wanuskewin Heritage Park. He has received the Saskatchewan Order of Merit and was recently named a member of the Order of Canada.

Alumni Service Award - Mr. Kenneth Ready (HSP’53) - Kenneth Ready is a respected pharmacist and professor at the U of S. He was Past President with both the Saskatchewan and Canadian Pharmaceutical Associations and was involved with the launch of the provincial government’s Prescription Drug Plan.

Alumni Humanitarian Award - Mr. David Bodney (BA’87, BEd’88) - David Bodney is best known for being an international keynote speaker after becoming the only person from Saskatchewan to climb the highest mountain in the world. He is also the only Canadian in history to successfully scale Mt. Everest twice.

Alumni Honour Award - Mr. John Leonard (Len) Gusthart (BEd’69, BA’71, MA’75) - John Gusthart is a professor of kinesthetics at the U of S. He has been involved with the launch of the provincial government’s Prescription Drug Plan.

Alumni Mentorship Award - Mr. Jerold Peters (BA’77, BEd’80) - Jerold Peters has worked as an educator in Swift Current since 1980. In addition to his instructional duties, he is currently serving as department head, and participates in the school system’s teacher mentorship program at the Comprehensive High School. He is a coach and recently became involved with the Skills Canada Competitions in the hope of expanding its influence within his school.

Alumni Mentorship Award - Mr. Daniel Paul Weber (BSc’96) and Ms. Garnette Joyce Weber (BSIT’80) - The Webers are the founders of a successful Saskatchewan-based business called Itracka - a specialty online data collection firm. The Webers were named the 2001 Prairie Region Emerging Entrepreneur of the Ernst & Young Entrepreneur of the Year Awards. They were also awarded the Saskatchewan Young Entrepreneur’s Award from the Business Development Bank of Canada in 1999.

Outstanding Young Alumni Award - Mr. Daniel Paul Weber (BSc’96) and Ms. Garnette Joyce Weber (BSIT’80) - The Webers are the founders of a successful Saskatchewan-based business called Itracka - a specialty online data collection firm. The Webers were named the 2001 Prairie Region Emerging Entrepreneur of the Ernst & Young Entrepreneur of the Year Awards. They were also awarded the Saskatchewan Young Entrepreneur’s Award from the Business Development Bank of Canada in 1999.

Congratulations to our 2004 Alumni Award Winners!

The theme of this year's Annual Fund reflects exciting developments across campus. In the past year alone, we have seen renovations start on the College Building, the opening of the new Physical Activity Complex, several major announcements on new research chairs and student awards, and more.

The Annual Fund is an essential part of this transformation. Thanks to the generous support of 7,913 alumni and friends, last year’s campaign raised more than $1 million for the fourth year in a row. OGizers are hoping to raise over and above the result this year.

"Gifts to the Annual Fund support our vision for this great University," says U of S President Peter MacKinnon, honorary spokesperson of this year's campaign. "We're following clear strategic directions: We will attract and retain outstanding faculty; increase our commitment to research; and attract and retain key faculty and students from around the world. He is also the only Canadian in history to successfully scale Mt. Everest twice.

"Gifts from donors directly impact students by adding richness to the university experience," President MacKinnon says. "It’s an investment in the future that builds on our past."

To make a gift to the Annual Fund, or for more information on how proceeds will be put to use, visit the U of S online at www.usask.ca/advancement and click on ‘Support the U of S’. You can also call University Advancement toll free at 1-800-699-1907 or locally at (306) 966-5186.

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For all alumni and friends, the Annual Fund is an opportunity to make the U of S student experience truly remarkable. The campaign directly supports student-focused initiatives such as increased funding for awards, new learning and research opportunities, updated technology and library resources, enhanced recreation and Huskie athletics, and more.

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For all alumni and friends, the Annual Fund is an opportunity to make the U of S student experience truly remarkable.
The Art of Giving
By Matthew Barro

Given the difficulty Henry (BA'65, LLB'68, BCL Oxford'70) and Dorothy (nee Kloppenburg, BA'60, MA'67) have in fitting their enormous and always-growing art collection into the confines of their home and shared law office, you’d think they would be hard-pressed to know what to do with it.

