Alumni of Influence

Timeline:
A Century of Firsts

Through the
College Building

Snapshots of
Student Tradition

Homecoming 2007
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University Archives provided much of the historical information in this issue. Visit www.usask.ca/archives

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features

04 | Timeline: A Century of Firsts
Beginning with the signing of the University Act in 1907, the University’s rich history has been shaped by innovation, discovery, and success.

06 | Through the College Building
BY DON KERR
Perhaps no building on campus better tells the story of the University’s history than the College Building. Don Kerr, reflects on the College Building’s beginning and on the importance of its role in the development of our campus.

10 | 100 Alumni of Influence
A special supplement recognizing our graduates who have contributed to enriching the province, the country, and the world.

38 | Snapshots of Student Tradition
BY MATT BARRON
There are many student traditions interwoven with U of S history, traditions that had as much to do with the times as they did with the impulse to let loose, needle authority, and enjoy getting away with as much as possible.

40 | The USSU: Then & Now
BY BEVERLY FAST
It’s no coincidence that the University of Saskatchewan’s Students’ Union came into being exactly one week to the day classes were first held at the University in 1909.

44 | Q&A with Chancellor Tom Molloy
We met with the renowned lawyer and treaty negotiator to talk about his time as the University’s 12th Chancellor and his abiding affection for this University and its graduates.

editor’s note

In recognition of the University’s 100th birthday in 2007, we decided to publish this special Centennial issue of the Green & White. While we haven’t included some of our usual departments, like Class Notes or In Memoriam (which we’ve deferred until the fall), you will find a host of stories in this issue that celebrate the University’s varied history and colourful student experience over the past 100 years.

We are particularly proud to offer you our 100 Alumni of Influence supplement, which was designed to recognize the accomplishments of our University’s living history – its alumni. This list of influential alumni is by no means definitive; it’s the beginning of a conversation that we hope spurs us all to consider other exceptional graduates who have made lasting contributions to our University and our world. I invite you to participate by visiting www.usask.ca/100 and comment on the list or suggest additional graduates who could be counted among our most influential.

I hope you enjoy this edition of the Green & White, and I encourage you to celebrate the University’s Centennial with us throughout 2007. In September, the University is hosting the Alumni and Friends Centennial Homecoming 2007, which offers all alumni the opportunity to return to campus and celebrate the University’s 100th birthday together.

But for now, enjoy this special Centennial issue of your alumni magazine.

Luke Muller, MA
On April 3, faculty, staff, students, alumni, retirees, and special guests gathered on campus to officially mark the 100th anniversary of our University. It was a day that had something for everyone – the unveiling of the U of S stamp; the passing of the centennial torch from the City of Saskatoon to us on behalf of all 100-year-old organizations in the city; music; a celebration of teaching and learning; social opportunities; and the launch of the new U of S Alumni Branch.

And of course, it would not have been a birthday without cake and balloons – more than 125 cakes on campus and at regional colleges around the province. What a celebration!

I was delighted to hear that some alumni have embraced the centennial spirit and are organizing special events in their home communities. On my upcoming national tour, we will bring a small part of the 100th birthday celebration to some of you, and I look forward to the opportunity to meet and mark the occasion.

The impressive vision 100 years ago to build a world-class university on the pristine prairie banks above the South Saskatchewan River has been met with an unfailing commitment by those who have worked and studied here. You need only look around campus today to know that we have honoured the ideals and goals of our founders, and we will continue to do so in our second century.

Indeed, if our first president, Walter Murray, and Walter Scott, the first premier of Saskatchewan and a strong proponent of post-secondary education in this province, had been with us April 3, I have no doubt they would have said, ‘Well done.’

We can also say well done to our alumni. As ambassadors, you have played a critical role in building the reputation of this University, and in ensuring our continued growth as an institution through your ongoing support and special gifts to the Thinking the World of our Future capital campaign.

As the centennial year unfolds, we will take every opportunity to celebrate our past, contemplate our present, and anticipate our future. No better event will combine these conversations than the 2007 Alumni and Friends Centennial Homecoming 2007. I warmly invite you to revisit the University of Saskatchewan September 14-16 to reconnect with friends, explore all that is new on campus, and cheer on the Huskies as they face the Simon Fraser Clan in the recently renovated Griffiths Stadium.

It will be a weekend to remember.

Peter MacKinnon, President

Register now for U of S Centennial Homecoming 2007!

Come and celebrate the University of Saskatchewan’s 100th anniversary September 14-16, 2007.

Visit www.usask.ca/100 for more information.
This marks my final opportunity to write to you as President of the University of Saskatchewan Alumni Association. Over the past year, the Board of Directors has taken a number of strides toward strengthening the Association, helping to ensure that it will be well positioned to meet the interests of University of Saskatchewan alumni for years to come. I invite you to attend our Annual General Meeting—taking place on June 7, 2007 at Convocation Hall on the University campus—to learn more about our endeavours this year and to hear our plans for the future.

Before I step down as President, however, I wish to offer a few thoughts on the topic of community.

As graduates of the U of S, we are each a part of a larger community that stretches around the world. Our Association has over 120,000 alumni members located in over 50 countries; alumni branches are situated in many of these jurisdictions. And as the Association concludes its 90th anniversary celebrations in 2007, the University is in the midst of celebrating its centennial. These celebrations give us an opportunity to reflect upon the valuable contributions made—both as volunteers and otherwise—by U of S alumni over the last century. The efforts of countless graduates have helped to build, foster and strengthen both the Association and the University, creating a rich and vibrant legacy that benefits and enriches us all.

As part of this alumni community, I believe we have an obligation to ensure that we do our part to honour this legacy. We must be cognizant of the privileges that we have been afforded, and we must ensure that we have done our part to enhance, expand, and enliven the legacy that others created for us. Through these efforts, we will ensure that both the Association and the University will continue to grow, strong and vibrant, throughout the next century.

On behalf of the Association, I would like to extend my thanks for your continued support and guidance over this past year—it has been a pleasure working with you. Please accept my best wishes for a long and restful summer.

Jeffrey Vicq
President
University of Saskatchewan Alumni Association
Timeline: A Century of Firsts

**Engage. Enlighten. Explore.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1907</td>
<td>The University Act is passed by the Legislative Assembly and receives royal assent on April 3rd.</td>
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<tr>
<td>1908</td>
<td>The Board of Governors appoints Walter Murray as the University’s first President.</td>
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<tr>
<td>1909</td>
<td>The University holds its first classes downtown in the Drinkle Building.</td>
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<td>1912</td>
<td>The University’s first graduating class.</td>
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<td>1913</td>
<td>The College Building, which was the first building constructed on campus, is formally opened by the Hon. Walter Scott.</td>
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<td>1914</td>
<td>English Professor R.J. Bateman is the first person from the University community to enlist in WWI. The Memorial Ribbons lining the walls of the College Building commemorate all students, faculty, staff, and alumni who served during the war.</td>
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<td>1915</td>
<td>Annie (Nan) McKay is the first Métis and first Aboriginal woman to graduate from the U of S.</td>
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<td>1920</td>
<td>The Sheaf appears as a weekly publication.</td>
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<td>1926</td>
<td>Dr. W. Stewart Lindsay, Professor of Bacteriology, establishes a laboratory in one of the greenhouses on campus that is the first medical teaching facility in what becomes the School of Medical Sciences.</td>
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<tr>
<td>1931</td>
<td>With a grant from the Carnegie Corporation and the appointment of Professor Arthur Collingwood, the U of S establishes a School of Music and becomes the only university west of Toronto and Montreal to have a music chair.</td>
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<td>1939</td>
<td>Emma Lake Art School opens and becomes the first outdoor school of art for university credit in Canada.</td>
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<td>1942</td>
<td>Dr. Hope Hunt is named the first Dean of Household Science. Ten years later, the college is renamed the College of Home Economics – the first, and for some time the only, college of home economics in Canada.</td>
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<td>1944</td>
<td>At the time of his appointment, Prof. Emrys Jones is the first full professor of drama at a Commonwealth university, and his Department is the only university department in Canada devoted solely to the teaching of drama.</td>
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<td>1948</td>
<td>Thanks to the efforts of Harold Johns and others in the Physics Department, the U of S becomes the only site in Canada to have a $25 million electron-volt betatron – a world-class facility for radiation treatment and nuclear research.</td>
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<td>1951</td>
<td>The world’s first non-commercial cobalt-60 therapy unit is opened at the U of S. Used for cancer treatments, Cobalt-60 therapy was one of the most reliable and advanced forms of treatment at the time.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year</td>
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<td>1956</td>
<td>The Murray Memorial Library officially opens.</td>
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<td>1959</td>
<td>Saskatchewan farmer Steve Kolbinson sells a set of rare 17th-century Amati instruments to the U of S with the understanding that they be used for the benefit of the people of the province.</td>
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<tr>
<td>1961</td>
<td>The Arts Building officially opens. With a distinctively modern appearance, it has four more floors added to the office tower in 1965 and a second classroom wing in 1967.</td>
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<td>1964</td>
<td>A team of Saskatoon physicians performs the first re-transplant of a kidney in Canada, which is performed on Mrs. Stella Mossing in Royal University Hospital.</td>
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<td>1971</td>
<td>Dr. Gerhard Herzberg is the University’s first faculty member to receive a Nobel Prize (Chemistry).</td>
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<td>1975</td>
<td>Diane Jones establishes a new world record in the indoor pentathlon, winning the Canadian Senior Indoor Pentathlon Championship during her last year with the U of S track and field team.</td>
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<td>1978</td>
<td>Dignitaries gather around a newly unveiled plaque marking the opening of the Regional Psychiatric Centre, the first of its kind to be affiliated with a University.</td>
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<td>1986</td>
<td>Sylvia Fedoruk is elected as the University’s eighth Chancellor. She is the first woman to fill the post.</td>
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<td>1990</td>
<td>The U of S Huskies football team wins their first national championship (Vanier Cup) after narrowly defeating the St. Mary’s Huskies 24-21.</td>
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<td>1994</td>
<td>College of Commerce, in partnership with Saskatchewan Indian Federated College, establishes the First Nations MBA program, the first in Canada.</td>
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<td>1995</td>
<td>The Peter Millard Scholarship Fund is established. This University-managed scholarship fund for gay, lesbian, and bisexual studies is the first in the country.</td>
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<td>2001</td>
<td>The University embarks upon its largest fundraising initiative ever, the $100-million Thinking the World of Our Future campaign.</td>
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<td>2004</td>
<td>The Canadian Light Source opens. One of the largest scientific projects ever undertaken in Canada, this “third-generation synchrotron” is the first and only one in the country.</td>
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<tr>
<td>2005</td>
<td>The U of S Alumni Association establishes the Alumni Excellence in Aboriginal Initiatives Award to recognize graduates who demonstrate exceptional leadership and outstanding service to the Aboriginal community. Orest Murawsky is the first recipient.</td>
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<tr>
<td>2006</td>
<td>Ron and Jane Graham donate $4.78 Million, the largest personal donation made by alumni to the University.</td>
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<tr>
<td>2007</td>
<td>The University of Saskatchewan celebrates its Centennial!</td>
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For more detailed information on events in the University’s history, visit University Archives at [www.usask.ca/archives](http://www.usask.ca/archives).
Perhaps no building on campus better tells the story of the University’s history than the College Building. Don Kerr, author and retired English professor, reflects on the College Building’s beginnings, and on the importance of its role in the development of our campus.

