

# Innovating *life*

Quarterly Research Update from the University of Regina

## Message from the Vice-President (Research) Dr. David Malloy

It is now official – The University of Regina leads Canadian comprehensive universities in international research collaboration (according to Research Infosource)! Over 51% of all of our published articles have an international co-author. This is an acknowledgment of all of the hard work we have been doing for years in building partnerships around the world. It is also further evidence of the high quality of research that is being conducted at the U of R and the trusting international partnerships and relationships we have been nurturing for decades. And speaking of evidence...

Recently, I have presented graphs to faculty and students showing a 10-year trend for our research impact based upon Thomson-Reuters Normalized Citation Index (NCI). The NCI is a measure of global citation impact that takes into account a number of variables including the age of the publication, the quality of the journal, etc., and it produces a type of “Z” score for the quality of research in the “traditional” sense – peer-reviewed publications (<http://researchanalytics.thomson-reuters.com/incites/>). The result of this analysis demonstrates that the U of R, in an aggregate NCI score, leads all other medium-sized comprehensive universities in Canada (see below graph). So, while we may not publish the highest volume of articles in this category, our research has the highest impact, as measured by the NCI.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 2)

PHOTO: IMAGES DERIVED FROM STEM CELL RESEARCH OF DR. JOSEF BUTTIGIEG

## FUNDING THE WAY FORWARD

[JUNE]

Amy Zarzeczny, Assistant Professor at the Johnson-Shoyama Graduate School of Public Policy is Principal Investigator on a new Stem Cell Network Public Policy Impact Grant project entitled “Leveraging Social Media and the Stem Cell Sector: Improving Public Engagement and Information Dissemination Strategies”. Working with Co-PIs Drs. Kathy McNutt, Craig Gelowitz, and Timothy Caulfield, Zarzeczny will examine the role of social media in disseminating information and engaging the public on science policy issues.

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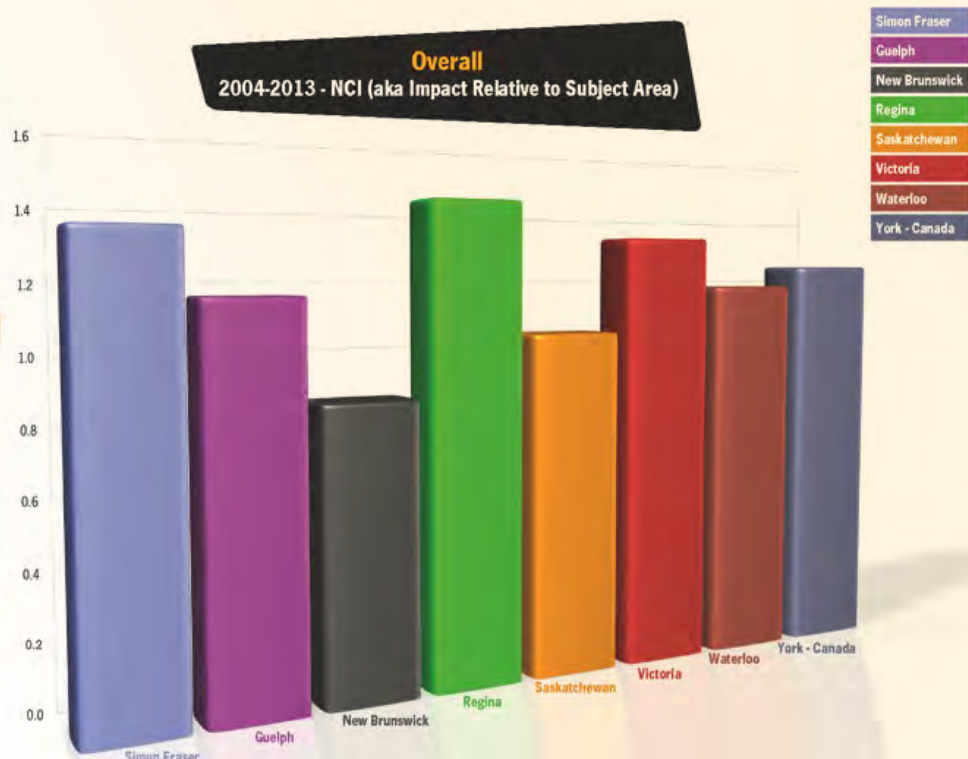
PHOTO: DAVID STOBBE

AMY ZARZECZNY

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## REMARKS (CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

This is a profoundly impressive fact – one that is indicative of the University's research culture and one that should make us extremely proud. It appears that the “quality over quantity” value of our research is somewhat consistent across disciplines.

