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features

One Good Turn Deserves Another

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Editor’s Note

When it came time for me to decide what I was going to do after high school, I seriously considered only one option—coming to the University of Saskatchewan. I'd like to say I underwent an exhaustive search and the U of S came out on top, but I have to be honest, the U of S was the only logical choice I could make.

I would venture a guess that my educational discernment process is not unique in Saskatchewan. For many people like me, it is not really a decision at all. I live in Saskatchewan, Saskatchewan has a good, comprehensive university in Saskatoon, therefore, I will go to the University of Saskatchewan. Enrollment records indicate that, on average, more than three-quarters of all U of S students come from within the province, supporting this sentiment.

Times they are a-changin’. Young people are increasingly mobile and are much more willing to move out of province, or even out of country, to pursue their education. Globalization has an impact on post-secondary education just as much as it does on business and tourism. The shrinking world may make it easier for people to attend the U of S, but it also makes it easier for our traditional student base—Saskatchewan residents—to go somewhere else to pursue their educational aspirations.

This issue of the Green and White explores a few aspects of the University of Saskatchewan's enrolment action plan and how it is addressing the new realities that affect enrolment. You will read about the Institutional Positioning project the U of S has undertaken to define where the university fits in the increasingly competitive post-secondary education marketplace.

Read how the largest gift in U of S history, given by Professor Emeritus Dr. Karim Nasser (PhD’65) and his family, will impact students and the student experience on campus for generations.

How students learn has changed over the years, so we will discuss experiential learning, one aspect of the university's plan to address the dynamic nature of learning.

Many changes mean that university's need to approach student recruitment differently. Read how technology has infiltrated student recruitment and why personal interaction is still important.

In hindsight, my discernment process may not have been the most thorough or even the most appropriate, but one thing remains—I know I made the right decision to attend the U of S.

Derrick Kunz (BComm’96), Editor
President’s Message

In the first ever University of Saskatchewan President’s Report to the provincial legislature in 1909, U of S President Walter Murray stated the university “should conserve the best of the past, and meet the needs of the future.” What a bold and visionary statement for an institution that would conduct its first class in a few short months.

Anticipating and meeting the needs of the future is no small task. It requires much investigation, analysis, attentiveness, humility, courage and commitment to recognize and address the needs of our institution, faculty and staff, students and alumni.

Opportunities and challenges can be identified and addressed only if we look to our future needs. One challenge universities are facing is student enrolment. Changing demographics for traditional undergraduate students 18 – 24 years of age, an increasingly competitive post-secondary landscape, and increased mobility are a few major factors affecting student enrolment at the U of S and across Canada.

The words of Walter Murray ground us and give us direction. We proudly recognize we have done some things very well over the past 100-plus years, and those things should be conserved. But we humbly acknowledge there is room for improvement if we are to meet the needs of the future, and we are prepared to concentrate on the challenges that lie ahead.

A foundational document on student enrolment was developed as part of the university’s integrated plan, and a subsequent action plan identifies key areas the university should focus on to address student enrolment challenges. Areas such as how we recruit students, student advising, experiential learning, distance learning, offering innovative programs, student housing, student financial aid, and facilitating credit transfers from other institutions are among the areas we need to devote our attention to ensure the U of S is a first choice among Canada’s universities.

This past fall, our student enrolment numbers demonstrated we are heading in the right direction. Absolute student body growth was 2.4 per cent, and undergraduate enrolment was up for the first time since 2003-04. Graduate student enrolment—identified as a priority in the foundational document—was up almost nine per cent and now represents 13 per cent of total enrolment. Credit unit equivalency, another important measure of student enrollment with more students opting for part-time studies, was up just under one per cent.

We cannot take anything for granted, but I am confident we are taking the appropriate steps to ensure the University of Saskatchewan is well positioned to further Walter Murray’s vision and meet the needs of future generations.

Peter MacKinnon, President
University of Saskatchewan
Learning Charter

Expectations for students, instructors, and the institution will become clearer with the introduction of a new learning charter.

The charter—a unique document that helps define aspirations about the learning experience the U of S aims to provide—was unveiled at University Council in December. The 11-page document attempts to clarify the expectations of what makes a good learning environment and defines those expectations for both instructors and students. The two main themes of the charter focus on the learning goals for graduates and the roles of students, faculty, instructors and the university in a learning partnership.

The feedback phase of the charter approval process, which began at the Council meeting, concluded in April and will help refine the charter before final approval.

Grad opportunities for Chinese Students

The College of Graduate Studies and Research has agreed to six memorandums of understanding with Chinese post-secondary institutions that will create opportunities for 20 Chinese PhD students to study at the University of Saskatchewan.

Under the terms of the agreements, the participating Chinese universities will recruit and recommend scholars approved by the Chinese Scholarship Council, and the U of S will provide scholarships for the selected students.

Huskie Hoops Success

The Huskie men’s basketball team claimed the Canadian Interuniversity Sport (CIS) Championship March 21 in Ottawa, ON, beating the UBC Thunderbirds 91-81 in the final game. The first-ever championship for the men’s team came a week after they beat the University of Calgary Dinos for the Canada West Championship.

Fourth-year guard Shawron Glover, fifth-year forward Troy Gottselig and fifth-year guard Michael Linklater were named tournament all-stars. Linklater also earned tournament MVP honours.

The Huskie women’s basketball team also had a best-ever finish this season, winning the bronze medal at the CIS Championship tournament in Hamilton, ON. The women’s team beat the Regina Cougars 78-67 to claim third place.

Fifth-year All-Canadian guard Lindsay DeGroot was named player of the game and received the tournament’s fair play award. Fourth-year guard Jill Humbert was named a tournament all-star.

For a complete Huskie athletics season recap, visit www.huskies.usask.ca.

The U of S Jazz Ensemble Alumni Concert

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Special thanks to the Department of Music, the College of Arts & Science, the Saskatoon Musicians Association and the American Federation of Musicians.

Flock of Cranes

Five tower cranes depict the level of construction at the U of S. In the foreground is the crane for the student residences project. In the background are cranes for the Academic Health Sciences project (three on the left) and Place Riel renovation and expansion (red one on the right).
Tech Giants Visit Campus

Three major technology firms—Google, Apple and IBM—joined several local and provincial companies at the Computer Science Students’ Society’s (CSSS) annual career fair Feb. 9 at the U of S.

“It’s great to see such large and respected technology companies take notice of the quality programs and high caliber of faculty and students we have at the U of S,” said Jeremy Rans, CSSS secretary. “They are here to recruit potential employees, not just present, so it’s a pretty big deal to have representatives from these companies at our annual career fair.”

Steve Woods (BSc’97), site director for Google’s Waterloo, ON facility, returned to campus for the career fair. Originally from Melfort, Woods founded Quack.com, a company producing a voiceportal that uses verbal commands to access online information, that was sold to AOL.

Also returning to campus for the career fair was Jon Lovering (BE’08, BSc’08) a firmware engineer with Apple. Lovering’s work requires him to work closely with both computer hardware and software, pairing his skills as an engineer and a computer scientist.

“We like to have U of S alumni come and talk to students about the options that are out there after graduation. Having U of S grads from companies like Google and Apple helps us realize that the doors are wide open for our careers,” stated Rans.