I’ve lived with the College Building for a lifetime. I love its elegance, clarity, and modesty. It’s both classical and balanced, with two wings and symmetrical sets of windows. It’s romantic, too, with gargoyles, oriel windows, and the Gothic arch entrance. It expresses harmony and richness, and I feel at peace when I look at it.

It began its life early in the last century, and was conceived as the focal building on the brand new University of Saskatchewan campus. Architects Brown & Vallance of Montreal, hired after a 1908 tour by President Murray and two board members, drew a 1909 plan for our campus. The central axis line ran from a ravine (that became Devil’s Dip).
to a height of land about a half-mile away where the College Building was situated. The entrance was constructed on that axis, as was the main entrance of the Arts and Science building later in 1960.

That three-person committee was most impressed by Washington University at St. Louis and so chose Collegiate Gothic as an architectural style, which is derivative of medieval Gothic architecture. Once the style was chosen the other crucial decision was greystone, which was available in abundance a few miles north of the University. Both warmer and more various than the stone buildings originally planned, the College Building and Saskatchewan Hall were the first buildings clad in greystone.

When the building opened in the fall of 1912, it housed labs and offices for Biology, Chemistry, and Physics. It was also home to the library and the President’s office on the 2nd floor, while the basement included agricultural room for testing milk and for making butter and cheese, as well as the gymnasium.

Convocation Hall was added at the suggestion of Dean William J. Rutherford of Agriculture as a meeting room for farmers (Rutherford’s house is now the Faculty Club). Physics and Chemistry moved into their new buildings in 1921 and 1924, and the School of Household Science, which later became the College of Home Economics in 1952, actually began in the Physics lab, using Bunsen burners for cooking.

After World War II, Education occupied the College Building before its current home opened in 1970. Even Art and Art History spent time
**A Building Boom**

The University is taking its place as one of Canada’s leading institutions in teaching, research, and scholarly activity – and the campus building boom is a dramatic reflection of this evolution.

For many, the first intimation that the U of S was ready to step boldly into the future was the announcement that the Canadian Light Source, Canada’s biggest science project in 30 years, was going to be built here. The coup can be credited, in part, to an earlier one: construction of the Linear Accelerator (Linac) on campus in 1961-64.

After the CLS, the University community began asking what if. What if we could have more space for teaching and research? What if we could add facilities to enhance the student experience? The results are evident across campus.

In 2002, the new Chemical Engineering wing added 21 new labs, a pilot plant, a computer design lab, and graduate student space to the Engineering Building. A year later, the Spinks addition to the Thorvaldson Building provided world-class research and teaching space for the Chemistry department, as well as a home for the Structural Sciences Centre.

When students returned to class in the fall of 2003, they eagerly explored Kinesiology’s new Physical Activity Complex (PAC). Griffiths Stadium, too, was upgraded. Donor support was a major factor in extensive renovations to the Stadium, finished just in time for the 2006 Vanier Cup. Many fans parked nearby in the Stadium Parkade, which was completed in 2004.

The Crop Science Field Lab addition opened in 2005 and the new Feed Technology Research Facility currently in development are part of a growing agriculture and bioresource research onclave on campus. Plans for the International Vaccine Centre (InterVac), the first laboratory in Western Canada to conduct research on both animal and human health, are moving forward, and the Western College of Veterinary Medicine expansion and renovation is nearing completion.

Enhancing the student experience is an integral part of the building activity. An Aboriginal Student Space is in design, new student residences are under consideration, and expansion plans for Place Riel have been given the green light.

in the building, and well-known structuralist artist Eli Bornstein once had his studio in the tile-floored dairy room. By the 1960s, however, the center piece of campus solely housed administration, and the building came
to be known as the Administration Building.

Convocation Hall, too, has had as rich a history as the College Building itself. In 1933, the University’s first music professor, Arthur Collingwood, began the Saskatoon Symphony Orchestra. The room’s excellent acoustics made it a favorite for performances and recordings. In the 1950s, famous Canadian composer Murray Adaskin performed his music there, while Eli Bornstein displayed his art. Now, the Amati instruments are housed in the College Building and regularly featured in concerts.

While its life has centered primarily on the arts, Convocation Hall has held every kind of event from registrations, student political rallies, and lectures to memorials for faculty, pow wows, and Christmas parties for children of University employees.

The College Building was closed in 1997 because of a weak roof and salt-eaten cement pillars. It opened again in the fall of 2005, thanks to a new steel supporting structure and to President MacKinnon who made restoration of the building one of the promises to his presidency.

Indeed, the College Building has received kudos – designated by the provincial and federal governments as an historic site – and Parks Canada has declared the five early buildings around the Bowl to be the best examples of Collegiate Gothic architecture in Canada. Anyone who now visits the College Building will be delighted by its loving restoration and rich history.
2007 U of S
Centennial Alumni Reunion
The University of Saskatchewan is
honouring your year of graduation on

June 21, 22 & 23, 2007

ALL COLLEGE YEARS OF:

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and all College Years from 1928 to 1946
wishing to celebrate and return to the U of S in 2007.

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University of Saskatchewan
100 Alumni of Influence

As our office prepared for the University of Saskatchewan’s 100th anniversary celebrations in 2007, we felt it was important to recognize the ways in which our graduates worldwide have contributed to enriching the province, the country, and the world. Certainly, their contributions impact the profile and reputation of this great University, and what better time to recognize alumni than during the University’s Centennial.

So, the idea of identifying 100 alumni of influence was developed and a selection committee was struck comprised of Vice-President University Advancement, Heather Magotiaux; University Chancellor Emerita, Peggy McKercher; Senator, Gayleen Turner; Past President Joy Crawford, University of Saskatchewan Alumni Association; Ms. Joanne Paulson, member of the Green and White Editorial Board; Mr. Luke Muller, Editor of the Green and White, and Mr. Dean Hall, Advancement Research Officer.

Using the University’s Strategic Directions to guide us (international standards, academic pre-eminence, and sense of place), as well as the Centennial themes of engagement, enlightenment, and exploration, we began identifying 100 influential alumni from a pool of more than 120,000 graduates. After conducting substantial research, we created a short list of exceptional graduates. Then, through vigorous discussion, which included the decisions to exclude honorary degree recipients and to ensure that disciplines and age demographics were represented, we eventually arrived at our list of 100 Alumni of Influence.

We do believe the 100 Alumni of Influence represent the array of U of S alumni who have made profound and lasting contributions to our University and the world in which we live. We recognize that there are many U of S alumni who are too modest and humble to share their successes publicly, and there are still others for whom we have little or no record of their accomplishments. We invite you, then, to share with us your success stories, as well as those of your U of S classmates, families, and friends, so that we may recognize and celebrate together the tremendous achievements of all our graduates. Please visit www.usask.ca/100 and help us tell the stories of other U of S alumni of influence.

I extend my deepest thanks to the members of the Selection Committee for their enthusiasm and commitment to this project. I am extremely proud to present to you 100 Alumni of Influence in celebration of the University’s Centennial.

Sincerely,

Melana Soroka, Director of Alumni Relations and
Chair, Selection Committee for U of S 100 Alumni of Influence
Rev. Adrian Gabriel Morice, O.M.I., MA’12, LLD’33 (d. 1938)
Reverend Morice's eminent and substantial contributions to anthropology and history, more particularly to Aboriginal linguistics, did much to further early understandings of Canadian and Aboriginal culture in the west. He published two large volumes on the language and grammar of the Carrier Indians in 1932. This marked the conclusion of more than fifty years of studying the manner, customs, and languages of the Aboriginal peoples of the North West, and particularly of British Columbia. A prolific researcher and scholar, Father Morice also taught some of the first classes focusing on Aboriginal peoples at the U of S.

Annie (Nan) McKay, BA’15 (d. 1986)
The first Métis and first Aboriginal woman to graduate from the University of Saskatchewan, Ms. McKay demonstrated a remarkable commitment to the University both as a student and an alumnus. Active in student life, serving on student council, The Sheaf editorial board, and playing U of S women's hockey, she would go on to become an assistant librarian at her alma mater. During the flu epidemic of 1918, she worked tirelessly as a volunteer nurse and was chosen to unveil the plaque commemorating the undergraduate student who died in the epidemic. She was also the first secretary-treasurer of the University of Saskatchewan Alumni Association.

Emmett Hall C.C., LLB’19, DCL’64 (d. 1995)
Considered one of the fathers of the Canadian system of Medicare, Emmett Hall was also one of Saskatchewan's preeminent trial lawyers. He became Chief Justice of the Court of Queen's Bench for Saskatchewan, and later Chief Justice for the province in 1961. Eventually serving on the Supreme Court of Canada until his retirement, Dr. Hall chaired a royal commission on the national health system that recommended the nationwide adoption of Saskatchewan's model of public health insurance. His recommendations led to the establishment of Canada's national medicare system.

Rt. Hon. John G. Diefenbaker P.C., Q.C., BA’15, MA’16, LLB’19, DCL’58 (d. 1979)
John Diefenbaker was a lawyer, Member of Parliament, and Prime Minister of Canada from 1957-63. Educated in one-room country schools, he earned three degrees from the University of Saskatchewan. After service in WWI, he opened a law practice and contemplated entering politics. He was eventually elected to the House of Commons in 1940, and in 1956 became leader of the Progressive Conservative Party. In 1957, the Conservative Party under his leadership scored an electoral victory, ending 22 years of Liberal rule. The Diefenbaker government was responsible for introducing much of the legislation we now take for granted, including the Canadian Bill of Rights. He remained a sitting Member of Parliament until his death in 1979.

Dr. Lawrence E. Kirk O.C., S.M., BA’16, BSA’17, MSc’22, LLD’49 (d. 1969)
Dr. Kirk is perhaps best known for introducing crested wheatgrass in Canada and helping to control the Dust Bowl in the 1930s. An instructor in agronomy at the U of S from 1917-19, he was later hired as Professor of Field Husbandry and then Dean of the College of Agriculture. In 1947, he became Chief of the Plant Industry Branch in the Agricultural Division of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations in Rome. In 2005, he received the Saskatchewan Centennial Leadership Award for his contributions to the U of S Alumni Association during the province's first century. Kirk Hall, a former dormitory at the University and now home to the University Advancement offices, was named in his honour.
Dr. James B. Harrington
O.C., BSA’20, LLD’63
(d. 1979)

Dr. Harrington’s teaching and research training have been integral to shaping the destinies of crop production on the prairies and around the world. With a keen interest in plant breeding and the new science of genetics, he began his career at the U of S in 1924 as assistant professor in the University’s Field Husbandry Department. Appointed head of his department in 1950, his career's work resulted in the production of ten varieties of grain crops. Among the better known of these varieties are Apex wheat, Fortune oats, Husky barley, Royal flax and Antelope rye. At least four of his 10 varieties are still in use in Saskatchewan and neighboring provinces, each contributing substantially to higher production rates.

Jessie Caldwell, BSc’24, LLD’84
(d. 1990)

Jessie Caldwell had a distinguished record of public service, reflecting a lifetime of remarkably varied contributions to her community, province, and country. She began her public service as chairman of the Cabri Consolidated School Board from 1929-41. She also served the U of S from 1930-51 as the first woman alumni representative elected to the University Senate. She later moved to Saskatoon and was appointed to the volunteer Dependents’ Advisory Committee to the Armed Forces for the Saskatoon Region. In another first, Jessie Caldwell was the first woman appointed to the National Film Board of Canada. Her keen interest in international affairs and her work with the Canadian Institute of International Affairs, and the United Nations Association in Canada was recognized by her appointment in 1953 as a member of the Canadian delegation to the Eighth General Assembly of the United Nations, the first Saskatchewan citizen to serve on the delegation.