Thus, despite the funding challenges that we continue to work through, we have created a research enterprise that demonstrates high quality, efficiency, and global scholarly impact. In short – there is much more “bang for the buck” at the U of R. This is a positive message for the University community to embrace, as well as one that we should be sharing with our external stakeholders. We are coming of age as a top quality research and teaching institution, and I sincerely believe that this evidence of a high quality research culture and inter-

national activity will resonate strongly with our efforts to recruit, retain, and recognize scholars at this institution.

If you have any questions or comments about these results, please don't hesitate to contact me at [VP.Research@uregina.ca](mailto:VP.Research@uregina.ca)

Finally, thank you all for contributing to the *Innovating Life: Quarterly Research Update from the University of Regina* – it has evolved into a very successful report. So successful, that we intend to expand our scope. Stay tuned for some changes to the format of the January 2015 edition. In the mean time, keep the stories coming! ■

DC Malloy, VP Research

## FUNDING (CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

**[JULY]** Long-term research funding from NSERC totals more than \$1.4 million, with 14 researchers receiving funding over the next five years. The largest grant for a one-year period is \$129,350 to Dr. Dena McMartin in Engineering and Applied Science to study watershed impacts related to agricultural water and climate extremes.

**[AUGUST]** Dr. Mehrandezh was awarded a \$30,000 MITACS Accelerated Internship Program and EVRAZ funding for a project on “Design, development, and field trial of a Pipe Inspection Laser Optics Technology (PILOT)”.

**[AUGUST]** Dr. Thomas Hadjistavropoulos, Professor of Psychology and Research Chair in Aging and Health, received a CIHR Operating Grant in the amount of \$318,659 for a project entitled “Development of an Automated System for Pain Detection and Monitoring in Older Adults with Dementia”.

**[AUGUST]** Three U of R researchers received provincial funding from the Saskatchewan Health Research Foundation (SHRF).

Dr. Josef Buttigieg (Science) – Received \$120,000 over three years under the Establishment Grant Program for a project entitled “Role of Pulmonary Neuroendocrine cells (pNEC) in Lung Physiology”.

Dr. James Vlasblom (Science) – Received a Postdoctoral Research Fellowship valued at \$50,000 per year for two years for a project entitled “Mapping the Mammalian Neurodegenerative Disease-associated Protein-protein Interactome”.

Dr. Bridget Klest (Arts) – Over the next three years, Dr. Klest will further explore the impact of childhood trauma on human health with a \$120,000 Establishment Grant from SHRF. Dr. Klest's pioneering research will specifically focus on how a person's history of trauma or experience of chronic neglect (betrayal trauma) may affect how they interact with health care practitioners like doctors or nurses. ■

The deadline for submissions for the next issue is **JANUARY 14, 2015**.

Please send your content to  
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# UNIVERSITY SUCCESSES

RIC BUILDING

**[MAY]**

**C**ara Bradley, Teaching and Learning Librarian at the Dr. John Archer Library has received the 2014 Robert H. Blackburn Distinguished Paper from the Canadian Library Association. Her winning paper is entitled "Information Literacy Articles in Science Pedagogy Journals".

**[MAY]** "Thinking Together: A Forum on Jo-Ann Episkenew's *Taking Back Our Spirits: Indigenous Literature, Public Policy, and Healing*" was selected to receive the 2013 Best Essay Prize from *Canadian Literature*. The subject of the essay (by Deanna Reder, Susan Gingell, Allison Hargreaves, Daniel Heath Justice, Kristina Bidwell, and Jo-Ann Episkenew) is a book authored by Dr. Jo-Ann Episkenew, Director of the IPHRC.