Source: Computer Science Students’ Society

Laptops Not Labs

Thanks to a campus-wide wireless network, laptops are quickly becoming standard equipment for U of S students. A recent information technology survey revealed that 83 per cent of arts and science students own their own laptop.

Some colleges see this trend as an opportunity to scale back expensive and space-consuming computer labs. The College of Law, which has one of the highest student laptop usages on campus, has phased out labs over the past few years and has only a few remaining stand-alone desktop workstations.

The College of Engineering is heading in the same direction. Beginning in the fall of 2010, the college, in conjunction with the Campus Computer Store, will offer discounts for laptops and the required bundle of specialized software for engineering students. Laptops will not be mandatory, and students will have to pay attention to compatibility of the software with their hardware, but it is anticipated the program will help alleviate demand for the limited number of computers available in the college’s labs.

Rethinking the First Year

The College of Arts and Science is considering new first-year student programs to aid recruitment and retention efforts.

First-year programming within the college has been the same for over 25 years and the college recognizes the need to address the fact it loses about 40 per cent of first-year students for a variety of reasons.

The First-Year Curriculum Steering Committee has been formed to develop an innovative approach to education of first-year students that will enhance the student experience and increase the college’s profile. The committee will review programs at other North American post-secondary schools with particular interest in interdisciplinary approaches that help students broaden their views.

During its 18-month mandate, the committee will strive to learn about the interests and skills of current students, determine how program revisions will blend with upper-level courses, and work with existing resources.

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Eric Neufeld (MSc’83, MSc’84, BEd’96), head of the Department of Computer Science at the CSSS career fair; photo by Joy-Ann Allin
Breaking Stone in Lieu of Sod

Traditional sod turning ceremonies are not an ideal way to mark the beginning of construction projects in the middle of a Saskatchewan winter. So, to mark the start of the construction of new student residences in College Quarter—the first student residence project at the U of S in over 30 years—representatives from the U of S, the City of Saskatoon, the Province of Saskatchewan and Meridian Development Corp. took part in a ceremonial mantle chiseling on Feb. 8.

Phase one of the residence plan features two five-storey apartment-style buildings that will house 400 students, bringing the student-accommodation level on campus up to about eight per cent. The total cost of this phase of the project is $35.9 million, with $15 million coming from the Province of Saskatchewan, $575,000 from the City of Saskatoon, and the U of S financing the remaining costs which will be paid through student rent.

The mantel used at the ceremony will become part of the fireplace in the main foyer of the residence building.

For more information on the College Quarter student residence development visit www.usask.ca/collegequarter

Architecture at the U of S

It may not be a new idea, but the concept of a school of architecture at the U of S seems to be gaining momentum. The Saskatchewan Association of Architects (SAA) has been taking a serious look at the possibility for about five years, and now a university committee is also considering how to create new opportunities for educating architects.

Colin Tennent (BSc’75) associate vice-president of facilities and university architect, has the optimistic view that the U of S could be training architects in as little as two years.

Demand for architects in Canada has increased dramatically over the years, but training across the country has not kept pace with demand.

A feasibility study was conducted by the SAA in 2008, and the idea of a school was endorsed in 2009. Recent research also suggests that mid-sized cities like Saskatoon are perfect incubators for architectural education.

The next step is to examine the potential school’s academic structure, resources, governance and community engagement. Tennent believes the U of S offers a perfect platform for support of the school from other disciplines like law, business, engineering, arts and the School of Environment and Sustainability.

An internal group with members from various academic units gave a notice of intent to University Council’s Planning and Priority Committee outlining the potential fit of the school with the university’s priorities. The group is working on the schools structure, curriculum, and considering a possible home in downtown Saskatoon.

Changes to Board of Governors

Nancy Hopkins (BComm’77, LLB’78) will take over as chair of the University of Saskatchewan Board of Governors July 1, after a vote among board members March 12.

First appointed to the board by the provincial government in 2005, Hopkins currently sits as vice-chair of the board, serves as chair of the governance and executive committee, and is a member of the finance and investment committee.

Also at the March meeting, Susan Milburn (BComm’78, MBA’80) was elected to fill the role of vice-chair starting July 1. Milburn served as president of the U of S Alumni Association in 2002-03 and was recently awarded the Alumni Association’s service award. She has been a member of the Board of Governors since 2006 and currently chairs the audit committee and is a member of the finance and investment committee.

Sociable

Keeping up-to-date with what is going on at the U of S has never been easier. On top of joining the U of S Alumni Association’s Facebook group, you can follow the University of Saskatchewan on its Facebook page and on Twitter.
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Finding Our Place – project seeks to position the U of S in Canada’s post-secondary education sector

by Mark Ferguson

The University of Saskatchewan is getting closer to pinpointing its place within Canada’s post-secondary education sector as the Institutional Positioning Project nears its final stages.

Started in the spring of 2009, the Institutional Positioning Project steering committee—comprised of university leaders and stakeholders—set out to create a positioning strategy that would define and build on the university’s unique characteristics, strengths, history and traditions, culture and reputation. The strategy will also describe what it takes to achieve the final goal. That goal—one that was originally stated by the university’s first president, Walter Murray—is to be an institution “among the very best.”

The project kicked-off with a review of current perceptions that people have about the U of S. The next step was to develop a position that is both relevant and credible in the eyes of various audiences, and one that differentiates the U of S from other post-secondary institutions in Canada.

For Heather Magotiaux, vice-president of University Advancement and project chair, the process has been illuminating and intensive.

“When we began this project, we knew that a lot of people have a very narrow view of this university, or no view at all,” said Magotiaux. “Words like ‘farmers’, ‘football’, ‘cold’ and ‘boring’ were not uncommon responses, but as we mined deeper, it was gratifying to discover many people who are passionate about the University of Saskatchewan, what it does and what it represents.”

Through a lengthy process of surveys, focus groups, discussions, and interviews with individuals and groups, the project committee, the Educational Policy Institute of Canada, and Interbrand (two independent agencies) identified a number of views and perceptions that speak to the university’s strengths, added Magotiaux.
These strengths include a friendly community, a hard-working approach, a beautiful campus, strength in areas of research and academics, and a good reputation in the natural and life sciences.

Those consulted included senior leaders at the U of S, students, members of standing committees at various levels of the organization and faculty members. External audiences included prospective students, alumni, faculty from other institutions and key funders.

These consultations revealed three overarching themes the audiences deemed important and that the U of S could credibly lay claim to—the ability to make an impact, connections, and the various kinds of support provided by the institution.

Alumni echoed these sentiments when they were consulted through an online survey. One respondent said the U of S has “excellent post-graduate training,” while another said it “focuses on indigenous and agricultural research”. The overall sentiment from alumni was that their U of S education was well worth it, and a U of S degree was highly sought after in the job market.

“Our students receive an educational experience—both in and out of the classroom—that prepares them for the working world. Graduates are known for the calibre of their work, but they’re also known for being outstanding human beings,” said Magotiaux.

Magotiaux clarified the position is “not a tagline, a logo, nor an ad, but rather an internal strategy that will guide our behaviour, decision making and priority setting in the future.”