Dr. Hilda Neatby, C.C.,
BA’24, MA’28 (d. 1975)

A surprising bestseller published in 1953 cemented Hilda Neatby as one of the most formidable intellectuals in Canada. Her book, *So Little for the Mind*, criticized the Canadian public education system, and garnered as much praise as it did criticism. A Canadian historian and educator, she went on to serve as head of the History Department at the U of S from 1958 to 1969. It was during this period that she published another seminal work that examined the transitional events between 1760 and 1791 in the province of Quebec. A Companion of the Order of Canada, she was also featured on a Canada Post stamp in 2000. The U of S recently renamed its largest lecture theatre in the Arts Building in her honour.

Dr. George Wilfred Simpson,
BA’19, LLD’59 (d. Unknown)

A member of the Class of 1919, Dr. Simpson joined the University’s History Department in 1922. During his tenure, he initiated Slavic Studies at this University and was the first Canadian historian to learn the Ukrainian language so that he might read the original sources of Ukrainian history. He would go on to edit the first English history of the Ukraine. His studies in this field were recognized by the Free Ukrainian University at Munich, which conferred the honorary doctorate upon him in 1947. Dr. Simpson ardently cultivated the historic sense in the people of Saskatchewan. He helped shape the policy of the Saskatchewan Archives Act and he served as Provincial Archivist.

Edward Culliton C.C., S.O.M.,
Q.C., BA’26, LLB’28, DCL’62
(d. 1991)

A young lawyer in 1933, Dr. Culliton began his public career in the Legislature, and in 1938 entered the Cabinet as Provincial Secretary. He resigned this portfolio to go into active service with the Canadian Army. With the war’s end, he returned home and to the Legislature of Saskatchewan in 1948. In 1951, he was appointed to the Saskatchewan Court of Appeal to become the first of a now long list of Saskatchewan graduates in important appellate posts.
Dr. Henry Thode, BSc’30, MSc’32, LLD’58 (d. 1997)
Henry Thode was born on a farm near Dundurn, Saskatchewan, but his life’s work has become known around the world. He earned a Bachelor of Science degree from the U of S in 1930, a Masters degree two years later, and then went on to Columbia University for doctoral studies. A noted chemist, he taught at Columbia before moving to Hamilton and McMaster University where he ultimately rose to the presidency in 1961. He is perhaps best known as being the only Canadian scientist ever to receive and study specimens of the moon brought back to earth by Apollo 17 astronauts.

Dr. Henry Taube, BSc’35, MSc’37, LLD’73 (d. 2005)
Dr. Henry Taube received the Nobel Prize in Chemistry in 1983 for, as the Nobel citation reads, “his studies of the mechanisms of electron transfer reactions particularly of metal complexes.” A prolific researcher, Dr. Taube’s work dominated his field of study and resulted in the penning of two books and more than 200 research articles. He is one of two Nobel Prize winners to graduate from the U of S whose scientific contributions are far reaching. As he himself said, “The benefits of science are not to be reckoned only in terms of the physical. Science as an intellectual exercise enriches our culture and is in itself ennobling.”

Sidney L. Buckwold, O.C, Arts’36, LLD’82 (d. 2001)
Sid Buckwold had a strong sense of duty. He served in WWII as an officer with the Canadian Army Service Corps, and returned home to serve the City of Saskatoon as Mayor. During the 1960s, he was instrumental in removing the CN rail yards from downtown and for prompting the construction of Mount Blackstrap south of Saskatoon. Well known for his contributions to developing Saskatoon and its strong sense of place within the province and beyond, he eventually accepted an appointment to the Canadian Senate, and served as a Senator until retiring in 1991 at age 75.
William (Bill) McIntyre, C.C., Q.C., BA’39, LLB’46
Bill McIntyre has come a long way from his summers spent driving an oil truck to pay his tuition. After graduation, he joined the army and served both in Canada and overseas. On his return to Canada, he was called to the Bar of Saskatchewan in 1947, and then moved to Victoria, where he was called to the BC Bar the same year. After practising law for 20 years, he was eventually appointed to the BC Supreme Court and later to the BC Court of Appeal in 1975. In 1980, he was appointed to the Supreme Court of Canada where he served until his retirement in 1990.

Dr. Albert W. Johnson O.C., BA’42, LLD’78
Albert Johnson is known as one of the most perceptive and innovative public servants to have served the Governments of Saskatchewan and Canada. In 1946, he joined the Saskatchewan Civil Service and, at the age of 29, was appointed Deputy Provincial Treasurer of Saskatchewan. Following his years as a public servant in Ontario, he became President of the CBC and advocated the importance of fostering and maintaining a distinct Canadian identity. He was also a member of the U of S Board of Governors (1953-57 and 1957-63), and worked hard to foster an attitude of cooperation and understanding in Government.

Georgia (Dodie) Goodspeed, BACC’39 (d. 1986)
Perhaps best remembered for her generosity and good humour, Ms. Goodspeed, who would go on to become an Assistant Dean, was a devoted faculty member of the College of Commerce and mentor to countless students. A champion of the College, she was instrumental in upgrading the Bachelor of Commerce program to a four-year degree, and fought hard for the establishment of the Commerce Building. She was also the first woman in Canada to be named a Fellow of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in 1960. A state-of-the-art lecture theatre in the College was named in her honour in 2000.

Willard (Bud) Estey C.C., BA’40, LLB’42, LLD’84 (d. 2002)
Willard Estey’s reputation as an expert lawyer and jurist far exceeds the boundaries of Canada. After almost three decades of law practice in Ontario, he was appointed to a succession of high judicial offices, each of which he filled with great distinction. He served as a member of the Ontario Court of Appeal, as Chief Justice of the High Court, and as Chief Justice of Ontario, being elevated to the Supreme Court of Canada in 1977. The reforms to the administration of justice advocated by Mr. Estey are substantial, including pre-trial procedures to expedite the legal process and televising expert testimony in trials prior to the empanelling of juries to avoid delay and inconvenience. He was made a Companion of the Order of Canada in 1990.

Herbert Pinder Sr., C.M. BA’42, LLD’97
Dr. Pinder wasn’t just a multi-sport athlete receiving letters in football, basketball and swimming; he became a prominent member of the local and national business communities serving as director of such companies as John Labatt Limited and the Royal Bank of Canada. During the war, he joined the Royal Canadian Navy Volunteer Reserve and retired with the rank of Lieutenant Commander. In 1964, he was elected to the Saskatchewan Legislature and served the province as Minister of Industry and Commerce. Dr. Pinder also served on the University’s Board of Governors from 1958 to 1964 and worked on behalf of the University after his term chairing a committee that examined the role of the University in the wider community.
Dr. C. B. Baker, C.M., BA’44, MEd’44
Throughout his career, Dr. Baker earned a reputation for excellence as a surgeon and clinical teacher. A leader in the development and perfection of new medical advances, he performed the first successful cardiac transplant in Canada. He also pioneered a bloodless surgical technique for the procedure. An early proponent of multi-disciplinary approaches to care, he travelled nationally and internationally demonstrating open-heart procedures and post-care techniques.

Dr. Margaret Thompson, C.M., BA’43, LLD’01
Dr. Thompson’s professional career has been devoted to human genetics and its relevance to childhood diseases, particularly muscular dystrophy. With her late husband Dr. James Thompson, she co-authored Genetics in Medicine, a textbook now in its sixth edition. She is a founding member of the Genetics Society of Canada, the Canadian College of Medical Geneticians, and the American Society of Human Genetics. She is also an Honorary Fellow of the American Board of Medical Genetics, and received the Presidential Award of the Genetics Society of Canada. In 1988, she was named a Member of the Order of Canada.

Rev. Stan Cuthand, LTh’44
Throughout his life, Rev. Cuthand has been engaged in a persistent and prophetic ministry of empowerment for the marginalized and oppressed. His work in translating traditional Cree stories, teaching Cree culture and history, developing curriculum for teaching Cree as a second language, revising the Cree translation of the Bible, and fostering the development of the Federation of Saskatchewan Indians has greatly empowered Cree people everywhere. His Cree translation of the McLean Lake Project, which elucidated the environmental impact of a proposed hydro development in Saskatchewan, is merely one example of the many ways in which he has significantly empowered Cree-speaking peoples to participate in public debates of vital importance to their culture.

Jack McFaul, D’Agric’44, LLD’81 (d. 1999)
Jack McFaul frequently advanced the opinion that research at the U of S improves the economy of the city and the province. A member of the University’s Board of Governors throughout the 1970s, he was known as an “idea man.” He was instrumental in establishing the University’s first corporate structure, and was also active in the establishment of the POS Pilot Plant and the Veterinary Infectious Disease Organization, serving on the governing bodies of both. In addition, he helped develop the Goodale and Termuende Farms acquired by the University for agricultural and veterinary medical research. A building located north of campus at Innovation Place Research Park is named in his honour.

Dr. Raymond Heimbecker O.C., O.Ont., BA’44, MED’45, DSC’99
A Canadian cardiovascular surgeon, Dr. Heimbecker created medical history when he performed the world’s first complete heart valve transplant in 1962 and Canada’s first modern heart transplant in 1981. After receiving his Bachelor of Arts degree from the U of S, he went on to earn his Doctor of Medicine from the University of Toronto in 1947 where he joined the University’s Department of Surgery in 1955. A consultant, professor, and pre-eminent surgeon, he was made an Officer of the Order of Canada in 1997 for being “at the forefront of his specialty.”
Prof. Emeritus Roger Carter O.C., S.O.M., Q.C., BA’45, LLB’47
Throughout his career, Roger Carter has demonstrated a commitment to providing Aboriginal students with access to the study of law. While Dean of Law in 1973, he started an intense eight-week summer program for Aboriginal students designed to prepare students to succeed in first-year law studies in Canada. In 1975, he developed the Native Law Centre at the University of Saskatchewan, which is now Canada’s principal training and research program for Aboriginal lawyers.

John (Jack) Douglas Mollard, O.C., BE’45
Jack Mollard is an internationally honoured engineer, geoscientist, lecturer, author, and adventurer. For 50 years, he has led a small group of pioneering multidiscipline specialists that interprets landscapes on Earth and Mars from 3-D aerial photographs and satellite imageries. Their aim has been to find, explore, or develop sites and routes, mineral, and energy resource projects – undertaking 5,000 assignments on six continents. He has published over 100 technical papers and 2 books, presented over 100 short courses and visiting lectures in Canada, the United States, and Europe. He is the recipient of both the Julian C. Smith Medal for developing Canada and the Massey Medal for mapping the geography of Canada.

Dr. Raymond Thorsteinsson O.C., C.M., BA’44
Dr. Thorsteinsson is one of Canada’s most well respected geologists. Over the years, he has led survey teams and field studies that have developed some of the most detailed geological maps and reports of territory in the Arctic Archipelago. A versatile scientist, he also made important contributions in the field of palaeontology, researched the Haughton Astrobleme, and retrieved records and artifacts left by early Arctic explorers. After years of traveling over and surveying virtually all the land along the northern edge of the Canadian Shield, Dr. Thorsteinsson prepared the first detailed geological maps of over 200,000 square miles in the Arctic islands.

Dr. Mary Eileen Spencer, C.M., BA’45
Mary Spencer has been a role model for women scientists in Canada for more than 50 years. Professor Emeritus of Plant Science and Biochemistry at the University of Alberta, she is an international authority on ethylene, its production, and its effect on the environment. Appointed to numerous leadership roles within federal scientific research organizations and becoming one of the first two women members of the National Research Council, she has helped elevate and promote women’s roles in the international scientific community.