Actually, quite the opposite is true. Over the years, the couple has donated a significant number of paintings to the Mendel Art Gallery, the College of Agriculture, and loaned others to the Saskatoon Club—all because the Kloppenburgs know exactly what they want such exhibits to achieve.

In the case of the 20 paintings that now hang in the 6th floor hallway of the College of Agriculture—among works by prominent local artists Robert Hurley, Allen Sapp, Reta Cowley—Henry jokes that he wants to “develop the artistic tastes over there at the College of Agriculture.”

Cheryl, more seriously, adds that exposing people to art is important, and the best way to bring about this exposure is to have art displayed permanently—and not necessarily in a gallery where paintings are dusted off for periodic showings.

“We accept that there’s a risk involved,” she says, “but the paintings and the artists will get more exposure.”

But no dust collects on the Kloppenburgs’ belief that culture is integral to a community, since culture remains so much a part of their personal interests as music, art, and literature buffs. “Both of us feel that cultural organizations are very important to the quality of life in the community,” says Henry, “Fancy Saskatoon without a symphony, or a quality art gallery, or a symphony, or a quality art gallery, or a symphony—not to mention the Saskatchewan Arts Board.”

And yet they continue to acquire and donate art—all because they want to give others the opportunity to appreciate and perhaps find inspiration in art.

Cheryl, however, says she’s “kind of cringes perhaps find inspiration in art.”

And because we thought it should be supported across the board. ‘We’re not doing it out of obligation; we think it’s worthwhile.”

To discuss how you might establish a future gift to the University of Saskatchewan, we invite you to contact Doug Clark or Beverley Cooper in University Advancement at 1-800-699-1907, or visit www.usask.ca/advancement.

The Knoppel Collection consists of 27 pieces, representing the work of Louise Cox, Reta Cowley, Robert Hurley (landscape), Dorothy Knowles, Ernest Luft, Winona Makosz, William Hagen, and Alen Sapp.

To give anything beyond a sharply abbreviated account of the couple’s interest in doing it.

What we have done, we have done because we had an interest in doing it.

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The heritage of the Saskatchewan Arts Board and the Saskatchewan Symphony, he has, among many other things, received both a President’s and a Service Award for his work with the Kiwanis Foundation of Canada and served on the board of the S. Bioethics Committee for 20 years. In 1994, the Kloppenburgs both received the Financial Post’s national award for community support of the arts.

That said, both feel that besides the art donations to the College of Agriculture, the most gratifying gift they have made is that of 160 acres of unbroken, uncultivated grassland prairie donated in the community of Humboldt. Henry says the resulting wildlife refuge exposes people—such as the students in Humboldt who frequent the land on class trips—to the pristine character of a natural grassland prairie.

This exposure to natural land, the scholarships, the donations to the symphony and galleries are all driven by their desire to expose people to excellence so that further excellence can result—thereby raising the bar of cultural values.

“You’re not going to get good music teachers without a symphony,” adds Henry, a Rhodes Scholar and, like his wife, also a successful lawyer. “It’s an essential institution for musical education in the community because it’s an exemplar of what ought to be.”

U of S Director of Planned Giving Doug Clark, who has helped the Kloppenburgs work out the details of their donations to the University—including a very substantial planned future gift to the U of S—says the Kloppenburgs “donate out of a sincere desire to share their interests and enhance their community. Their art collection is a good example; it’s all over Saskatoon and yet they continue to acquire and donate art—all because they want to give others the opportunity to appreciate and perhaps find inspiration in art.”

The Genesis story of Jacob, the patriarch of a small prairie town. Too small to support a high school and yet Snye is populated by men and women who have worked for generations to wrest a living from the dry, rolling hills.

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Bernard Michael Thomas Daly, BA'48, MA'TC'14AR, living in Toronto and Grenada, is receiving retirement benefits in a lifetime of service to his alma mater. "Beyond Secrecy: The Untold Story of the University of Saskatchewan at War," published in 2003 by Novalea, Ottawa.