The next steps, said Magotiaux, are to take the results and share the position through a series of information sessions about the draft strategy, a review of positions established by peer institutions, the development of both verbal and visual ways of expressing the strategy, and an operational review of what the university may start doing, stop doing and continue doing based on the position.

The nature of post-secondary institutions is that they are becoming increasingly competitive, said Alex Usher, director of the Educational Policy Institute of Canada and columnist for the Globe and Mail’s globecampus.ca.

Being a world-class university, said Usher, is all about “prestige … (but) prestige is relative. It’s scarce and not everyone can have it. Institutions all over the world are trying to gain prestige and they are all using the same tactics to obtain it. And this means increasing competition for talent.”

The global trend for universities is a greater emphasis on research and graduate studies, he added. And with about 1,000 universities around the world claiming to be “research institutions”, the U of S needs to find new ways to attract students, staff, faculty and research dollars to compete.

“So, how do you communicate your strengths to the world?” asked Usher.

And that is the question the Institutional Positioning Project team is answering. To stay informed and to find out more information on the U of S Positioning Project, check out www.usask.ca/positioning.
The University of Saskatchewan has identified student financial assistance, student services and student housing among the priorities in its student enrolment action plan. The largest gift in U of S history will go a long way in addressing these priority areas and improving the student experience at the U of S.

When someone does something nice for you, an instinctual response is to express your thanks. Typically, the larger the initial deed, the larger the reciprocal gesture of appreciation. What act of kindness does it take to prompt a $12 million gift of gratitude—the amount that Professor Emeritus Dr. Karim (Kay) Nasser (PhD’65) and his family recently donated to the University of Saskatchewan?
The answer traces its roots to Lebanon, Nasser’s homeland, where he needed the help of others to pursue his education. “Grade school and high school in Lebanon are not free. I needed help from day one. If not for financial help from my parents, aunts and uncles, grandparents, teachers, and others I would not have been able to go to school,” said Nasser. Even with help from others, Nasser needed to find employment, sometimes working two jobs to pay tuition and make ends meet.

After earning his undergraduate degree in civil engineering from the American University of Beirut in 1949, Nasser started working for the Trans-Arabian Pipeline Company (Tapline).

“It was incredible what a new engineer would see and learn in a new job. But I needed more education if I wanted to progress in my career,” Nasser explained. So, with the assistance of scholarships, Nasser left Lebanon to earn his graduate degree at the University of Kansas.

Just before he left for the United States, Nasser started paying attention to Dora (BEd’69), a young woman living in a house next door to his apartment in Beirut. “We first met at university. I would see her go by and she got my attention,” said Nasser. “But we didn’t talk. Even if I wanted to go out I had no time or money. But before I went to Kansas, I invited Dora and her friends for dinner.” Dora recalls, “I thought he was interested in my friend and he was playing games.”

The couple may tell the story of their short courtship from different perspectives, but they both recall a marriage proposal atop a tower—one of Nasser’s work projects at Tapline—overlooking the Mediterranean Sea just days before Nasser left for the U.S. Their long-distance engagement is well documented with letters they wrote to each other, which Dora still has.

Nasser decided to pursue his PhD in the early 1960s. He chose the U of S because of the

The other option is to sell the properties, which is something the university is likely to do “ sometime in the next year,” Florizone said. The Vienna Building may be kept as an investment as it is home to the Edwards School of Business MBA program.
solid reputation of the college and its faculty. And again, much needed financial aid was offered in the form of a scholarship. So Nasser, now married to Dora and with a young and growing family, headed to Saskatoon.

Upon completion of his PhD, Nasser accepted a one-year term to fill a vacancy at the U of S College of Engineering. That one year turned into a 33-year career teaching civil engineering at the U of S. Nasser jokes, “One year hasn’t finished,” revealing his continued affinity for the university.

While working a summer job at a local engineering firm to get some Canadian experience, Nasser met clients who were building apartment buildings. “I met one farmer who was doing his own contracting to build an apartment. I asked him how he did it. He said, ‘All you need is hard work and a mortgage.’ I thought, ‘If a farmer can do it, so can I.’ I would also save money as both the engineer and contractor.”

With a line of credit from the bank and his engineering expertise, Nasser had a new summer job. “Every summer I would build a new building. We lived on my salary from the university; we would take no money from the buildings.” The buildings started to provide a cash flow to finance new construction, which was fortunately timed during a period of growth in Saskatoon. In time, Victory Majors Investment Corporation was formed to handle the management of the properties.

In 1967, the Nassers made their first donation to the University of Saskatchewan, showing their thanks for opportunities the U of S provided them. They have given every year since, and an endowment fund in their name grew to over $600,000 before their most recent gift. “Our main interest is students. Any student who wants to come to this university but feels he or she can’t make it, they need financial assistance, we want to be there for those kinds of students. We look forward to helping those that really need help to get to university,” said Nasser, recalling all the help he received to pursue his education.

At an event to announce the $12 million gift on February 26 at Convocation Hall, Nasser gave a heartwarming explanation for the gift. “My four daughters and one son are all University of Saskatchewan graduates and have joined us in making all our donations. The U of S allowed me to practice my profession. I was treated kindly and fairly. What is our response? On behalf of Dora and our children, we love the university and our community so much we give and we give; we share all we can with the university and our community.”

When asked if he had any advice for current or prospective students, Nasser replied, “A good university education is the key for anything you want in life—it’s the master key. That’s where I want to help.”

For additional information, photos and video of the gift announcement visit www.usask.ca/thankyou

Beyond the Books

The experiences of students on campus go well beyond the classroom and earning a degree. Since student financial aid is such an important aspect of the student experience, and such an important part of Nasser’s educational pursuits, a substantial portion of the donation will go toward student scholarships and bursaries.

Mark Boots (BE’08, BSc’08) is just one of thousands of students who know how financial assistance can dramatically affect their experience on campus. A recipient of one of the Nassers’ student awards, Boots explained, “For me, the Nassers’ support made the difference between having to pound nails during my time at university and instead being able to spend my time with groups like Engineers Without Borders and the Space Design Team. For others it may mean the difference between not having the opportunity to get a higher education and being able to attend the University of Saskatchewan—and that’s an incredible gift.”

Nasser receives a hug from Heather Magotiaux, vice-president of University Advancement and a standing ovation at the Feb. 26 gift announcement.
Building a Better Student Experience

Student housing and other facilities and amenities on campus are key factors that contribute to making the student experience more attractive to current and prospective students. The Nasses have identified priority areas in addition to scholarships and bursaries that can improve the student experience at the U of S.

Some of their gift will go toward the construction of a student amenities building in the College Quarter student residence development, located south of College Drive between Cumberland and Preston Avenues. Construction of these residences, the first to be built at the U of S in over 30 years, began in February. The student amenities building will act as a place where students can work and socialize and could potentially house classrooms, computer, exercise and music rooms, social gathering areas and office space.

The Gordon Oakes – Red Bear Student Centre will also benefit from the Nasses’ gift. The centre will act as a central resource of services and amenities to support aboriginal students and encourage their success. The teaching, learning and ceremonial space will provide opportunities for community involvement and create a cultural centre that will help attract and retain aboriginal students. Increasing construction costs since the preliminary design was approved in 2006 have caused construction delays for the centre.