Dr. Walter Leverton, BA’46, MA’48
Walter Leverton’s contributions to the aerospace industry are substantial. After obtaining a PhD in Physics in 1950 from UBC and serving briefly on the faculty of the University of Minnesota, he found his skills were in demand in the rapidly growing American space program. In 1960, he joined a new not-for-profit company, the Aerospace Corp., dedicated to providing systems engineering to the US military space program. At one time, he directed most of the early military space programs in the United States. Dr. Leverton served as a group vice-president at Aerospace Corp. until his retirement in 1979.
Daryl ‘Doc’ Seaman O.C., BE’48, LLD’82
A distinguished engineer, successful businessman, and leader, Dr. Seaman joined the Royal Canadian Air Force in 1941 and served with distinction as a bomber pilot with the Royal Air Force in North Africa and Italy. After the war, he returned to Saskatchewan and graduated in Mechanical Engineering in 1948. The following year, he and his two brothers, Byron and Donald, incorporated a small seismic drilling company in Alberta, which later expanded into a world-wide explorer and developer of energy resources. An avid sportsman, he is also an owner of the Calgary Flames. A staunch supporter of the College of Engineering, he created the endowed Chair in Technical and Professional Communication in the College of Engineering, the purpose of which is to enhance the teaching, application, and understanding of communication within the engineering community.

Frances Hyland, O.C., BA’47, LLD’72 (d. 2004)
Dubbed the first lady of Canadian theatre by Governor General Ray Hnatyshyn, Frances Hyland had a prolific career that spanned more than 50 years. She starred in and directed numerous productions at the Stratford and Shaw festivals, and appeared in films, regional theatre, and various CBC television features, such as Road to Avonlea. Disdaining the idea of leaving Canada for the U.S. and its promise of more money, she was a vigorous champion of greater status and higher pay for Canadian actors. In 1994, she won the Governor General’s Performing Arts Award.

Hon. Dr. Sylvia O. Fedoruk, O.C., S.O.M., BA’49, MA’51, LLD’06
Encouraged by an English teacher, Sylvia Fedoruk pursued science at the University of Saskatchewan. After she graduated in 1951, she became the chief medical physicist for the Saskatchewan Cancer Foundation, a position that she held for 35 years. During this time, she was involved in the development of one of the first nuclear scanning machines and the Cobalt 60 unit, which pioneered the treatment of cancer using radiation. A U of S Chancellor and member of the Board of Governors, she received the Order of Canada in 1986 and became the Lieutenant-Governor of Saskatchewan in 1988.

Dr. Keith Downey, O.C., BSA’50, MSc’52, DSC’94
Early in his career, Keith Downey was asked why he pursued agriculture as a career. He answered simply, “I hope to make a significant contribution to Canadian agriculture.” Since then, his original expectations have been greatly exceeded. Applying new methodologies developed by his colleagues at the National Research Council, he has worked to breed-out the nutritionally undesirable compounds present in rapeseed oil and meal, which has set the standard for canola quality around the world. The result has been an expanding rural based canola processing industry, a strong export market, and a canola crop that now vies with wheat as Canada’s most valuable grain crop.

Jim MacNeill, O.C., BA’49, BE’58, LLD’88
More than an environmentalist, Dr. Jim MacNeill was the chief architect and lead author of the World Commission on Environment and Development’s highly influential report, Our Common Future, which called for an urgent global transition to sustainable forms of development. As an advisor on the first generation of environmental concerns in the Privy Council Office in Ottawa, he authored the first major book published in Canada on environmental management. Later, as Deputy Minister of the federal Ministry of Urban Affairs, he played a major role in shaping Canada’s approach to urban policy. In 1995, he was appointed an Officer of the Order of Canada.
The Hon. Edward Bayda, BA'51, LLB'53, LLD'89

For Chief Justice Bayda, the road to the helm of one of the most respected Courts of Appeal in Canada began in Alvena, SK. After graduation, he provided leadership and service in community organizations and in the legal profession as president of the Regina Bar Association, chairman of the Civil Justice Section of the provincial branch of the Canadian Bar Association, and as a bencher of the Law Society of Saskatchewan. He was appointed to the Court of Queen's Bench in 1972 and to the Court of Appeal in 1974. In 1981, he became Chief Justice of Saskatchewan. In liberally oriented judgments lauded for their scholarship, sensitivity, and lucidity, Chief Justice Bayda has earned himself an enduring place among the nation’s pre-eminent jurists.

Chancellor Emerita Margaret (Peggy) McKercher, C.M., S.O.M., BA'50, LLD'02

Peggy McKercher has made outstanding contributions to her alma mater, her city, her province, and country in areas of enormous significance. A former faculty member, Dr. McKercher served as the University representative and Chair of the Meewasin Valley Authority in Saskatoon during its formative years. Her appreciation of history and our cultural heritage further manifested itself in her service as a Board member of the National Capital Commissions’ Canadiana Fund, the Saskatchewan Arts Board, and most recently as the Saskatchewan representative on the Trans Canada Trail Foundation Advisory Board. The first woman to be elected to the Rural Municipality of Corman Park Council, she was invested in the Order of Canada in 1995 and awarded the Saskatchewan Order of Merit in 2001.

Ahab Spence, C.M., BA'52, LLD'64 (d. 2001)

Dr. Spence was an Anglican Priest, educator, oral historian, and preserver of the Cree language. Born in 1911 in Split Lake, Manitoba, and a product of the residential school system, he eventually obtained his Licentiate in Theology from Emmanuel College in Saskatoon and a Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Saskatchewan in 1952. He would go on to teach Cree and Native Studies at Brandon University and work as a Cree Translator for Aboriginal communities and various levels of government. From 1968 to 1970, he worked for the Department of Indian and Northern Affairs developing programs and projects related to Aboriginal cultural development and taught Cree and Aboriginal Studies at the University of Regina. He was the recipient of the Order of Canada in 1982.

Dr. James Edgar Till, O.C., BA'52, MA'54

James Till obtained his Master’s degree in Physics, working with Harold Johns at the Saskatoon Cancer Clinic. With a PhD in Biophysics from Yale, he relocated to Toronto. In 1961, he and Ernest McCulloch reported the first quantitative method of studying individual stem cells in adult mouse bone marrow. Over the next decade, they and their colleagues delineated for the first time the concept of stem cells and established the framework in which normal and abnormal stem cells are studied today.


Dr. Hnatyshyn was Canada’s twenty-fourth Governor General and Commander in Chief. He was called to the Bar in Saskatchewan in 1957 and elected to Parliament in 1974 where he served in the House of Commons until 1988. During that time, he filled a wide range of roles, including Minister of State for Science and Technology, Government House Leader, President of the Privy Council, and Minister of Justice and Attorney General. He went on to serve as Governor General from 1990-95. A number of his decisions, such as opening Rideau Hall, the Governor General’s official residence, to tourists and establishing the Governor General’s Awards for the Performing Arts, were wildly popular and responsible, in part, for renewing public interest in the office.
Don Bateman, BE’56
Through the years, Don Bateman developed numerous aircraft instruments and safety devices for aircraft, including the Enhanced Ground Proximity Warning System (EGPWS). This system tells airline crews when a plane is descending too fast or is on a bad flight path. In the U.S., the EGPWS is now mandatory equipment for aircrafts with at least six passenger seats, and is responsible for dramatically decreasing aircraft accidents. A recipient of numerous flight safety awards, Mr. Bateman was inducted into America’s National Inventors Hall of Fame in 2005.

James E. Newall O.C.,
BComm’58, LLD’90
An internationally renowned industrialist, Mr. Newall’s keen interest in improving the climate for business in Canada and the relationships between governments and the private sector has had a significant influence on the development of Canadian industry. He distinguished himself in a lifetime career with Du Pont, which he joined after graduation. He began at Du Pont’s sales order desk in Toronto and worked in a succession of positions, including sales management, director of the company’s fibres group, and executive vice-president. In 1989, he became Group Vice-President International, assuming responsibility for operations in Europe, Asia, and Latin America.

Dr. Gordon Thiessen O.C.,
BA’59, MA’62, LLD’97
Dr. Thiessen’s intimate knowledge of the structure of the Canadian financial system has contributed to its evolution as one of the safest and soundest in the world. A former member of the University’s Board of Governors, he started his career at the Bank of Canada in 1963. In 1979, he was appointed Adviser to the Governor and later Senior Deputy Governor. In 1994, he was appointed Governor of the Bank of Canada. Leading Canada through seven of the most financially turbulent years in its history, he succeeded in setting monetary policies that wrestled inflation to the ground and helped return the economy to robust health.

Dr. Professor Emerita Gwenna Moss, BSHEc’59
From the Extension Division to the College of Education to Dean of Home Economics to Associate Vice-President (Academic), Gwenna Moss’s career was centered at the University of Saskatchewan. She taught adult education and published widely on evaluation, needs assessment, women academics, distance education, and women in developing countries. The Gwenna Moss Teaching and Learning Centre is named in honour of her development of the University’s instructional development program. She received the Alumni Association Award of Achievement and retired as Professor Emerita.

Gordon W. Cameron, C.M.,
BComm’55, LLD’97
A former Saskatchewan Government Minister and an executive in the oil and gas industry, Dr. Cameron has represented Canada with distinction in international markets and export negotiations, and has been a leading figure in energy issues here at home. He has been equally involved in community endeavours, particularly as chairman of the Cerebral Palsy Association’s Light Up A Child’s Life campaigns in Calgary. He also co-chaired the highly successful University of Saskatchewan’s First & Best National Campaign. His influence in the business community throughout Canada and internationally, his leadership skills, and personal commitment to the campaign were significant factors in its success. In 1996, Mr. Cameron received the University’s Alumni Award of Achievement.
M. Ann McCaig, C.M., A.O.E., BEd’61
With a prestigious record of accomplishments in the not-for-profit and private sectors, Dr. McCaig is one of Canada’s most prominent volunteers and advocates for youth, education, and health. Born and raised in Saskatchewan, she began a prolific career as a volunteer in 1962, assisting the Lakeview United Church in establishing one of the first group homes for troubled youth in Regina. After moving to Calgary in 1970, she continued to serve in a variety of volunteer positions. She later joined the University of Calgary’s Board of Governors, a position she held for a decade before becoming the U of C’s Chancellor in 1995. In 2006, she received the U of S Alumni Association’s Alumni Humanitarian Award.

Dr. Sharon Butala, O.C., BEd’62, BA’63, PGD’73, DLitt’04
Sharon Butala has lived in Saskatchewan nearly all her life. She trained as an English teacher, but studied Special Education and lectured in the College of Education at the U of S until 1976. She began writing in 1978, and has since published nine fiction and six non-fiction books. Her work has been consistently praised for giving an important voice to rural women and touching readers with her own spirituality and sense of place. She has been awarded the Marian Engel prize, two honorary doctorates, and is an Officer of the Order of Canada.

Hon. Roy Romanow, P.C., O.C., S.O.M., Q.C., BA’60, LLB’64
Roy Romanow was born, raised, and educated in Saskatoon. He was first elected to the Saskatchewan Legislature in 1967 and served as Deputy Premier of Saskatchewan between 1971 and 1982. He would go on to play a key role in the federal-provincial negotiations that resulted in the Constitutional Accord and the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms in 1982. In 1991, he was sworn in as Premier of Saskatchewan, a post he held until 2001. Later that year, Mr. Romanow was appointed by Prime Minister Jean Chrétien to head the Royal Commission on the Future of Health Care in Canada, a committee designed to recommend policies and measures to ensure the sustainability of a universally accessible, publicly administered health-care system. In 2004, Mr. Romanow was invested as an Officer of the Order of Canada.