Dr. Daniel (Dan) Murray Beveridge, BSc'61, BA'62, MG'65, was inducted in 2003 into the University of Saskatchewan College of Education and was assistant director of the research unit. After graduation from the U of S, he was also awarded the Western Co-operative in Saskatoon and extension specialist at the community for the University of Saskatchewan Alumni.

Dr. Gerald (Jerry) Albert Detham, BComm'61, PhD'67(ber), of Vancouver, BC, was recognized with honours from the Faculty of Commerce in 1981. He was in the 'Pep Boys' tennis club and was a member of the Canadian Olympic Committee from 1983 to 1985. He was elected to the Order of Canada in 1988.

Dr. Margaret "Nayda" Veeman, BComm'71, MCom'71, of Saskatoon, SK, received her PhD in Educational Leadership from the University of Saskatchewan in 1994. Nayda has been a member of the education team at the University of Saskatchewan since 1991.

Dr. Clinton (Clint) Duggan, BEd'03, MSc'06, has been a teacher at Lorne School in Victoria since 2009. He was awarded the Saskatchewan government's award for outstanding teacher in 2013.

Dr. Edward Arnold Johnson, PhD'70, of Calgary, AB, is a professor of accounting at the University of Calgary. He has been a member of the editorial board of several accounting journals and has been involved in many professional organizations.

Dr. Meinhardt Steltzner, MD'95, of Calgary, AB, is a professor of medicine at the University of Alberta. He has been a member of many professional organizations and has published extensively in the field of medicine.

Dr. Jonathan (Jon) Frobish BEng'04, of Medicine Hat, AB, is a licensed electrical engineer and has been a member of many professional organizations. He has published extensively in the field of electrical engineering.

Dr. Jennifer Jean Blais, BSc'96, of Edmonton, AB, is a professor of geology at the University of Alberta. She has been a member of many professional organizations and has published extensively in the field of geology.

Dr. Neil Allan Brans, BComm'86, of Winnipeg, MB, is a professor of accounting at the University of Manitoba. He has been a member of many professional organizations and has published extensively in the field of accounting.

Dr. Gary Robert Smith, BComm'86, of Edmonton, AB, is a professor of economics at the University of Alberta. He has been a member of many professional organizations and has published extensively in the field of economics.

Jennifer Lee Kanal, BBA'98, of Edmonton, AB, is a professor of business at the University of Alberta. She has been a member of many professional organizations and has published extensively in the field of business.

Dr. Kevin James Morris, BComm'97, of Calgary, AB, is a professor of management at the University of Calgary. He has been a member of many professional organizations and has published extensively in the field of management.

Dr. Robert Frank, PhD'97, of Calgary, AB, is an associate professor of psychology at the University of Calgary. He has been a member of many professional organizations and has published extensively in the field of psychology.
PhD(oth), of Victoria, BC, d. February 26, 2004.

Robert Nevens Millman, BSc'59, of St. John's, NL, d. April 10, 1944.

Bernice Rhoda Stewart (Beardall), Cert/PE'39, BA'40, of Saskatoon, SK, d. September 26, 2004.

Margaret MacPherson Tulloch, BE(ME)'52, of Powell River, BC, d. April 6, 2004.

B. C. of Canada. For the continuation of the following: Reginald "Arthur" Gyles, BSc'48, of Stratford, ON, d. March 29, 2004.


Robert Henry Wardrop, BSc'54, of Toronto, ON, d. May 24, 2004.

William (Bill) Huebner, BSA'42, of Windsor, ON, d. December 12, 2004.


Kathleen Franke, BSc'00, of Richmond Hill, ON, d. May 19, 2004.

Baldrinnon, BEd'64, of Edmonton, AB, d. March 14, 2004.

Heather R. Driscoll, BSc'00, of Grande Prairie, AB, d. April 20, 2004.