The Edwards School of Business K.W. Nasser Centre, the downtown home of the MBA program, and the College of Engineering will also share in the proceeds of the donation.

“A good university education is the key for anything you want in life—it’s the master key.”
As competition for jobs after graduation intensifies, the need for more comprehensive learning experiences becomes increasingly important. The opportunity to earn valuable work experience while in school can be the competitive advantage university graduates need to stand out above other job applicants and to hit the ground running in their new careers.

Experiential learning allows students to be intellectually challenged and take a more engaged approach to learning by bridging the gap between classroom learning and practical knowledge and skills. Students are exposed to a professional environment and are able to build a network of professional contacts that will help them when they start their career.

There are several opportunities for student learning to be more active and participative at the University of Saskatchewan. The Engineering Professional Internship Program (EPIP), an internship program facilitated by the Student Employment and Career Centre (SECC), is one example of experiential learning at the U of S.

Daryl Elliott (BE’08), an EPIP participant, can attest to the benefits of hands-on learning. When she joined the internship program, Elliott was not sure what to expect, but the experience she gained from her participation proved to be a valuable asset when it came time to find a job. Elliott credits EPIP for preparing her for a career in engineering and for helping her get her current job with Hinz, a Rockwell Automation Company where she works as a project engineer and an electrical engineer-in-training.

“I learned a lot during my internship that I never learned in the classroom,” says Elliott. “The classroom taught me problem solving skills and time management, but working in the industry gave me invaluable skills. Just knowing the language of the industry before I started work at Hinz was nice.”
I learned to prioritize and how to budget. I was exposed to computer software that is used often in my discipline that I would never have been exposed to otherwise.”

Elliott took a year off from her classroom studies to participate in the program, but she did not lose any time in the pursuit of her professional engineer designation because her year of work through EPIP counts toward the designation. She may have graduated a year after originally planned, but she is right on track to become a professional engineer in May 2011, the same timeframe as classmates who did not participate in the program. But Elliott believes EPIP gave her a competitive advantage that helped her land a job with Hinz.

Elliott’s path is just one of many possible options available to students at the U of S. Co-operative and internship opportunities are available through several colleges including the Edwards School of Business, St. Andrew’s College, and the Colleges of Education, Engineering, Pharmacy and Nutrition, Nursing, and Arts and Science—all of which provide unique opportunities for students to put their knowledge and learning to practical use.

Formal programs may not be available for all fields of study, but as Stephanie Marshall, career development co-ordinator with SECC, explains, “Experiential learning can happen in many different settings. In addition to co-operative programs and internships, there are Community Service Learning opportunities that can enhance a student’s sense of purpose outside the university, and volunteer opportunities can help expand the skills and experiences students possess. All of these can better prepare students for the workforce.”

Community Service Learning (CSL), offered through the University Learning Centre, matches students with organizations in Saskatoon as a way to participate in the community and, as Marshall indicates, better prepare students for careers in their chosen field.

Learning Communities serve as a valuable way for alumni to share their knowledge and experience first-hand with alumni-to-be. Alumni interested in participating in future Learning Communities are encouraged to contact the office of University Advancement (306) 966-5186.

Dan Delury (BSA’96, BA’09, MA’09), a sociology lecturer at the U of S, offers the option of participating in CSL programming to his students. The experiential learning element of his class is optional, but the students who opt in benefit greatly. Students volunteer at various Saskatoon organizations such as schools, hospitals or other not-for-profit organizations and are able to gain a new perspective outside of their usual academic setting. The students achieve better understanding of the concepts discussed in class, and their volunteer efforts add an increased sense of value to their school work. Delury notes, “Students [who participate in CSL] are more passionate about what they are doing in class and are analyzing things at a level beyond other students. This is evident in their understanding of the concepts, and is often reflected through their grades.”

Students from the Colleges of Kinesiology, Agriculture and Bioresources, and Arts and Science have another unique opportunity. Each year, several hundred students are able to participate in Learning Communities. Learning Communities are an opportunity for students to meet with community leaders—who are often U of S alumni—and learn from their experiences. Professionals from a wide variety of backgrounds are able to provide their perspectives on life after graduation and share different challenges and opportunities they encountered on their career path. Students are given reassurance that there is no set path to success after graduation and that a university degree, no matter the discipline, offers a wide variety of career options.

For anyone with doubts concerning the value of experiential learning, Elliott offers one final thought on its value. “Honestly, I think everyone should have to do some sort of work experience before they graduate. It’s good to know that you actually might like what you’re going to do after you graduate before you graduate.” And her advice for those who are considering EPIP, or other programs like it, “If you’re thinking about it, then just do it. It might just be the best thing that you do for your entire university career!”
The questions prospective students ask about the University of Saskatchewan have not changed much over the years. What has changed is the university’s approach to recruiting students. In the last 10 years, the U of S has cranked up the volume on its recruitment efforts.

“Prior to the 1970s, there was virtually no student recruitment at the U of S. Saskatchewan high school students who were going to go on to university generally came here,” says Claude Lang (BA’72), director of enrolment in the Student and Enrolment Services Division.

The university had always communicated with prospective students, but in response to requests for information. Since 1954, a High School Visits committee had looked after requests from provincial high schools to have someone come out and talk to students about university. The committee also organized campus tours, seminars for high school teachers and academic competitions for top high school students. This formed the core of the university’s recruitment efforts.
It was a low key, soft sell approach—and it worked well for many years. After one high school visit, for example, a rural principal reported that the number of his graduating students going on to university had roughly doubled, from three of 17 graduates in the year prior to the visit to seven of 16 graduates in the year following the visit.

The problem was that the committee had limited resources, which meant limited reach. “When I started as a high school liaison officer for St. Thomas More College, we found misinformation or no information about the U of S,” Lang says. “High school students really didn’t know what they needed to get into different university programs. Our goal was to get them accurate, timely information on classes, marks, prerequisites, fees, application deadlines—all the basics.”

About the same time Lang joined St. Thomas More, the university was looking at establishing its own dedicated High School Liaison Office. It was spurred on by a troubling trend. The university had enjoyed steady enrolment growth since its inception. In the 1960s, enrolment more than doubled from 9,995 in 1959-60 to 19,641 in 1969-70. But the next four years saw a gradual decline to 17,008.

When the High School Liaison Office came into being in 1974, it not only took over high school visits, campus tours and career days, it also assumed responsibility for marketing materials such as brochures and handbooks. The idea was not to aggressively recruit students, but rather to provide the necessary information for students to make an informed choice about university in general and, hopefully, the U of S in particular.

By the close of the 1990s, the university’s soft sell approach was coming into question as institutions in other provinces began to actively recruit top Saskatchewan students. You can blame demographics: Saskatchewan’s population, like the rest of Canada’s, was aging. With a shrinking pool of university-aged young people to draw from, university recruiters were looking Canada-wide and even internationally for students. It is a trend that drives today’s recruitment practices.

“Students are more mobile nowadays, and they have more choices than ever before,” Lang says. “That ups the ante for us, because while we want to increase enrolment, we also want to recruit top students.”

The U of S has responded with a strong internet presence, an online calendar, interactive online media, student-focused print materials, enhanced entrance scholarships and on-campus events. This increased activity is reflected in Lang’s department, which includes five domestic and two international recruiters, as well as four student support staff.