Dr. Thomas Courchene, O.C., BA’62, LLD’00
Tom Courchene has had a tremendous impact on our understanding of a vast array of Canadian policy issues. Born in Wakaw, SK, and educated at both the U of S and Princeton (PhD’67), he has authored and edited more than 50 books and 300 articles on a wide range of economic, social, fiscal, and intergovernmental policies. Currently the Jarislowsky-Deutsch Professor of Economics and Finance at Queen’s University, he was inducted as an Officer into the Order of Canada in 1999.

Gary Hyland, C.M., S.V.M., BA’62, Educ’63, BEd’64
Gary Hyland is a Saskatchewan teacher, writer, and activist. In 1993, he was shortlisted for the National Magazine Gold Medal Poetry Award, and he has won numerous prizes in the Saskatchewan Writers Guild annual competitions, including major poetry manuscript awards in 1991 and 1995, and the John V. Hicks Memorial Award in 2003. For contributions as a founder and leader in the arts, he has been recognized with an Honourary Doctor of Literature from the University of Regina, a province of Saskatchewan Volunteer Medal, a Queen’s Golden Jubilee Medal, the Lieutenant Governor’s Major Arts Award, and was named a Member of the Order of Canada.
Barrie Wigmore, BEd’62, BA’63, LLD’02
Barrie Wigmore moved to the United States in 1970 to work for Goldman, Sachs, & Co., investment bankers. He founded the firm’s Public Utility Department dealing with electric and gas utilities, telephone companies, and natural gas pipelines around the world and eventually became a Partner in 1978. The author of two books, as well as numerous academic articles on financial history, Dr. Wigmore was a director of Potash Corp. of Saskatchewan from 1989-2002, and is currently a trustee of the Metropolitan Museum. Although he retired in 1988, he remains a committed and involved supporter of the U of S.

Coach Emeritus Lyle Sanderson, BAPE’63, MSc’69
A faculty member in the College of Kinesiology at the U of S until his retirement in 2004, Lyle Sanderson was also Head Coach of the U of S Track and Field and Cross Country Teams that won 11 CIS/CIAU National University Championships and 37 Conference Championships. An inductee into the Huskie Athletic Wall of Fame and a 2003 Queen’s Golden Jubilee Medal for service to athletics in Canada, his influence extends far beyond the University. During his extraordinary career, he was named to the Canadian Coaching Staff for 54 Athletics Canada National Teams, including three Olympic Games, two World Championships, two Pan American Games, the Commonwealth Games, and two World University (FISU) Games.

Russ Kisby, BAPE’63, LLD’96
Perhaps no one knows better than Russ Kisby what it takes to change Canadians’ attitudes towards physical fitness and human health. One of the founders of the highly influential, non-profit organization ParticipACTION, he spent his early career with the YMCA of Canada. He later joined the national physical activity health promotion program, known as ParticipACTION, at its inception in 1972 and served as president for 25 years. For three decades, he traveled extensively across Canada and internationally working with governments, media, volunteer organizations, and private sector corporations promoting the long-term benefits of physical activity and healthy lifestyles.

Al Schreiner, BE’63
Now President and Chief Operating Officer of a company that manufactures equipment for the oil and gas sector, Al Schreiner has demonstrated a remarkable commitment to his industry and community. He has chaired and served on numerous industry committees, and has dedicated countless volunteer hours to non-profit organizations such as Street Kids, Kids Cancer Camps, and the Parkinson’s Society. In 2005, Mr. Schreiner was named the C.J. Mackenzie Distinguished Graduate Lecturer, which recognizes engineering alumni for outstanding achievements in their fields and contributions to the University, the college, and society.

Chancellor W. Thomas (Tom) Molloy, O.C., Q.C., BA’64, LLB’64
Described as “Canada’s most expert treaty negotiator,” Tom Molloy is also known as the 12th Chancellor of the University of Saskatchewan. Beginning his career as a lawyer with the firm MacPherson Leslie & Tyerman LLP, this award-winning author negotiated some of the most important treaties of the recent past, including the Nunavut Agreement, the Nisga’a Agreement, the Lheidli T’enneh Agreement in British Columbia, and the Inuit of Northern Quebec Offshore Agreement.
Dr. Calvin R. Stiller, C.M., O.Ont, MD’65
With more than 250 published papers, Calvin Stiller conducted the seminal study that established cyclosporine as foundational therapy in transplantation and demonstrated that human Type 1 Diabetes was amenable to immune therapy. He co-founded the Robarts Research Institute, The Canadian Medical Hall of Fame, the MARS Discovery District in Toronto, the Ontario Institute for Cancer Research, the Canadian Medical Discoveries Fund, and chaired a board responsible for over $1.2 billion of Ontario Government investment in University research. He is Chair of Genome Canada and serves on the board of several public companies.

The Hon. Anita Raynell Andreychuk, BA’66, LLB’67
A lawyer, former judge, and diplomat, Ms. Andreychuk has wielded tremendous influence provincially, nationally, and internationally. From her first legal practice in Moose Jaw, SK., she went on to serve as a judge in provincial court, chancellor of the University of Regina, and deputy minister of social services in Saskatchewan. Two years later, she was named Canada’s High Commissioner to Kenya and Uganda and ambassador to Somalia and the Comoros before becoming ambassador to Portugal in 1990. That year, she was also named, the same year, as Canada’s permanent representative to the United Nations Environment Program and the United Nations Centre for Human Settlement.

Henry Kloppenburg, S.V.M., Q.C., BA’65, LLB’68
A Rhodes Scholar and law clerk to Justice E. M. Hall at the Supreme Court of Canada, Mr. Kloppenburg went on to establish his own successful law firm in Saskatoon. His passion, however, lays in art collecting and environmental preservation, both of which have allowed him to serve his community in substantially immeasurable ways. He not only gifted a large collection of well-known Canadian art to the College of Agriculture and Bioresources, but also donated 159 acres of land to the provincial government as a wildlife refuge.

His Hon. The Hon. Gordon Barnhart, S.O.M., BA’66, PhD’98
An acclaimed historian and recognized expert on the Canadian parliamentary process, Dr. Barnhart is a long-time advocate of the need to strengthen democratic government at home and abroad. A former University Secretary at the U of S, he has worked with the Canadian International Development Agency and United States Agency for International Development. An accomplished scholar and author, Dr. Barnhart was sworn in as Saskatchewan’s 20th Lieutenant Governor in 2006.

Sharon Capeling-Alakija O.C., BEd’66, LLD’98 (d. 2003)
Sharon Capeling-Alakija is truly a global citizen. She left Saskatchewan shortly after graduation to begin assignments with the Canadian University Service Overseas (CUSO), teaching high school first in Barbados and then in Tanzania. In 1982, she moved to Togo where she served as CUSO’s regional director, managing programs in Gambia, Sierra Leone, Ghana, and Nigeria. In 1989, she was appointed director of the United Nations Fund for Women and later became Executive Coordinator of the United Nations Volunteer (UNV) program working with volunteers in the most remote parts of the globe.
Elizabeth Dowdeswell, BSHEc’66, LLD’94
Liz Dowdeswell’s eclectic public service career, which has included serving as Undersecretary General of the United Nations and Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Program, has spanned provincial, federal, and international borders and transcended traditional disciplinary lines. Her global vision and pragmatic managerial skills were shaped in Saskatchewan in positions as Deputy Minister of Culture and Youth, educational consultant, university lecturer, extension worker, and high-school teacher. She also served as Assistant Deputy Minister of Environment Canada and led a number of public inquiries into such politically sensitive issues as Canada’s unemployment benefits program and federal water policy.

Eric Malling, BA’67 (d. 1998)
A burgeoning journalist while a student at the U of S, Mr. Malling moved quickly through the ranks of Canadian journalism – from the Regina Leader Post to The Toronto Star – and then to television as a Parliamentary Correspondent for CTV. In 1976, he was courted by CBC as a host for its flagship current affairs program, The Fifth Estate. After 14 years of investigative journalism with The Fifth Estate, Eric returned to CTV as host of W5, which he gave a new political focus. He challenged politicians, fraudsters, and conventional wisdom, winning 7 Actra/Gemini Awards and receiving three Gordon Sinclair Awards for excellence in broadcast journalism.

Dr. Lorne Babiuk, O.C., S.O.M., F.R.S.C., BSA’67, MSc’69, DSC’87
Dr. Babiuk became a professor at the University of Saskatchewan in 1973 and became connected with VIDO (Vaccine and Infectious Disease Organization) in 1983. He has received numerous awards, including the Order of Canada and the Saskatchewan Order of Merit. He has published over 600 scientific articles and trained more than 100 PhD and post doctoral fellows. In addition to being a visionary, he is also an accomplished fundraiser and builder, as demonstrated by the recent completion of a $19-million research wing at VIDO and the current construction of the $110-million level III biocontainment facility known as INTERVAC.

Dorothy L. Smith BSP’68
Dr. Smith is an internationally recognized author, patient advocate, and expert in patient compliance with medications. The author of 23 books, her professional career has been devoted to developing programs and materials for patients, employees, and consumers, giving them the information they need to make informed decisions about their health care and medication use. Based on her real life interactions with patients in clinical practice settings, Dr. Smith also developed one of the first ambulatory patient counselling programs in which patients receive private counselling from a pharmacist every time they received a prescription.

Dr. Gerri Dickson, BSN’69, PhD’97
Dr. Dickson has made a lifetime career in international health and development, and promoting health and education for Aboriginal people. She and her family have volunteered in developing countries around the world, and she has consulted widely on gender equity and HIV/AIDS. She was a founding member of the Canadian Nurses Association International Committee, the Iskwew project for abused women in Prince Albert, the HOPE Cancer Race for Recovery in Saskatoon, and the Native Access Program to Nursing. In 2004, she received the Ivany Internationalization Award for her tireless commitment to international health and development.
Stephen D. Acres, DVM'70, PhD'77
A recipient of both the WCVM Faculty Gold Medal and the Governor General’s Medal as the U of S’s most outstanding graduate, Dr. Acres returned to campus after graduation to work at the newly established Vaccine and Infectious Disease Organization (VIDO). He led VIDO researchers in the development of the first vaccine to combat the most common form of calf enteritis. During his distinguished research career at VIDO, he also participated in the development of several other conventional and recombinant DNA vaccines to prevent pneumonias in cattle and swine.

Dr. John H. Wedge, O.C., MD’69, BSc’73
Dr. Wedge is an international authority on complex surgical hip reconstruction in children and has published extensively in the field. After completing his training at the University of Saskatchewan, he went on to become Head of the Department of Surgery at Royal University Hospital in Saskatoon. A frequent speaker at universities and hospitals around the world, he received the Whittaker Memorial Award in 2003 for service to children with cerebral palsy and was inducted as an Officer of the Order of Canada in 2006.

Dr. Glen Bryan Baker, BSP’70, MSc’72, PhD’74, DSc’00
Dr. Baker is a Tier I Canada Research Chair and a former Chair of the Department of Psychiatry at the University of Alberta. His research deals primarily with the etiology of psychiatric disorders and the mechanisms of drugs used to treat them. He has been involved extensively in the supervision of research trainees, editorial work, and service to the scientific community. His honours and awards are many, including the Canadian College of Neuropsychopharmacology medal, Mcalla and Killam Professorships, the University of Alberta Excellence in Mentoring Award, the Alumni Award of Achievement from the University of Saskatchewan in 2006.