**[JUNE]** The U of R Alumni Association honoured four professors with Excellence Awards at the 40th spring convocation.

- Dr. Mark Brigham (Biology) received the Award for Excellence in Graduate Research Mentorship;
- Dr. Yiyu Yao (Computer Science) received the Award for Excellence in Research;
- Prof. Patricia Elliott (Journalism) received the Award for Excellence in Service;

- Dr. Cory Butz (Computer Science) received the Award for Excellence in Teaching.

**[JUNE]** Dr. Bernard Thraves, Professor in Geography, received the 2014 Award for Service to the Profession of Geography from the Canadian Association of Geographers. This award recognizes a CAG member for exceptional professional service over a period of several years.

**[JUNE]** Dr. Carrie Bourassa, Professor of Indigenous Health Studies at the First Nations University of Canada has been elected to the inaugural cohort of the Royal Society of Canada's College of New Scholars, Artists, and Scientists.

**[JUNE]** Katherine McMillan, a doctoral student in clinical psychology, was chosen as one of only 85 doctoral students across North American to receive a Philanthropic Educational Organization (P.E.O) Scholar Award from the P.E.O Sisterhood.

**[AUGUST]** Mr. Matthew Dipple, a student in Environmental Systems Engineering, won the Association of Professional Engineers and Geoscientists of Saskatchewan (APEGS) Gold Medal Award for outstanding academic achievement and leadership. He graduated with Great Distinction.

**[AUGUST]** Two U of R professors were selected as visiting scholars by Fulbright Canada for the 2014-2015 academic year. Dr. Shanthi Johnson, Professor and Associate Dean in the Faculty of Kinesiology and Health Studies was named Fulbright Scholar at the University of South Florida. Dr. Peter Leavitt, Canada Research Chair (Tier 1) and Professor of Biology, was named a Visiting Research Chair at the University of California, Santa Barbara. The University of Regina is the only Canadian institution to have had two Fulbright Scholars selected this year.



DR. SHANTHI JOHNSON

DR. PETER LEAVITT

PHOTOS: U OF R PHOTOGRAPHY

**[SEPTEMBER]** Dr. Nick Carleton, Associate Professor in Psychology, has received a New Investigator Salary Award, one of the most competitive awards offered by CIHR. This award is valued at \$300,000, which will allow him to devote his time to overseeing research projects and teams.

**[SEPTEMBER]** Sarah Abbott, an award-winning independent filmmaker and associate professor of film production, has received a Vanier Canada Graduate Scholarship to support her doctoral studies at Royal Roads University. The scholarship is valued at \$50,000 per year for three years. ■

PHOTO: ADRIAN MORGAN



SARAH ABBOTT





MLA LAURA ROSS, ENVIRONMENT MINISTER KEN CHEVELDAYOFF AND MLA ROB NORRIS SPEAK TO DR. PETER LEAVITT AND RESEARCHERS IN THE NEW IECS

## TAKE NOTE!

[MAY]

The University of Regina formally opened the \$13-million Institute of Environmental Change and Society. The 6,500 square foot research centre, led by Dr. Peter Leavitt, provides world-class infrastructure and research expertise to faculty, staff, and students from regional, national, and international agencies who are studying the interactions between human society and the environment.

[MAY]

Jonathan Berthiaume, fourth-year student in Geology, was selected to represent the University of Regina at the eighth annual Student-Industry Mineral Exploration Workshop (S-IMEW). Berthiaume was one of only 26 senior geosciences students chosen to participate in a two-week workshop to expose students to the mineral exploration industry.

[SEPTEMBER]

Dr. Iryna Kryvoruchko, Assistant Professor at the Johnson-Shoyama Graduate School of Public Policy is part of a team from six Canadian universities, two American institutions, and several foundation partners examining the role of grant-making foundations in Canada. The project, supported by \$198,300 in SSHRC funding, will provide greater insight into how Canadian foundations can affect social change.