“International recruiting was minimal prior to 1996. Now, our recruiters work with the English Language Centre, international organizations and education agents around the world.”

Technology opens doors to these distant students. “Online communication is effective for recruiting students who don’t meet with us in person or are looking for answers to their questions independently,” says Amy Tomtene, a senior recruitment officer. “For example, our online chat system provides the opportunity for instant answers to any question that students, parents, counsellors or anyone might have about the U of S.”

Is it working? According to Lang’s information, yes. “We’ve maintained our enrolment despite a smaller population of university-age students to draw from in Saskatchewan. We continue to attract students from within the province and increasingly from other provinces and internationally.”

Strangely enough, given all the hype surrounding the internet and social media, the ace in the hole for the University of Saskatchewan remains the face-to-face approach. “Face-to-face recruitment allows us to connect with students on a personal level and build relationships with them. We hope these personal relationships will help us stand apart from other institutions,” Tomtene says.

Lang agrees, adding that seeing the campus and getting a taste of campus life and all the U of S has to offer is still “one of the keys to converting potential students into U of S students.”
Alumni Association
President’s Message

Congratulations and welcome to our recent University of Saskatchewan graduates, the newest members of our Alumni Association family. This is such an exciting time in your life, and your Alumni Association is here to support you and maintain your connection to the U of S.

We have had much opportunity to celebrate the success of our alumni so far this year. Saskatoon started the year hosting the World Junior Hockey Championship, and many alumni were involved to make it a successful tournament. Two alumni won medals at the Olympics and Paralympics in Vancouver. And the U of S Huskie men’s basketball team—some of our future alumni—won their first ever CIS championship.

I am proud to say that the Alumni Association has made some significant progress throughout the year. Our three-year strategic plan was finalized, giving the association a solid foundation and direction for future growth. An agreement between the association and the university was formalized, providing clarity to our long-standing relationship and enabling us to strengthen our ties and better serve our alumni. Work on our budget forecast continues as we strive to fulfill our three-year strategic plan. There is still much work to be done, but I am encouraged by the progress that has been made.

This past February the association celebrated the success of six alumni at our annual Honouring our Alumni gala dinner. The event held at TCU Place in Saskatoon was a wonderful way to celebrate the accomplishments of the recipients. We are accepting nominations for this year’s awards, with the gala likely to be held in November. See the ad on the inside cover for details or visit www.usask.ca/alumni/awards.

The Alumni Association Board of Directors is undergoing a governance review to ensure the association remains relevant to its members and is well positioned for the future. This may not seem like a very exciting undertaking, but it is an important step for the long-term viability of the association board.

This year’s Annual General Meeting—being held June 10 at Convocation Hall in the College Building—will include our first volunteer recognition. We will recognize individuals who have volunteered their time on behalf of the Alumni Association. More information can be found at www.usask.ca/alumni. I hope to see you there.

It has been a privilege to serve you as president of the University of Saskatchewan Alumni Association this past year. Thank you for this opportunity, and I extend my congratulations to Dr. Bryan Harvey as he assumes the role of president in June.

Best regards for a wonderful summer.

Marianne Schneider, BSN’94, MBA’96

Alumni Services and Benefits

Alumni membership is automatic when you graduate from the University of Saskatchewan. Get your free alumni card to access several campus services. Call (306) 966-5186 or email alumni.office@usask.ca for more information.

CAMPUS COMPUTER STORE
Choose from a wide variety of electronics and computers at competitive prices. Knowledgeable and friendly staff will help find the right product for you. www.ccs.usask.ca

PHYSICAL ACTIVITY COMPLEX (PAC)
Get a membership to the PAC, a state of the art fitness complex featuring a 14,000 square foot fitness facility, a walking/jogging track, swimming pool, climbing wall, and more. www.kinesiology.usask.ca

FACULTY CLUB
Get your free one-day trial membership to experience what the Faculty Club has to offer—a perfect location for your business lunch, professional function, or to unwind after a busy day. www.usask.ca/facclub

STUDENT EMPLOYMENT AND CAREER CENTRE (SECC)
Get access to all the same services you had as a student—online job postings, personal career assessments, employability workshops and guides, career counseling, and more. www.usask.ca/secc

AND MORE...

Your free alumni card also gives you access to ballroom dancing, the Language Centre, U of S libraries, discounted classified advertising in The Sheaf, and more. Get your card today.
President Peter MacKinnon continued the annual President’s Provincial Tour with visits to Prince Albert on March 24 and Swift Current on April 20. He met with high school and community college counselors, presented to local high school students, and met with the local health region representatives and members of the Regional Advisory Councils. Well-attended receptions for alumni and friends concluded visits to both communities.

While in Swift Current, President MacKinnon and Mark Frison, president of the Great Plains College, signed a memorandum of understanding that laid out guidelines and principles to further enhance the university’s relationship with the college.

President MacKinnon also spoke at an alumni event in La Jolla, California, where he was greeted by a group of 25 U of S alumni and guests. Alumni branch representative Michael Maguire (BE’87, MSc’92) and his wife Dr. Melissa Just-Maguire graciously hosted the March 15 event.

On May 4, President MacKinnon hosted a reception for alumni and friends in Ottawa, ON, where he discussed research and innovation at the U of S during a State of the University address.

Alumni and friends in Hamilton, ON gathered to cheer the Huskie women’s basketball team on their way to a third place finish—their best ever—at the CIS Women’s Basketball Championship March 12 – 14. President MacKinnon was joined by alumni and friends for an event on March 13 prior to the bronze medal game.

On March 20, alumni and friends attended an event in support of the Huskie men’s basketball team in Ottawa, ON. After winning their first ever Canada West championship, the team was in Ottawa for the CIS Men’s Basketball Championship on March 19-21. The team made history again by earning their first-ever national championship.

Alumni gatherings were also held a little further from home, in Australia. During a recent personal trip down under, Angela Kempf, a U of S alumni relations consultant, took the opportunity to connect with U of S graduates in Sydney on April 24 and in Melbourne on May 3.
Pezer Re-elected as Chancellor

At the University of Saskatchewan Senate meeting on April 17, Vera Pezer was re-elected as chancellor of the University of Saskatchewan for her second three-year term.

Recent revisions to the University of Saskatchewan Act, 1995, alter the process for selection of chancellor. Under the provisions of the revised Act, submissions for the nomination of chancellor may be made by any member of convocation to a joint Senate/Board of Governors nomination committee. The committee prepares a nomination, and the Senate appoints the chancellor. Alumni still have a very important role to play both in electing members to the Senate and in the selection of chancellor, and are encouraged to nominate candidates for chancellor and to participate in the Senate election process. For more information visit www.usask.ca/university_secretary/senate

Home Economics class of ’74, 35-year reunion held in Moose Jaw Oct. 4, 2009

Back Row (l-r) Adele Coutts, Enid Dice, Sheila Mackie, Sharon Scherman, Sherri Grant, Sylvia Coghlin, Marg Lovas, Mary Ann Dearing, Lynn Earle, Gail Mitchell, Kelly Deis, Dianne Drummond, Sandra Breunig, Deb Leach, Karen Larson, Betty Helliquist. 
Front row (l-r) Lynn Carr, Glenda Caughlin, Barb Sanderson, Diane de Korompay, Bonny Voice, Adele Crocker, Judy Montgomery, Connie Frith, Yvonne Oranchuk

Contact us to receive travel brochures and information on trips like the WWI Tour hosted by Chancellor Vera Pezer and Prof. Bill Waiser in April 2011.