Cheryl Kloppenburg, BA’70, ARTS’71, LLB’75, MA’75
Ms. Kloppenburg has led an ‘artful’ life. A partner in a well-respected law firm that she started with her husband in Saskatoon, her formidable collection of Saskatchewan and Canadian art is perhaps matched only by her substantial generosity and desire to support and advance art and culture in Canada. She has not only participated in numerous organizations focused on enhancing health care and social services, but has worked tirelessly with various organizations to ensure the people of Saskatchewan have access to study and enjoy art. In 2000, she and her husband donated a 27-piece collection comprised of well-known Canadian artists to the College of Agriculture and Bioresources.

The Hon. Ralph Goodale, P.C., M.D., BA’71, LLB’72
Raised on the family farm near Wilcox, SK., Ralph Goodale has devoted his life to public service. First elected as Member of Parliament in 1974 at the age of 24, he went on to serve as Leader of the Saskatchewan Liberal Party. In 1986, he was elected a Member of the Saskatchewan Legislative Assembly. He would return to the House of Commons in 1993, and was appointed Minister of Agriculture and Agri-food. Since then, he has served in various capacities, such as Leader of the Government in the House of Commons, Minister of Public Works and Government Services, and the Minister responsible for the Canadian Wheat Board and Federal Interlocutor for Métis and Non-Status Indians.
W. David King, C.M.,
BAPE’71, BEd’72
Dave King’s first coaching job was as an assistant coach with the U of S Huskies. He would go on to coach at the Winter Olympics and the National Hockey League and the Russian Super League. As head coach of the Canadian national team, he won a silver medal at the 1992 Winter Olympics. He was later hired by the Calgary Flames, and then moved to Montreal as the assistant coach of the Canadiens in 1997. Outside the NHL, Mr. King coached Metallurg Magnitogorsk of the Russian Super League and, as of 2006, was the head coach of the Swedish team Malmö Redhawks. He was made a Member of the Order of Canada in 1992, and was inducted into the Canadian Olympic Hall of Fame in 1997.

Dr. Ernest Gordon Walker, C.M.,
S.O.M., BEd’71, BA’72, Arts’73, MA’78
Dr. Walker’s boyhood interest in Aboriginal culture and natural history shaped his life as one of Canada’s most prominent archaeologists and forensics experts. A driving force in establishing Wanuskewin Heritage Park, he has also been active in countless forensic investigations for various law enforcement agencies and is a Special Constable with the Royal Canadian Mounted Police. As a teacher, he has imparted his intense curiosity about the world to countless students, and received a Master Teacher Award in 2005 and a 3M Teaching Fellowship in 2007. In 2004, he was the recipient of the U of S Alumni Association’s Alumni Award of Achievement. He also holds a Saskatchewan Order of Merit and was named a Member of the Order of Canada.

Guy Vanderhaeghe, O.C.,
S.O.M., BA’71, Arts’72,
MA’75, DLitt’97
Guy Vanderhaeghe is a writer of novels, short stories, plays, and telefilms. He received the Governor’s-General Award for his collection of short stories, Man Descending, and a second time for his novel, The Englishman’s Boy. His latest novel, The Last Crossing, was awarded the Canadian Booksellers’ Association Ex Libris Award for best fiction book of the year, and won the CBC Canada Reads program. He is also an Officer of the Order of Canada, a Member of the Saskatchewan Order of Merit, and a fellow of the Royal Society of Canada.

Hon. Dr. Lynda Haverstock S.O.M.,
BEd’72, PGD’75,
MEduc’77, PhD’85
As a psychologist, educator, politician, and author, Dr. Haverstock has devoted herself to improving the world in which she lives. Not only was she the first woman to be elected leader of a political party in Saskatchewan in 1989, she is also widely respected for establishing innovative education programmes for disabled students and chronically truant adolescents. An impassioned supporter of the arts, good citizenship, preservation of heritage sites, as well as an ardent promoter of environmental stewardship, she recently completed six and one-half years as Saskatchewan’s 19th Lieutenant Governor.

Russel Marcoux, BA’73
Russel Marcoux is CEO of the Yanke Group of Companies, an international organization comprised of companies delivering global transportation, warehousing, logistic, and freight forwarding services, he also owns a grain farm at Viscount, Saskatchewan. He is currently Past Chair of the Canadian Chamber of Commerce, Past Chair of St. Paul’s Hospital, and serves as Director for Farm Credit Canada and F.R. Insurance, an offshore captive insurance company. He has served on numerous boards and is heavily involved in community and charitable activities, with a special affiliation to the Children’s Health and Hospital Foundation.
Lester D. Lafond, S.O.M., D/Agric’74, BA’82

Lester Lafond has exerted a formidable influence over the development of the Aboriginal business community in Saskatchewan. President of Lafond Insurance & Financial Services Ltd., he is also a board member of the Saskatoon Regional Economic Development Authority, Chair of the Saskatchewan Opportunities, and the Past-President of the Saskatchewan Chamber of Commerce. Currently president of Tribal Nations Management Services Ltd. and Tribal Nations Energy Ltd., Mr. Lafond continues to be directly involved in a number of organizations that promote the development and success of new business enterprises specifically for Aboriginal people.

Dr. Hugh Townsend, DVM’73, MSc’81

Dr. Townsend has made considerable contributions to the advancement of veterinary medicine and vaccine development and efficacy. A well-respected faculty member at the Western College of Veterinary Medicine (WCVM) and a researcher at the Vaccine and Infectious Disease organization (VIDO), he is perhaps best known for his pioneering work in the treatment of equine influenza, which is a highly contagious and widespread viral upper-respiratory illness in horses.

Wendy Duggleby, BSN’75

Dr. Duggleby has been conducting research in ‘end-of-life’ for approximately 7 years and research with older adults for 15 years. An Associate Professor in the College of Nursing at the U of S and an advanced oncology certified nurse, she has presented widely in the field of palliative care at international and national conferences. She also has several publications in the area and leads a quality end-of-life care research group in Saskatchewan. In 2006, she was awarded the University of Saskatchewan Distinguished Researcher Award.

Diane Jones-Konihowski C.M., BEd’75, LLD’02

Dr. Jones-Konihowski represented Canada in a variety of sporting events as a world-class athlete in the pentathlon. Born in Vancouver, she was on the National Track and Field Team for 16 years, made the Canadian Olympic Team three times, ranked first in the world twice and named Canada’s “Female Athlete” in 1975 and 1978. She was also awarded the Order of Canada in 1978, named to the Saskatchewan Sports Hall of Fame in 1980, and the Canadian Olympic Sports Hall of Fame in 1996.

The Hon. Lorne A. Calvert, M.L.A., BD’76

Lorne Calvert was born and raised in Moose Jaw, Saskatchewan. After studying economics at the University of Regina and theology at the University of Saskatchewan, he was ordained in the United Church of Canada in 1976 and served a number of congregations throughout Saskatchewan. He was first elected to the Saskatchewan Legislature in 1986, and would go on serve as a Cabinet Minister from 1992 until 1998 in the New Democratic Party government. He held a number of portfolios, including Minister Responsible for SaskPower and SaskEnergy, Minister of Health, and Minister of Social Services. Mr. Calvert assumed the duties of Premier in 2001.
Ron Robison, BSPE'77

Ron Robison has loved the game of hockey for as long as he can remember. A former Huskies and Junior hockey player, he went on to become an Assistant Coach with the U of S Huskies hockey team and member of the Physical Education Faculty from 1979 to 1981. From 1981 to 1997, he held senior management positions with Hockey Canada and the Canadian Hockey Association. In September 2000, Robison was appointed Commissioner of the Western Hockey League and Vice-President of the Canadian Hockey League. Under his leadership, the WHL has become recognized as one of the finest development leagues in the World today.

Freda Ahenakew, O.C., S.O.M., BEd’79, LLD’97

Plains Cree is Freda Ahenakew’s first language, but she also studied English and French. Since then, her works on the language, culture, and history of the Cree people range from classroom readers and workbooks used across the country to popular lectures, children’s books, and scholarly research papers on language and linguistics. By focusing on the transcription, analysis, and translation of traditional stories and autobiographical accounts, she has been able to prepare them for publication in Cree (with an English translation on facing pages) and in their original literary form. She is widely recognized as one of the most distinguished Aboriginal scholars in Canada.

Darwyn Peachey, BSc’78, MSc’83

Born and raised in Saskatchewan, Mr. Peachey has worked at Pixar Animation Studios near San Francisco for the past 19 years as a software developer, technical artist, and as Vice-President for Research and Design and Information technology. He has helped develop such wildly popular films as Toy Story, Cars, and most recently Ratatouille. In 1993, he and six co-workers won a technical award from the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences for the development of software that is widely used in the visual effects and animation industries.

Brian Towriss, BComm’78

Deeply rooted in the Huskies football program, Mr. Towriss is a former player and now Head Coach of the U of S Huskies football team. Born in Moose Jaw SK, he joined the Huskies as a player in the fall of 1974. He enjoyed instant success and was named a Canada West all-star in his rookie season. Hired by Football Saskatchewan as the provincial coach after graduation, he returned to the University’s athletic department as an administrative assistant in 1981. Three years after returning to his alma mater, Mr. Towriss was named head coach of the Huskies football program at just 27 years of age. Now a Level 4 NCCP certified coach, Towriss continually gives back to the football community with involvement in coach’s clinics and as past president of the Canadian University Football Coaches Association.

R. Peter MacKinnon, Q.C, LLM’76

Peter MacKinnon began his career at the U of S in 1975 as a faculty member in the College of Law. He went on to serve the U of S as Dean of Law and Acting Vice-President (Academic). He was installed as the University’s 8th President in July of 1999. With a substantial record of teaching and research, he is also a staunch advocate of post-secondary education, serving as Chair of the Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada from 2003-2005. His deep commitment to education is perhaps matched only by his strong ties to his community. He is a member of the Board of Directors of the Meewasin Valley Authority, the Saskatoon Regional Economic Development Authority, and the Saskatoon Airport Authority. In 2005, he received the Award for Distinguished Service from the Canadian Bar Association (Saskatchewan Branch). In 2006, he was awarded an Honorary Doctor of Laws by the University of Regina.
Dr. Donald Bobiash, BA’80

Dr. Bobiash’s career has been distinguished by a commitment to hard work and helping others. From humble beginnings on a family farm near Zelma, SK, he went on to earn a doctorate in International Relations from Oxford University, where he was a Rhodes Scholar, and a Masters from the London School of Economics, where he was a Commonwealth Scholar. As a career diplomat, he was posted to Pakistan in the early 1990s, where he worked to improve conditions for Afghan refugees and to secure emergency food aid for northern Afghanistan. Currently Deputy Head of Mission in the Canadian Embassy in Tokyo, Japan, he spent his early career publishing an influential book on developing countries.

Don Listwin, BE’80, LLD’01

Of his many accomplishments, Don Listwin cites winning the national volleyball championship during his 1978-79 season with the Huskies as one of his most memorable. The former Huskie would go on to serve in senior executive roles at internet companies including Cisco Systems and Openwave. He is the founder of the Canary Foundation, which is a non-profit organization focused on the development of simple blood tests for the early detection of cancer. He also serves on numerous Boards, including that of Sana Security, Calix Networks, and the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center.