[OCTOBER] Le centre canadien de recherche sur les francophonies en milieu minoritaire (CRFM) organized a conference in collaboration with the Assemblée communautaire fransaskoises in Saskatoon on September 25 and 27 in Saskatoon. The conference featured a lecture by Dr. Janique Dubois (Brock University) entitled « Comment favoriser la participation citoyenne au sein des structures de gouvernance communautaire? Une analyse comparative des entités de gouvernance provinciales chez les Fransaskois et les Metis »

[SEPTEMBER] Dr. Thomas Hadjistavropoulos is the first author on a paper that has been published in the *Lancet Neurology* – the highest impact journal in the field of neurology, and one of the world's most prominent publications. The title of the article is "Pain Assessment in Older Adults with Dementia".

[SEPTEMBER] Mr. Jason Unruh, MSc. candidate in Biology and recipient of an Alexander Graham Bell Canada Graduate Scholarship from NSERC, was selected to attend a series of major international ornithology conference in Colorado, USA. He presented a research talk entitled "The Effects of Oil Development on Grassland Songbirds in Southeastern Saskatchewan".

[OCTOBER] On October 24, The U of R Department of Film held a book launch for *The Legacies of Jean-Luc Godard*, edited by Associate Professor Dr. Christina Stojanova, Douglas Morrey, and Nicole Cote. The anthology (published by Wilfrid Laurier University Press, January 2014) is devoted to influential filmmaker Jean-Luc Godard and features contributors from around the world.

[OCTOBER] Four graduate students have received Masters Canada Graduate Scholarships from CIHR. Joëlle Soucy (Psychology), Michelle Degelman (Health Studies), Lucas Robinson (Biology), and Adam Lannigan (Biology) each receive \$17,500 to support their research. ■