1-800-699-1907
alumni.office@usask.ca
www.usask.ca/alumni/travel
Olympic Gold Medal Events

In partnership with the Government of Saskatchewan, the University of Saskatchewan had a presence at the Saskatchewan Pavilion during the Olympic Games in Vancouver Feb. 22-24. The domed Saskatchewan Pavilion—in the bustling False Creek area of Vancouver—attracted between 6,000 and 9,000 visitors per day. U of S representatives were on hand to answer questions about Saskatchewan and the U of S, speak with potential students, touch base with alumni and put a Huskie paw tattoo on anyone that walked by.

A special alumni reception was held the evening of Feb. 23, with several U of S alumni and friends in attendance.

Back in Saskatchewan, Chancellor Vera Pezer (BA’62, MA’64, PhD’77) gave a speech as part of The Globe and Mail’s Intellectual Muscle speakers series on Feb. 23 at Convocation Hall. Intellectual Muscle is an educational initiative of the games that featured speeches by Canadian university representatives on the three pillars of the 2010 Vancouver Olympics—sport, culture and sustainability. Former Canadian Olympic sprinter Dr. Cyprian Enweani (MD’89) and Canadian Paralympic medalist Heather Kuttai (BA’94, MSc’09) were among the speakers and guests.

Special thanks to all the U of S staff, alumni and friends that volunteered during the games, provided accommodations for U of S staff and volunteers, and contributed to the Olympic events’ success in any way.

Visit www.usask.ca/2010 for more information, photos and video.
In 2010, our department of Physics and Engineering Physics will be 100 years old. We have laid claim to many firsts in Canada: the betatron, the Cobalt 60 unit, the Tokamak reactor, the linear accelerator and the Canadian Light Source. What a tradition of excellence!

Mark your calendar for the weekend of Sept. 24-25, and plan to be in Saskatoon to catch up with alumni from all years and your favourite professors.

Presentations by Hugh Woods, Jack Cunningham, Bahrad Sokhansanj, Doug Cormack, Kelly Paton, Don McEwen and more!

Welcome Reception Hosted at President Peter MacKinnon’s House

Saturday Night Banquet at Dakota Dunes Casino!

http://physics.usask.ca

Scholarships and Bursaries

The U of S Alumni Association would like to congratulate the 2009 – 2010 winners of the Alumni Association scholarships and bursaries. A total of 23 awards are available, funded through the generous donations of U of S alumni to the annual fund. For more information on these scholarships and bursaries, to see the 2009-10 winners, and to learn how to apply, visit www.usask.ca/alumni/alumni_association/scholarships.

Upcoming Events

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA DINNER
June 2, 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.
Caltech Athenaeum, Pasadena, CA
http://tinyurl.com/usaskinsocalfacebook

U OF S ALUMNI ASSOCIATION
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
June 10, 6:30 p.m.
Convocation Hall, Saskatoon, SK

UNIVERSITY OF SASKATCHEWAN
2010 HONOURED YEARS REUNION
June 17 – 19
Saskatoon, SK

U OF S JAZZ ENSEMBLE ALUMNI CONCERT
June 19, 7:30 p.m.
Quance Theatre, Education Building, Saskatoon, SK

CANADA DAY PICNIC 2010
June 26 , 1:30 – 5 p.m.
Huddart County Park, Redwood City, CA
www.digitalmooselounge.com

LOVE SASKATCHEWAN
BY HARBOURFRONT CENTRE
July 23-25
Toronto, ON

HOMECOMING 2010 FOOTBALL GAME
U OF S huskies vs. ubC THUNDERBIRDS
Sept. 10, kick-off 7 p.m.
Griffiths Stadium, Saskatoon, SK

PHYSICS AND ENGINEERING
PHYSICS 100 YEAR REUNION
Sept. 24 & 25
Saskatoon, SK

SASKATCHEWAN ROUGHRIDERS vs.
TORONTO ARGONAUTS ALUMNI RECEPTION
Oct. 2, 2010
Toronto, ON

SASKATCHEWAN ROUGHRIDERS vs.
bc LIONS ALUMNI RECEPTION
Oct. 31, 2010
Vancouver, BC

For information on these and other events, visit www.usask.ca/alumni
Canada’s Stonehenge: Astounding Archeological Discoveries in Canada, England, and Wales
(Kingsley Publishing, 2008)
by Gordon R. Freeman (BA’52, MA’53)
Almost three decades of observation has lead to a major advance in archeology and prehistory. Dramatic photographs and maps reveal patterns of stones on the ground as ancient documents that can be read and used as surprisingly accurate calendars.

The Duty to Consult: New Relationships with Aboriginal Peoples
(Purich Publishing Ltd, 2009)
by Dwight G. Newman (LLB’99)
The implications of the Supreme Court of Canada’s 2004 ruling on the duty to consult Aboriginal People on the development of disputed land is examined through court decisions, legislation and policies developed by those affected by the duty. Thoughts on what constitutes good consultation are also explored.

Sophia Tolstoy, a Biography
(Free Press, 2010) by Alexandra Popoff (MA’98)
Based on previously unavailable, archival sources, this first factual biography of Sophia Tolstoy gives a dramatically different portrait of Leo Tolstoy’s wife. Her contribution to Tolstoy and her personal achievement as a publisher, photographer, translator, and writer are revealed for the first time.

The Family God Uses: Leaving a Legacy of Influence
(New Hope Publishers, 2009)
by Tom (BEd’85) and Kim (BEd’86) Blackaby
Through stories of their own family and other Christian families, The Family God Uses is an inspirational tool to intentionally bring families together and narrow the generational divide.

Pythagoras’ Revenge: A Mathematical Mystery
(Princeton University Press, 2009)
by Arturo Angalli (MSc’67)
An entertaining story of fact and fiction traces the colliding paths of two professors as they set to solve the philosophical and mathematical puzzles that an alleged manuscript of celebrated mathematician and philosopher Pythagoras sets before them.

If you graduated from the U of S and have recently published a book, let us know. Email: alumni.office@usask.ca

If serious illness interrupts your life, don’t let worries about money get in your way of getting better. Critical Illness Insurance provides a tax-free cash payment to spend any way you need.

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www.iapacific.com/uofs
1.800.266.5667

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Lyndon Rush (BA’04) won a bronze medal in four-man bobsleigh at the 2010 Vancouver Olympic Games.

Colette Bourgonje (BSPE’84, BEd’85) won a silver and a bronze medal in cross-country sit-ski at the Paralympic Games in Vancouver.

Ms. Bonnie M. Schoenfeld, BSN’68, of Saskatoon, SK, received the Award for Distinction in Outreach and Engagement from the University of Saskatchewan.

His Worship Wayne L. Foster, BSP’70, of Kindersley, SK, was acclaimed mayor of Kindersley.