S. M. C. of Canada. For the continuation of the following: Manley, BSc'80, of Saskatoon, SK, d. November 6, 2003.


Lester Victor Patten, BEd'59, of Medicine Hat, AB, d. April 1, 2004.


Melanie Mary Watson (Paproski), Cert/BusAdm'93, BComm'87, of Stratford, ON, d. April 19, 2004.


Kathleen Enright (Russ), BHSc'51, of Vancouver, BC, d. May 20, 2004.


Francis Jones (Ritchie), BSc'55, of Watrous, SK, d. May 23, 2004.
increase my opportunities, and be able to have an education to become empowered, to become a role model to the people of my community. When she attended secondary school at the time, she recognized the value of education. My grandmother was a brilliant woman, both academically and in a practical way. I found one of her old report cards once from the time when she attended secondary school at the time, but to see poverty and social problems helped me realize that life is not easy.

G&W Traditionally, Aboriginal enrollment tends to be lower in the professional colleges than it does in colleges like Arts & Science and Education. Why do you think this is?

LW I think science education must be made meaningful for everyone; that’s our responsibility as educators from K-12, as well as in university. The university has place a high priority on the value of excellence in teaching, and I can only surmise that good things will follow from this mindset.

G&W Were you also one of the first Aboriginal professors in Canada ever to receive the 2004 University Faculty Award – an award aimed at facilitating the appointment of more women and Aboriginal people to faculty positions in the natural sciences and engineering. Do you think of yourself as an Aboriginal scholar or simply as a scholar?

LW I see myself simply as a scholar. However, I have connections to a unique heritage to which I believe has affected my world view. Science is one of my passions in this life and I wish to pursue, explore, and develop some wonderful science in the years to come. The ideas that I will pursue will be affected by my world view. To me, I think it is important to be a scientist that has a conscience, and to the areas of science that I will pursue are connected to that. In the end, I want the science to be first class work and it should be something that ultimately benefits our society as a whole.

LW I feel compelled to work harder than I have in the past to reach out and help out in whatever ways I can. I have moments of disappointment, though, when I have other commitments and there’s not enough time in the day to do things in this regard.

G&W What are some of the programs and initiatives you’re currently involved in?

LW I’m making efforts to initiate a science internship program here in the chemistry research labs that will allow Aboriginal youth to become familiar with scientific research and decrease their apprehensions about university life. Also, I maintain an involvement with various Aboriginal organizations and educational institutes in order to highlight the importance of education and training of our youth.

LW I wanted to go to university because I recognized the value of education. My grandmother was a brilliant woman, both academically and in a practical way. I found one of her old report cards once from the time when she attended secondary school at the convent. All of her marks were 90% or higher. And yet, she never made any claims, as such. I also realized that if I didn’t want to struggle in a hand-to-mouth kind of way, I needed to have an education to become empowered, to increase my opportunities, and be able to make the right choices.

G&W What did you like most about your time as a student at the U of S?

LW The U of S is an institution that’s close to my heart. I have cultivated wonderful friendships here and made some lifelong memories. In terms of graduate school, I came to the U of S because of Professor Ronald Verral, who was my PhD supervisor. He gave me an opportunity to pursue some interesting science and be provided guidance and support for me that I believe would have been difficult to find elsewhere. The U of S has been a really wonderful place.

G&W We’re surprised when you got the call that you’d won the Aboriginal Achievement Award!

LW Notification of the award definitely came as a surprise. In particular, when I think of the others who have come before me and received this same recognition. There have been other people here on campus who have received this award, like Dr. Lilian Dyck, Dr. Maria Campbell, and Mr. Matthew Dunlop. I was even more impressed when I had the opportunity to meet this year’s award winners in person. What else can I say other than that they are an amazing group of people with such unbelievably diverse talents and gifts.

G&W Why did you decide to go to university?

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G&W You’re also one of the first Aboriginal professors in Canada ever to receive the 2004 University Faculty Award – an award aimed at facilitating the appointment of more women and Aboriginal people to faculty positions in the natural sciences and engineering. Do you think of yourself as an Aboriginal scholar or simply as a scholar?

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