W. Brett Wilson, BE’79

As Co-founder and Chairman of FirstEnergy Capital Corp, Mr. Wilson has helped build Canada’s leading energy-focused investment bank. The company is highly regarded not only for top-ranked corporate performance, but also for standard-setting corporate giving. His accolades are many: Canada’s Top 40 under 40 (1997); Top 20 Deal Makers in Canada (G&M 1999); Top 10 list of M&A specialists in Canada (G&M 2000); and Entrepreneur of the Year (E&Y 2002). Regarded as one of Western Canada’s foremost business leaders and an icon in the charitable community, he serves on many public and private boards and provides valuable leadership to countless organizations. He was instrumental in the creation of the U of S Centre for Entrepreneurial Excellence in 2007.

Kim Coates, BA’81

Canadian born actor Kim Coates has the distinction of successfully entering the film and television industry in Canada, and also crossing the border and expanding his ever-growing repertoire into noted feature films that have been given wide international acclaim and great critical reviews. With over 40 films to his credit, including Grilled opposite Ray Romano, Hostage with Bruce Willis, and Black Hawk Down directed by Ridley Scott, he has managed to transcend the barriers between stage, television, and film.

Kelly Lendsay, BSPE’81, MBA’94

Mr. Lendsay is recognized as one of Canada’s foremost innovators of Aboriginal diversity in Canada. The U of S Aquatic and Recreation Director from 1981-90, he went on to become the first Aboriginal business education program director at the College of Commerce, and helped create Canada’s first MBA program with a specialization in Indigenous management. His study, The Impact of the Changing Aboriginal Population on the Saskatchewan Economy: 1995-2045, is one of the most widely cited sources on the implications of Aboriginal demographics and the economy.
Colette Bourgonje, BSPE’84, BEd’85
From being the first student in a wheelchair to graduate from the U of S with a degree in Physical Education to winning bronze at the 2006 Paralympics in Turin, Italy, Collette Bourgonje has always set her sights high. After a car accident in 1980, Colette focused her athletic determination on the emerging sport of sit-skiing. Her focus has led her to numerous national and world championships, as well as four Paralympic games at which she won a number of medals.

Donald Edward Worme, Q.C., LLB’85
Donald Worme, a member of the Kawacatoose First Nation, credits his grandfather with engendering in him a strong understanding of the treaties and of First Nations traditions. One of the leading criminal defence lawyers in Saskatchewan and one of the founding members of the Indigenous Bar, Mr. Worme was involved in the creation of the first urban Indian reserve in Saskatchewan located in Saskatoon. He has also been involved in a number of high-profile cases, including those of Neil Stonechild and Anthony (Dudley) George.

George E. Lafond, BEd’85
An avid hockey player, coach, and fan, Mr. Lafond was born and raised on the Muskeg Lake Cree Nation. After graduation, he went to work as a high school Native Studies and History teacher in Saskatoon. Keenly interested in Canadian business and politics, he became a special assistant to the federal minister of Indian and Northern Affairs and served as President of the Canada Council for Aboriginal Business in Toronto. From 1995-2002, he served as elected Chief of the Saskatoon Tribal Council. He was appointed Special Advisor to the President on Aboriginal Initiatives at the U of S in 2003, and has led a number of initiatives designed to create a strong sense of place for Aboriginal students on campus.

Sandra Schmirler, S.O.M., BSPE’85 (d. 2000)
Over the years, Sandra Schmirler’s long string of successes in curling has become the stuff of Canadian sports legend. She and her team mates brought home three world championships and curling’s first Olympic Gold Medal. But when people remember her, they tend not think of her many awards and accolades first. Her smiles and tears from the Olympic Podium are etched in our country’s collective memory, and she is remembered as a person who tirelessly persevered in spite of the deadly disease that eventually took her life.

N. Murray Edwards, BComm’82
Born and raised in Regina, Murray Edwards is President and owner of Edco Financial Holdings Ltd., a Calgary based merchant bank. He is a leading investor in, and a managing director and executive chairman of, numerous publicly traded companies including Canadian Natural Resources Limited, Ensign Energy Services Inc. and Magellan Aerospace Corporation. He is also a chairman and co-owner of the Calgary Flames Hockey Club. At the community level, he is a member of the Canadian Council of Chief Executives and on the Board of Directors of the Banff Centre, the Canada West Foundation, and the C.D. Howe Institute.
Dave Rodney, M.L.A., BA’87, BEd’88
Dave Rodney is an internationally renowned keynote speaker, the only person in Saskatchewan history to scale Mt. Everest, and the only Canadian to summit Everest—twice! A prolific author/filmmaker whose work has been utilized world-wide, he has also earned his MRE (2002, Edmonton), is the CEO of SQ Enterprises, serves as MLA Calgary-Lougheed, and is Calgary Caucus Chair. As a philanthropist, he co-founded the Top of the World Society for Children, and has contributed to the success of over 60 other groups, including Telemiracle. A recipient of the U of S Alumni Humanitarian Award and the Queen’s Golden Jubilee Medallion for Community Service, he is a shining example of the strength and determination of the human spirit.

Gary Merasty, M.P., BEd’91, MEd’03
A proud member of the Peter Ballantyne Cree Nation and former Grand Chief of the Prince Albert Grand Council, Mr. Merasty has made countless contributions that have improved the social, political, and economic life of Saskatchewan and Canada. Elected as a Member of Parliament in 2006 (the first Status First Nations person elected from Saskatchewan), he has served on numerous boards and committees, such as the Saskatchewan Indian Institute of Technology and the Saskatchewan Indian Gaming Authority. A strong community advocate, he is a recipient of both the Queen’s Golden Jubilee medal and the Saskatchewan Centennial medal for his service to the people of the province.

Safwan Javed, BA’98
During his studies at the University of Saskatchewan, Safwan Javed helped form the band Wide Mouth Mason. The band has released five major-label records—two were certified Canadian gold—and an independent record. They have received numerous awards and acclaim, including two Juno nominations. In addition to scores of their own shows, they have toured with the likes of The Rolling Stones, AC/DC, The Guess Who, ZZ Top, and George Thorogood. The band has performed in front of audiences spanning the globe, from Switzerland to China. Mr. Javed is currently complementing his musical career with the study of law.

Dr. Thomas Yu, DMD’03
Dr. Yu received his Doctor of Dental Medicine with Great Distinction in 2003, and has gone on to graduate studies at the University of Toronto to specialize in periodontology. Since then, he has also distinguished himself as a gifted pianist whose talents have been recognized internationally. His exceptional musical achievements were recently demonstrated at the 17th international Competition for Outstanding Piano Amateurs in Paris, where he won the Press Critics Award and Audience Choice Award along with first prize at that competition. He has also given numerous high-profile solo performances on CBC’s Glenn Gould Studio and Bravo’s Arts and Minds. In 2006, he was the the recipient of the U of S Alumni Association’s Outstanding Young Alumni Award.
ALUMNI OF INFLUENCE

- 48 Saskatchewan Order of Merits
- 2 Nobel Prize winners
- 72 Rhodes Scholars
- 1 Lasker Prize Winner
- 68 Officers of the Order of Canada
- 4 Saskatchewan Premiers
- 25 Enterprises based on U of S innovations
- 106 Members of the Order of Canada
- 1 Oscar Winner
- 349 students, faculty, and staff enlisted during World War I
- 1 Prime Minister
- 12 Companion of the Order of Canada
- 13 Olympic Medalists
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Snapshots of Student Tradition

by Matt Barron

There are many student traditions interwoven with U of S history, traditions that had as much to do with the times as they did with the impulse to let loose, needle authority, and, almost always, enjoy getting away with as much as possible.

**Senior Sticks**

In 1922, the tradition of “senior sticks” at the University of Saskatchewan had only been around for less than a decade, but already the students’ handbook, a quaint, cheque-book-sized booklet on student life published by the Student Christian Movement, considered the position “purely an honorary one, but (nonetheless) one of the highest offices in the University Life.”

One of Saskatoon’s earliest merchants, department store owner J.F. Cairns, donated a cane in 1913 to be presented every year to the “best all-round man in the junior year” of Arts and Science. John A. Rae, editor of *The Sheaf* and known to his peers as Jock, was the first recipient of the honour. Like those recipients to follow, Rae had his name engraved on the cane’s silver band. Two years later the college extended the honor to female students and Ora Pettit, an executive member of various student organizations and full of “fire and fervor and ready laughter,” according to *The Sheaf*, had “the proud distinction of being the first among girls to hold the Senior Stick.”

Many students coveted the Senior Sticks for Arts and Science, and numbered among its recipients was future Saskatchewan premier Roy Romanow. By the late 1960s, however, the award had lost much of its importance and prestige. The last Senior Sticks were named in 1968 for women, and in 1969 for men, bringing the 56-year tradition to an end.

**The Noise Parade**

Every fall from the 1920s to the 1960s, hundreds of students would converge on Griffiths Stadium to create as much noise as humanly possible. Armed with their best noise-makers—pots, trumpets, voices—students would band together with their respective colleges to outdo one another in the fine art of making a racket. The noise parade, as it was called, was a pep rally intended to raise spirits for the “snake dance” to follow and proved so cacophonous at times that *The Sheaf* wryly reported in 1953, “If the parade didn’t abort half the pregnant animals owned by the College of Agriculture, it is through no fault of the participants.”

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*The Noise Parade, 1969*
**Snake Dance**

When the noise parade wound down, the residing MC would say, “It’s a beautiful evening for a walk,” and students would link hands to create one long chain and then wind down College Drive into the downtown core, sometimes stalling traffic for over an hour. Chains of students wove in and out of restaurants and pubs, even interrupting movies in cinemas. Some shuffled through the backseats of cars. Others darted into pubs to buy beer. “It was a big deal for kids to get in,” says University Chancellor Tom Malloy (BA’64, LLB’64), “because in those days you had to be 21 to get into a bar.”

In the 1920s, the snake dance, as it would come to be known later, was a raucous event even by today’s standards. In 1929, the *StarPhoenix* reported that a number of café windows were broken and autos “handled with little respect.” That year, fresh off a “spectacular scrap” of a street fight, a 23-year-old theology student joined other paraders to give a car downtown the “bumps” – only the driver reversed, trapping the student under the car, unconscious. He spent the next day recovering in hospital. The majority of paraders may have been students interested only in some harmless disruption, but a *Sheaf* editorial that year stated that the parade had “become an opportunity for youths to run wild,” and the students’ council decided to “abolish” the parade. The snake dance would survive as a frosh event, slightly tamed, only to regain its popularity and its raucousness in the 50s.

**Medicine Mystery**

In 1948-49, medical student John Carpenter decided some humiliation was just the thing to resurrect another traditional event, the so-called “Medicine Dance.” Having been a fixture on the medical student calendar since the 1920s, the popularity of the dance had sagged and Carpenter attempted successfully to boost ticket sales that year by offering ticket holders the opportunity to egg him, smack him in the face with a pie, and for a princely $100, burn off all his hair with a torch. Some law students, of course, couldn’t resist pooling their money. According to a University Archives article, Carpenter was taken to a back room, but “emerged a short time later, hair intact. Rumour states that the lawyers were moved to pity by the weeping Med, but no one really knows.” The dance then became known as the *Med Mystery Dance.*
**AG BAG DRAG**

There is no clearer sign of the approach of another annual tradition, the *Ag Bag Drag*, the College of Agriculture's annual dance, than the scruffy faces of Agro male students, and the hairy legs of female students, both forbidden to shave the month before the event. It is tradition for male Agros to take dates to the dance – that is, “drag their bags” to it. Despite a touch of politically incorrectness, the name is still used today.