The Hon. Mr. Just. John D. Roose, BA’70, LLB’70, of Calgary, AB, has been appointed as Associate Chief Justice of the Court of Queen’s Bench of Alberta by Prime Minister Stephen Harper.

Mr. J. Fred Clipsham, BA’71, of Regina, SK, was re-elected to Regina City Council for a sixth term.

The Hon. Judge Jim A. Plemel, BA’73, LLB’74, of Saskatoon, SK, has been appointed Provincial Court Judge by the Government of Saskatchewan.

Mr. Doug J. Heinricks, QC, BA’73, LLB’74, of Swift Current, SK, has been appointed to Queen’s Counsel by the Government of Saskatchewan.

Dr. Harold W. Gonyou, BSc’74, PhD’80, won an award for Technical Innovation in Enhancing Production of Safe and Affordable Food from the Canadian Society of Animal Science.

Mr. Lester D. Lafond, BEd’84, of Moose Jaw, SK, has been appointed to Queen’s Counsel by the Government of Saskatchewan.

Mr. Richard A. Leland, Q.C., LLB’78, of Yorkton, SK, has been appointed to Queen’s Counsel by the Government of Saskatchewan.

Ms. Nancy E. Hopkins, Q.C., BComm’77, LLB’78, of Saskatoon, SK, was recently elected chair of the University of Saskatchewan Board of Governors.

Mr. Norman H. Bercovich, Q.C., BA’78, LLB’78, of Regina, SK, has been appointed to Queen’s Counsel by the Government of Saskatchewan.

Ms. Shelley A. M. Brown, BComm’78, of Saskatoon, SK, has been recognized with the Women’s Executive Network 2009 Canada’s Most Powerful Women: Top 100 Award.

Mr. W. Brett Wilson, BE’79, of Calgary, AB, received the 2009 Canadian Youth Business Foundation’s Nation Builder Award.

Mr. Patrick W. Hayes, BA’80, MA’89, of Saskatoon, SK, has been given the President’s Service Award from the University of Saskatchewan.

Mr. Dale Schikta, BSc’80, of Calgary, AB, has been named the Gary Hadford Professional Achievement Award recipient for 2009 by the Canadian Information Processing Society in recognizing a career demonstrating integrity, a high degree of technical competence, and outstanding achievements in fields related to information technology.

Mr. Glen E. Luther, Q.C., LLB’81, LLM’86, of Saskatoon, SK, has been appointed to Queen’s Counsel by the Government of Saskatchewan.

Mr. Donald E. Buckingham, BA’81, LLB’86, of Ottawa, ON, has been appointed chairperson of the Canada Agricultural Review Tribunal.

Ms. Madeleine M. Robertson, Q.C., LLB’82, of Regina, SK, has been appointed to Queen’s Counsel by the Government of Saskatchewan.

Mr. Thomas J. Fortosky, BA’83 LLB’86, of Saskatoon, SK, has been elected a trustee of the Greater Saskatoon Catholic School Board.

Ms. Beverley A. Brenna, BEd’84, MED’91, BA’02, of Saskatoon, SK, began as an assistant professor in Curriculum Studies, College of Education at the University of Saskatchewan in Jan. Her seventh book, More About the Experience of Life, will be published in spring, 2010.

Dr. Gary M. Entwistle, BComm’84, MSc’91, of Saskatoon, SK, was elected president of the Canadian Academic Accounting Association for 2009-10.

Mr. A. Stewart Hanlon, BComm’84, MBA’91, of Calgary, AB, has been appointed to the Board of Directors of Deepwell Energy Trust.

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Mr. Kevin C. Wilson, Q.C., BComm’85, LLB’88, of Saskatoon, SK, has been appointed to Queen’s Counsel by the Government of Saskatchewan.

Mr. Frederick N. Wesolowski, BA’86, of Saskatoon, SK, was elected a trustee of the Greater Saskatoon Catholic School Board.

Mr. Kurt J. W. Sandstrom, Q.C., BComm’86, LLB’89, of Edmonton, AB, has been appointed to Queen’s Counsel by the Government of Alberta. He is currently working for Alberta Justice as Assistant Deputy Minister of Safe Communities and Strategic Policy—a multi-disciplinary team working to develop Alberta’s long-term crime prevention strategy and Alberta’s gang reduction strategy.

Mr. D. Scott Banda, BA’86, LLB’90, of Saskatoon, SK, has been appointed CEO of Federated Co-operatives Ltd.

Mr. Fred J. Matiko, BusAdm’87, of Saskatoon, SK, has accepted a position as development officer in the College of Medicine at the University of Saskatchewan.

Mr. James D. Carriere, BusAdm’87, of Saskatoon, SK, was elected a trustee with the Greater Saskatoon Catholic School Board.

Mr. Brian W. Parscavage, BA’87, of Prince Albert, SK, has received his professional designation as a certified management accountant.

Mr. Russell S. Isinger, BA’88, MA’97, of Saskatoon, SK, was appointed acting registrar and director of academic services and financial assistance at the University of Saskatchewan, as of July 1, 2009. He was also appointed a professional affiliate with the Department of Political Studies at the U of S in 2009.

Dr. Audrey L. Kinzel, BSpE’85, BA’99, MA’02, of Saskatoon, SK, has joined the Department of Educational Psychology and Special Education at the University of Saskatchewan.

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Dr. Donald U. Ekonk, MSc’91, PhD’97, of Macon, GA, USA, recently passed the National Council of Examiners for Engineering and Surveying fundamentals of engineering and principles and practice of engineering exams, and is now a licensed professional engineer in the states of Texas and Georgia.

Mr. Steven Flynn, BComm’92 of Richmond, BC, graduated with honours from Golden Gate University with a Master’s of US Taxation. He is a partner with W.L. Dueck & Co., a Richmond, BC firm specializing in U.S. and cross-border taxation and continues to serve as director of the Vancouver branch of the U of S Alumni Association.

Ms. Monique C. S. Martin, BEd’93, of Saskatoon, SK, received the Prime Minister’s Award for Teaching Excellence; Certificate of Achievement. The Hon. Judge Jeffery D. Kalmakoff, LLB’93, of Estevan, SK, was appointed Provincial Court Judge by the Government of Saskatchewan.

Dr. Lope G. Tabil Jr., PhD’96, of Saskatoon, SK, was awarded the Canadian Society for Bioengineering’s John Clark Award.

Mr. Brent D. Usselman, BusAdm’97, of Saskatoon, SK, has earned his professional designation as a certified professional purchaser.

Dr. William (Bill) G. Shurniak, S.O.M., LLB’98 (Honorary), of Limerick, SK, received the Saskatchewan Order of Merit from Lieutenant Governor Gordon Bamhart.

Ms. Tracee F. Harvey, BA’98, MA’02, of Saskatoon, SK, has been appointed director of the Museum of Antiquities at the University of Saskatchewan.

Ms. Annette M. Kuckartz, BComm’99, of Saskatoon, SK, became a partner of Meyers Norris Penny in Saskatoon.

Mr. Shea A. Ferster, BComm’99, of Saskatoon, SK, became a partner of Meyers Norris Penny in Saskatoon.

His Worship Jerrod M. Schafer, BComm’06, of Hamilton, ON, earned his professional designation as a certified management accountant.