JONATHAN BERTHIAUME AT THE CANADIAN MALARTIC GOLD MINE, MALARTIC QC



# RESEARCH IN THE ARTS

PHOTO: CINDY HANSON



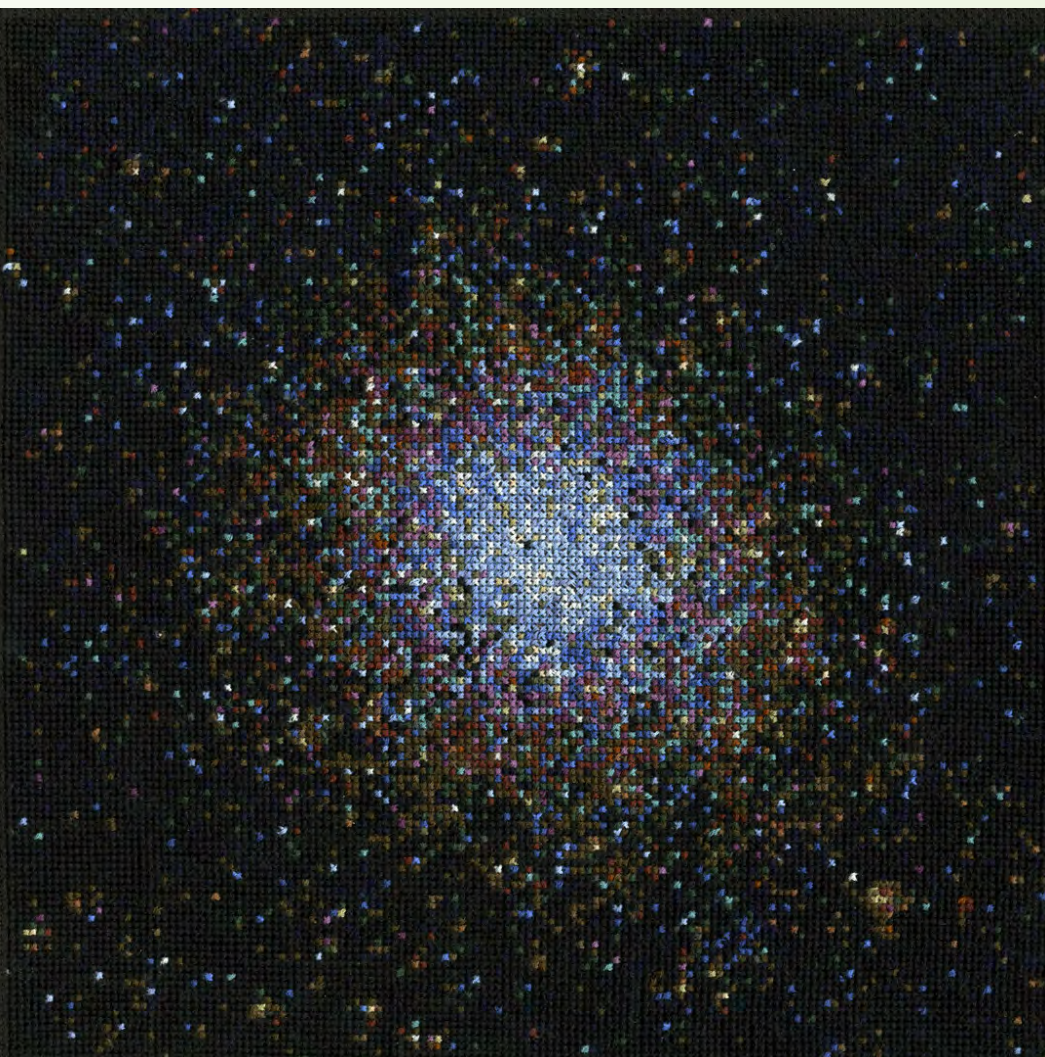
## EXHIBITION

**B**eading *Between Generations* is an exhibition that emerged out of a research study by Dr. Cindy Hanson, Associate Professor and Director of the Adult Education unit. The exhibition featured profiles and artwork of eight different beaders across Saskatchewan, ranging in age from 24-97 years. Funded by SSHRC, the research study, entitled “Intergenerational Learning in Indigenous Textile Communities of Practice”, builds on Dr. Hanson’s past work in indigenous communities in Canada and Chile. The exhibition ran from June 17-July 3 at the Mann Art Gallery in Prince Albert, SK. Dr. Hanson’s research employs a community-based approach, work-

ing with Indigenous weavers in Chile and beaders in Saskatchewan. Using a story circle talking method, the project brought artists together to share stories about their work in textiles and lived experiences. Through her research, Dr. Hanson has found that textiles become a form of intergenerational learning, healing and well-being, as well as a form of resilience. She hopes this kind of research can be a catalyst for creating changes in the ways people support one another within communities. ■

## UPCOMING EXHIBITION

**D**r. Risa Horowitz, Assistant Prof. of Visual Arts will present work in the exhibition *World Problems*, at Last Mountain Lake Cultural Centre from Nov. 1 – Dec. 15, 2014. The three-person exhibition curated by Noreen Neu of the Saskatchewan Arts Board will also include the works of Saskatchewan artists Loretta Paoli and Ross Melanson. Horowitz’s installation, *AAGHHOOOPRRSTT: ASTROPHOTOGRAPH*, is inspired by her investigation of the relations between work and hobby, and her fascination with Scrabble and astronomy. Included are responsive text and image-based works; a 20,000 stitch cross-stitch work of the Omega Centauri globular cluster, a selection of words derived from the letters that form the title of the body of work, and a Beckettian Scrabble board with no end-game in sight. ■



ABOVE: INSTALLATION VIEW

LEFT: OMEGA CENTAURI (SCAN); 10" x 10" CROSS-STITCH

PHOTOS: RISA HOROWITZ



# IN PRINT

LOGO FEATURE WALL AT THE U OF R PRESS OFFICES

its team – James Daschuk’s groundbreaking book *Clearing the Plains* has appeared on numerous bestseller lists, won many awards, and caught the attention of the academic community, members of Parliament, and the broader public.

This year, the Press is forging on with its ambitious plans. It has several new books slated to come out this fall, including “Overlooking Saskatchewan”, edited by the U of R’s own Randal Rogers and Christine Ramsay, a book that celebrates the remarkable contributions that Saskatchewan and its people have made to Canada’s development as a nation.