This annual “orgy,” as one 1960s *Sheaf* article playfully put it, started in the early ’50s as an informal dance held off-campus. Still an event today, only couples – opposite sex couples, that is – have long been allowed to attend. In the ’50s it became custom to wear straw hats and shatter beer glasses, and it’s still custom today to dump beer over people’s heads. The event’s beard-growing contest began in the 50s. And beginning in the ’70s, if you were seen with a shaved face or legs, you ran the risk of having your pants yanked to your ankles. Straw hats were often lit on fire and in the ’70s, when students and profs smoked in the classroom, hats were even set ablaze in class.

The *Drag* isn’t the draw it once was, though, as “people aren’t going to do these mass drunk things like they did,” says Bob Tyler (BSA ’76), former College of Agriculture Associate Dean, almost nostalgically. “The place is still wet with beer on the floor, but it’s nowhere near the animal act it used to be.”

**E-PLANT**

Engineering students have long been rivals of agriculture students, over the years inspiring the spray painting of slogans on each other’s sidewalks and even the cementing-off of doorways. That rivalry inspired *E-Plant*, an event that once took place during Hell Week, the third week of September. “Gears,” as engineering students were known, would kidnap an Agro and duct-tape the student to a huge metal E. In the University Bowl, the E would then be erected and the Gears would guard it waiting for the Agros to descend.

The Agros had 15 minutes to free their man – or woman, as either could be captured. “It was mayhem, but in the relative scheme of things, if someone went down, everybody would stop and help that person up, regardless of what side they were on,” says Lindsey Hinther (BE’04), the 2004 president of the Saskatoon Engineering Students’ Society. “From the outside it looked like absolute mayhem, but it was controlled mayhem.” Whether restrained or not, the two sides did have agreed-upon rules of engagement. Girls could only grab girls and guys only guys. Gears were allowed to cover themselves in Vaseline and drench the ground in slippery Canola oil. The Agros once filled water balloons with pig dung. “The next year we had to say no animal products,” says Hinther. “It was so gross.”

Alas, all good things must come to an end. In Texas in 1999, 12 students were killed in an accident involving a bonfire frosh ritual, and in the following years the U of S, like many universities across North America, ran a risk assessment on frosh activities. *E-Plant* was deemed an insurance liability and canceled. “A lot of students weren’t happy, and neither was I,” says Hinther. “But I could understand where they were coming from.” A “eulogy” was held for *E-Plant* the following year.
THE LAST SNAKE DANCE
The snake dance had once again become raucous in the late '50s. In 1958, The Sheaf reported that a “good-humoured” motorist sat in his car while students lifted it from the street and gently set it down on the sidewalk. The driver later drove back on to the street. Soon a few rowdies thought largely – or maybe hopefully – not to be part of the
campus, caused considerable damage to cars and private property. Some even tried to overturn cars. University president John Spinks, concerned no doubt about the damage to both private property and the University’s image, canceled the event. And so the last snake dance was held in 1962.

STUDENTS ADMIRE THEIR HANDIWORK.
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It’s no coincidence that the University of Saskatchewan’s Students’ Union came into being exactly one week to the day classes were first held at the University in 1909. Or, to put it in perspective, one week to the day of the arrival of students on campus. That fact tells the story of the USSU, which from the start has been student-driven, student-run, student-led.

The first years were marked by a tremendous sense of excitement and purpose. Everything was new: the Students’ Representative Council, the campus clubs, the events. The hot issues of the day ranged from students fees to athletics, campus initiations to college pranks. In 1912, a special meeting of the Students’ Union was convened to deal with a group of freshmen who had grabbed a third-year student and made him swear allegiance to the first year.

As the student body grew, the USSU evolved in scope and complexity. Even its name turned inside out, from the Students’ Union of the University of Saskatchewan (SUUS) to the University of Saskatchewan Students’ Union (USSU). After nearly a century, you would expect today’s USSU to bear little resemblance to its earlier incarnations. This is, however, not the case.
“Tuition has been a major concern since the beginning, but the USSU has also dealt with other costs,” says Communications Manager Rob Martz, who is helping put together a history of the USSU. The book is scheduled for publication this fall in time for Homecoming 2007, September 14 - 16.

“In 1912, for example, transportation to and from school was a real worry, so the USSU worked to get a universal bus pass for students. It cost seven cents a month to get to school by streetcar.”

Fast forward to February 2007. In a media release announcing that students had voted to implement a universal bus pass, a USSU representative said, “This is a real victory for students at the University of Saskatchewan.”

Student space is another long-running issue. “The USSU has had a real struggle with this over the years,” Martz says. “It’s been involved in lobbying to get more space for students to enhance what everyone today calls the student experience.”

The issue first came to a boil in the 1940s. “For more than ten years, students and faculty alike have realized that lack of space and poor facilities offered student activities on campus have hampered student government and robbed students of a certain degree of comfort they should have,” reported The Sheaf in 1947.

The USSU wanted its own quarters as well as space for the many campus clubs and student organizations. A sore point for many was the University’s lack of

Although tuition had increased between 1950 and 1960, greater increases came over the next decade. A pamphlet urging students to protest the anticipated 1977-78 tuition increase

A Politic Prank

Running for the presidency of the Students’ Representative Council in 1948, Darrall “Duke” Collins (LLB’49) seemed an unlikely winner: his platform called for the disenfranchisement of all campus women, lower beings he called “perpetual emotion machines.” But Collins claimed a wild card: he produced a telegram from Irish writer George Bernard Shaw, who encouraged Collins to fight the good fight, and declared, “You will never have a quiet world until you knock women out of politics.”

Many on campus realized it was a hoax, according to a University Archives article, but Time magazine ran the story in its March 8 issue. Shaw read about it himself in a Liverpool newspaper and, according to The Sheaf, “rode off in all directions.” Shaw wrote, “I know nothing of the contest in Saskatoon...[I]f the candidacy for presidency is a professional anti-feminist, I hope the electors knock him out of politics.” Collins indeed lost the election, and Time magazine retracted the story in its March 16 issue.
an auditorium or ballroom for gatherings and dances. The Students’ Union Building was to be the answer.

“It was a response to a growing disconnect among students, especially with campus growth after World War II,” Martz says. “Students voted in a building fee to help raise money to create a place where students could come together.”

But when the Memorial Union Building, or MUB, opened in 1955 it met mixed reviews. *The Sheaf*, never one to mince words, called it a “$500,000 lemon.” They went on to argue, “We have just poured over half a million dollars into a Gothic monster which will meet the needs of this University about as well as a two-headed SRC president.” An apology of sorts followed in the next issue, as the editors stood corrected on several points. But they stuck to their guns in saying the building did not meet the needs of students – and they were right.

“Because of increasing enrolment, the MUB was short on space almost from the day it opened,” Martz says. “The student body quickly outgrew it.”

In 1964, the USSU announced plans for a new Students’ Union Building that would “include everything reasonable that we as students want it to include.” It took years to raise the funds, but in 1980 Place Riel finally opened.

Now, almost 30 years later, student space is once again front and centre. In January, the USSU approved an increase to the infrastructure fee paid by students to raise funds for a major renovation and expansion of Place Riel.

“One of the things the University emphasizes is the student experience. But the student experience isn’t just about class; it’s about participating in campus clubs and the social aspects of campus life – it’s about being able to interact,” Martz says. “The USSU has always fought for that.”
Nominations for Earned Degrees

Drs. Gillies and Courtney are the latest additions to a list of alumni and faculty who have been recognized for contributing a lifetime of outstanding achievement based on their research, scholarly or artistic work.

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Graduates and Faculty of the University of Saskatchewan are invited to submit nominations at any time for the D.Litt. and D.Sc. degrees. Nominations, including a covering letter providing a rationale for the award of the degree, should be forwarded to the Dean, College of Graduate Studies and Research, University of Saskatchewan, 107 Administration Place, Saskatoon SK S7N 5A2.
with Chancellor Tom Molloy

Tom Molloy (BA ’64, LLB ’64) will reach the end of a distinguished term as the University’s 12th Chancellor in June of this year. But before he bids farewell, we decided to meet with the renowned lawyer and treaty negotiator to talk about his time as Chancellor and his abiding affection for this University and its graduates.

G&W What role does the Chancellor fulfill within the University of Saskatchewan community?

TM There are three functions primarily. There is the granting of degrees at Convocation, a member of the Board of Governors, and the chair of the University Senate. The fourth unofficial duty would be acting as an ambassador on behalf of the University at specific events and functions – like today, the University’s birthday, is a good example of that duty in action.

G&W What motivates someone to want to become Chancellor?

TM Well to be quite honest, I never imagined that being Chancellor was a possibility in my life. I had a couple of conversations with Iain MacLean, the former University Secretary, and I talked to Peter [MacKinnon] and we thought that I could contribute. I also believed there would be a lot of personal satisfaction in it. So I ran, got nominated, and then elected – and the rest is history, as they say.

G&W What’s been your most memorable moment as Chancellor?

TM Well there have been many. I got to give degrees to two of my daughters. That was really special, but I’ve enjoyed every aspect – giving trophies to sports champions for soccer, volleyball, football, track and field. I often think back on the 6 years I spent here as some of the best years of my life. Now, the 6 years I’ve spent as Chancellor are the same in some respects.

G&W The position of Chancellor is the only official position within University governance that requires the holder to have actually been a student here. How do the students of today compare to your graduating class?

TM Well, I think in some ways they may be more competitive and work a lot harder in my observation. However, they seem to have some of the same kinds of fun and engage in some of the same pranks as we did. I think that makes for good experiences both academically and socially.

G&W Were you ever involved in any pranks when you were a student?

TM Yeah, I was involved in a number of them, but we’ll just leave it at that.

G&W The Chancellor is elected by alumni of the University of Saskatchewan. What distinguishes U of S graduates from others?

TM Well, I like to think we have the best and brightest. It’s hard to judge in one sense, but I see where our grads have ended up – in important roles in society worldwide. We are everywhere.

G&W As Chief Federal Negotiator for the Government of Canada, you’ve been described as “Canada’s most expert treaty negotiator.” What does it take to be a good negotiator?

TM I think one of the key things that one needs is to develop a relationship of trust between parties and an ability to find a solution when none is apparent. The field is really quite complicated. I often joke with people that if I had known that when I first got involved in treaty negotiations, I probably wouldn’t have gone that way. By the time I found out how complicated it was, it was too late – there was no way out.

G&W You’re a successful Lawyer, an Order of Canada recipient, an award-winning author, and Chancellor of the U of S. What’s next for Tom Molloy?

TM I honestly don’t know, but there will be something. I know it’s only a few months away but I haven’t thought that far ahead. I have no intentions of sitting back and letting the world go by; I still want to continue being involved with the University.

G&W As the 12th Chancellor of the University of Saskatchewan, you were able to usher the University into its 100th year. Any predictions about the University’s next 100 years?

TM Well, my hope is that the kind of vision that Peter [MacKinnon] and others have for this University will continue to grow into the future. I think this University has been extremely fortunate in the type of leadership it has had over the last number of years and I hope it’s the kind that continues in place for the next 100 years.

*Photos by Liam Richards
When Dr. Robert Knowles approached University Advancement in 1995 to learn more about making a planned gift to the University of Saskatchewan, his goal was clear: he wanted to create a scholarship that would have the greatest impact on a graduate student choosing to further their education in the area of his life's work – generation and improvement of crops.

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