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Senate Election 2010
MAY 10 – JUNE 30

This is your chance to get involved in the life of the university.

Voting for University of Saskatchewan Senate elections opens on May 10, 2010 and will remain open until 4:00 p.m. June 30, 2010. All members of Convocation are eligible to vote for member at large candidates. For senate district elections, only alumni who reside in those districts are eligible to vote.

Members at large
• 10 nominations

District elections
• District 2 (Chaplin – Moose Jaw – Rockglen): four nominations
• District 3 (Leader – Climax – Swift Current): two nominations
• District 8 (La Loche – Green Lake – Battleford): two nominations
• District 9 (Melfort – Hudson Bay – Nipawin): two nominations

Senators in Districts 4, 7 and 11 were elected by acclamation.

For more information on voting procedures or candidate biographies visit the University Secretary website at www.usask.ca/university_secretary

How to vote:
1. Using your web browser, go to http://paws.usask.ca
2. Log in using your NSID and password
3. Click on the “Vote” tab and follow the instructions provided. You may vote for up to four candidates for members at large and one candidate for the Saskatchewan district elections (if you reside in that district).
4. Once you have submitted your ballot the vote tab will be removed.

If you do not know your NSID or password or wish to request a paper ballot, please contact the university’s alumni office at 966-5186 or 1-800-699-1907, or by email at alumni.office@usask.ca
The Alumni Association has noted, with sorrow, the passing of the following faculty and friends:

MEREDITH, Amy, of Saskatoon, SK, d. Sept. 25, 2009.
HRUDKA, Professor Emeritus Frantisek, of Saskatoon, SK, d. Jan. 8, 2010.

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

(1933) LEAKER, Ruth Neelin, BA’33, of Mississauga, ON, d. Sept. 10, 2009.
(1938) CONLIN, Ralph Herbert, BA’38, BAcc’40 of Vancouver, BC, d. Feb. 8, 2009.
(1944) ZEMAN, Joseph, BSA’44, BED’69, of Saskatoon, SK, d. July 2, 2009.
(1945) KINDREE, Dr. Laverne Clifford, BA’45, Cert/ MED’45, of Squamish, BC, d. Sept. 26, 2009.
(1946) SERENKO, Michael James, Dip/Ag’46, BA’61, BED’64, of Saskatoon, SK, d. Aug. 29, 2009.
(1949) TRUSCOTT, Dr. George Nelson, BA’49, of Calabogie, ON, d. June 12, 2009.
(1955) SAUER, Grace Kathryn, BA’55, BSP’60, of Saskatoon, SK, d. Oct. 21, 2009.
(1960) MACLEOD, Dr. John Peter, BA’60, of Ottawa, ON, d. Nov. 6, 2009.
(1964) DAIGNAULT, Peter Maurice, BA’64, of Cranbrook, BC, d. Nov. 25, 2009.

For a complete listing of In Memoriam, please visit www.usask.ca/greenandwhite
Q&A with Karen Chad

Discovery with impact—that is how Karen Chad (BSPE’80, BEd’81) sums up her goals as vice-president of research at the University of Saskatchewan. After obtaining her master’s in Victoria, BC and her PhD in Australia, Chad returned to the U of S to pursue her passions—teaching and research—becoming an award-winning professor and leading healthy lifestyle researcher. Eager to pursue new opportunities and embrace change, Chad served as acting vice-president of research prior to her permanent appointment in January.

G&W What brought you back to the University of Saskatchewan after your time overseas?

KC I went overseas to enrich myself personally and professionally, but I always knew I'd come back to Canada. I thought I was going to Australia just to get my graduate training, but there were opportunities, so that's where I got my first job as a professor. I was delighted to come home when I was offered a faculty position at the U of S in physical education. My husband and I were new parents with a five-week-old baby when we moved back to Canada. We were in the front of the plane with other parents, and we thought, “This is going to be a bit noisy with all these babies.” Then we realized, “Oh, that’s us now.” I was embarking on an exciting new phase of both my academic life and my family life.

G&W Your work with In Motion is somewhat related to the work of fellow alumnus Russ Kisby and ParticipACTION. Did his work influence you at all?

KC Absolutely, and probably on many different levels. His work taught me how you can mobilize an entire community around physically active living—about having a strong knowledge base, the political will in the community and the need for a social strategy to garner the attention of people. You can almost replace physical activity or active living with any other words—Kisby really understood the ingredients for making a difference, changing a culture, and changing behaviour. And I love change! I think it’s great.

G&W Not too many people say that about change.

KC Some people think that change sends a message that the work they are doing is no longer required or important or effective, and I don’t think that’s what change means. I think change is about being responsive to society, about being flexible and adaptable. Just before I landed in Australia, I thought, “What did I do?” Sometimes that’s how we feel about change. Those first six months in Australia were the toughest of my life, but that was the most transformative period of my life.

G&W A lot of your own research focuses on healthy living. Is it getting harder to motivate people to live a healthy lifestyle?

KC Sometimes we measure change as moving from point A to point B. We forget to measure change along the journey. One might say we are the smokiest, fattest population around. I see things changing in the level of awareness and education around the benefits of making exercise a part of our daily lives. We need to target environments, policies, things that make it hard for people to have a physically active lifestyle. We can’t just be going down the creek pulling people out of the water. We need to get upstream before they jump in the water, so to speak.

G&W What do you do to stay healthy?

KC My family is very active—skiing, running, canoeing and getting outdoors. I work out on a regular basis, and I’m also a squash player. A number of colleagues here play as a group each week. That’s when I absolutely enjoy kicking butt. Seriously though, I think that having some fun with friends while you exercise is a big part of what keeps people active.

G&W What are some innovative or unique areas of research at the U of S?

KC One of the things that puts the U of S on the map is the breadth, depth and diversity in our many areas of scholarship—from the physical and natural sciences and engineering to the social sciences, humanities and fine arts. It’s also in the way we create knowledge; we’re doing it in more of a collaborative partnership model with an interdisciplinary approach. This is really going to increase the impact we have on society, the economy and our quality of life.

G&W What are some of your goals as vice-president?

KC My broad mantra is discovery with impact—which means that our responsibility is not only to create and co-create knowledge with our community, but to translate and disseminate that knowledge for the broader community, whether to students through the learning environment or to external stakeholders so they can use that knowledge to develop new technologies or products, change policies, or implement best practices. That’s our responsibility as a public institution.
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Supported by an estate gift by Ms. Hazel Constance Brooker, Dr. Roesler has discovered a new function of the protein regulator in genes that controls cell division. “Cancer is a class of diseases in which cells display uncontrolled growth, and by controlling cell division we are one step closer to curing cancer.” Dr. Roesler further explained that, “Without the support of the Brooker Fund our understanding of how cells divide would have been lost.”

Like Hazel Brooker, your support is essential to changing the future through research in areas such as disease control, global warming and agricultural technology. By considering the University of Saskatchewan in your financial and estate plans you can ensure that world-class research, like Dr. Roesler’s, will continue at the University of Saskatchewan.

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For more information about planning a gift to the University of Saskatchewan, please contact:

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To read more of Dr. Roesler’s story, visit www.usask.ca/roesler
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