One of the biggest indications that the U of R Press is doing something right is the interest it has received from some of Canada’s literary giants. In spring 2015, the U of R Press will be releasing a collection of essays called “Speech of the Wild”, which will set forth a radical proposal for environmental protection. Featuring powerhouses like Wade Davis, David Suzuki, Trevor Herriot, Candace Savage, and Margaret Atwood, this promises to be a groundbreaking contribution to the international conversation on climate change and environmental sustainability. ■

## SPOTLIGHT ON THE UNIVERSITY OF REGINA PRESS

The University of Regina Press is emerging as one of the most influential university presses in Canada. With several bestsellers under its belt, including a national bestseller, the U of R Press has played a key role in changing the landscape of university publishing. Under the leadership of Bruce Walsh, the Press seeks to ask and answer the question “who are we?”, as a university, as a province, and as a people. What are the stories that need to be told? Whose voices need to be heard? And how do we capture the imagination (and attention!) of a higher education sector that has become disenchanted with traditional publishing?

The U of R Press does this by adopting a radical approach to publishing. “In everything we do, we want to be cutting edge. We are willing to take risks”, says Walsh. Over the past few years, the Press

has shown this to be true, taking chances on books that might have otherwise been overlooked, because of their gritty

“IN EVERYTHING WE DO, WE WANT TO BE CUTTING EDGE. WE ARE WILLING TO TAKE RISKS” —  
BRUCE WALSH, PUBLISHER,  
U OF R PRESS

content, their arguments that challenge the status quo, or because of their focus on prairie realities and histories. This approach has paid off for the Press and



BRUCE WALSH

# UNIVERSITY PRESSES PRESS ON!

This summer, *The Nation* proclaimed in its headlines – “University Presses Under Fire: How the Internet and Slashed Budgets Have Endangered One of Higher Education’s Most Important Institutions”. The article began with the University of Missouri’s announcement in 2012 that it was closing its university press. The reason? To help the university meet its “strategic priorities”. What surprised the administration is that the public responded defiantly and mobilized quickly, collecting thousands of signatures in support of the press. Even Lucinda Williams got involved, with *The New York Times* and NPR reporting. Soon after, the university overturned its decision; the University of Missouri press continues.

Around the same time here at home, a similar situation was unfolding. The U of R was also considering what to do with its press, the Canadian Plains Research Centre Press, a publishing arm of the university that had put out over 250 titles and garnered many awards in its 35-year history. The University’s press survived and is now thriving as the newly named University of Regina Press. It has already brought great attention to the university: five books have become regional bestsellers and one is currently a national bestseller; glowing reviews have appeared in *Publisher’s Weekly*, *the Chronicle of Higher Education*, *The Globe and Mail*, *National Post*, and the *Los Angeles Review of Books*; and prestigious national and international awards have been won. As its books continue to be purchased throughout Canada and the world – all bearing the U of R Press imprint on their spines – the University itself becomes better known.

Despite budget constraints and publishing pressures, university presses continue to play a vital role in higher education, and not just because they are worldwide ambassadors for their parent institutions. Their mandate is to disseminate knowledge and research, and so they publish books that commercial presses would reject – books of scholarly, specialized research that otherwise would be, as one publisher put it, “condemned to languish unseen”. They also keep important books in print, and revive out-of-print ones. And though some may dismiss university press books because of their smaller print runs (typically between 500 and 2000 copies), one cannot ignore their cultural influence and significance. I encourage you to turn to the back of the latest non-fiction blockbuster, find the bibliography, and notice book after scholarly book published by university presses. As Daniel Gilman, founder of one of the oldest university presses, noted over a century ago: “It is one of the noblest duties of a university to advance knowledge, and to diffuse it not

merely among those who can attend daily lectures – but far and wide”. This, then, is the history, role, and importance of your university press at the U of R. ■

Karen May Clark  
Academic Acquisitions Editor,  
University of Regina Press

DESPITE BUDGET  
CONSTRAINTS AND  
PUBLISHING PRESSURES,  
UNIVERSITY PRESSES  
CONTINUE TO PLAY A  
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THEY ARE WORLDWIDE  
AMBASSADORS FOR THEIR  
PARENT INSTITUTIONS.

BOOK WITH FLIPPING PAGES (SCREENED BACK FROM ORIGINAL) PHOTO : SUNLIGHT CARDIGAN

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