Dean’s Message

Welcome to the inaugural issue of our newsletter! This quarterly newsletter will highlight activities in the Paul J. Hill School of Business, including student events and student and faculty member achievements. Our school values its close connections with the local business community, and we feel it’s important to keep you informed. We welcome your feedback. Please drop us a line: biznewsletter@uregina.ca

Meet the New Dean

Dr. Anne Lavack has been appointed Dean of the Faculty of Business Administration at the University of Regina, effective July 1, 2009 for a five-year term. Anne joined the University of Regina in 2001 as an Associate Professor of Marketing, and was promoted to full Professor in 2006. She took on the role of Associate Dean and Director of the Kenneth Levene Graduate School of Business for two years starting in Fall of 2005, followed by one and a half years as acting Dean.

Prior to joining the University of Regina, she held the position of Associate Professor at University of Winnipeg (1997-2001) and Assistant Professor at Concordia University in Montreal (1994-1997). Her educational credentials include a B.Sc. in Psychology from the University of Toronto, an MBA in Finance from the University of Manitoba, and a Ph.D. in Marketing from the University of British Columbia. Prior to pursuing a Ph.D., Anne spent 10 years working as a Media Director and Account Manager in advertising agencies in Toronto and Winnipeg.

Anne’s research is focused on the area of tobacco marketing, advertising, and sponsorship, as well as the more general area of social marketing. She has been a prolific scholar, and her CV includes over 35 journal articles, more than 55 national and international conference presentations, and numerous commissioned reports for government. She has been successful in obtaining substantial research grant funding while at the University of Regina, including over $250,000 from SSHRC and other major funding agencies. Over the past several years, this funding has enabled her to hire more than 20 undergraduate students as full-time research assistants in four-month co-operative work terms.

Anne is also Vice-Chair of the Board of Directors of SGI, as well as Vice-Chair of the Board of Directors for the Canadian Centre on Substance Abuse in Ottawa. She also serves on the Board of Directors of the Regina & District Chamber of Commerce, and serves on the Growth Strategy Task Force of the Saskatchewan Chamber of Commerce.

Retirement of Dr. Jack Ito

After 34 years of service, Dr. Jack Ito retired from the Paul J. Hill School of Business on June 30, 2009. He arrived at the University of Regina in 1975, after completing an MBA at the University of Alberta and a Ph.D. at the University of Washington. His teaching has encompassed a wide variety of courses, including both undergraduate and graduate courses in human resource management, organizational theory, and organizational behaviour. He has also frequently taught the undergraduate business strategy capstone course, and has supervised the final projects of numerous graduate students.

Jack’s dedication to the University has been evident through his willingness to take on a variety of administrative roles. He was elected four times in university-wide elections to the University Planning and Priorities Committee; served as Chair of the University Studies and Admissions Committee; served on the University Appeals Committee and served many terms on Executive of Council. Within the Faculty of Business Administration, he served on the Curriculum and Program Committee, and served as Chair of Graduate Programs. He also served on the Dean’s Advisory Committee for over 15 years. Along the way, he was Associate Dean (Graduate Programs and Research) for a two-year term.

Jack will continue to be an active scholar during his retirement. He is currently working on several research projects, and he still plans teach courses occasionally.
Community Profile – Glenys Sylvestre

Service to the business community is highly valued at the Paul J. Hill School of Business, and Associate Dean Glenys Sylvestre has set a high standard during the past year in her role as President and Chair of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Saskatchewan (ICAS). ICAS represents 2,000 Chartered Accountants and students who work in a variety of organizations, providing financial expertise, strategic thinking, business insight, and leadership. The primary responsibility of ICAS is protection of the public by ensuring all members and students observe professional and ethical standards and maintain the good reputation and integrity of the internationally recognized CA profession.

Glenys was first elected to ICAS Council in 2003, and has enjoyed the last six years of service to the CA profession. While her term as President and Chair of ICAS ended in June 2009, she continues to serve the business community as a member of the Board of Directors of SaskTel.

Student Consulting

Do you have a business project, but no staff to manage it? Consider the Centre for Management Development! Under the capable leadership of Bruce Anderson, the Centre for Management Development puts together consulting teams comprised of both students and professors to undertake many types of business projects. Whether it’s marketing research, developing business plans, company valuation, or event planning, a proposal can be developed to meet the specific needs of the client. Students benefit immensely from the hands-on experience - all under the close guidance of a faculty member expert in the area. This ensures that clients receive professional service and a quality product.

To discuss your company’s needs, please call Bruce Anderson at 337-3220 or 337-2384.

Research Profile – Bob Anderson

Dr. Robert Anderson, Professor of Entrepreneurship, is a leading researcher who is well-known in the areas of Aboriginal economic development, entrepreneurship, and sustainability. Dr. Anderson’s current projects are a culmination of years of work related to these research streams, beginning with his Ph. D. research (1992 – 1997) that examined development theory in the context of the new economy. More recently, Dr. Anderson’s work for the Urban Reserve Research Project (Nov. 2007 to 2008) focused on the entrepreneurial development of Aboriginal people in major urban centres. The first stage of a new research stream associated with entrepreneurship and universities led to a project entitled Commercializing Intellectual Property at Canadian Universities (June 2006 to May 2007).

Dr. Anderson’s research has resulted in 43 refereed journal articles, 77 conference papers/presentations, five book chapters and 11 teaching cases. Currently, Dr. Anderson has two research projects in progress funded by the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC). The first, Finding the Balance in the Bioeconomy: New Partnerships between Indigenous Socioeconomic Enterprises, Research Institutions, and Corporations received a $167,200 grant and combines Dr. Anderson’s general work on Aboriginal development, corporations and the new economy, with his research on entrepreneurship and the mobilization of knowledge. The second project, Transforming New Ideas into Economic Value: Understanding Entrepreneurship and Innovation at Universities, received the SSHRC Intellectual Property sub-grant of $83,900, and builds on Dr. Anderson’s prior work on entrepreneurship in a university context.
Meet the BSS
Student Leaders

Over 50 students will participate in 2009-10 as members of the Business Students’ Society Council, led by executive members Tyler Willox, Paula Brinton, and Laura Fahlman.

Tyler Willox has been actively involved with the Business Students’ Society for the past two years, as Director of Student Involvement in 2007-2008, and then as Co-Chair for the 37th Annual Keg-A-Rama in 2008-2009. As incoming President, he will be responsible for setting the strategic direction for BSS Council and coordinating the activities of its student members. Tyler is entering his fourth year in the business faculty majoring in marketing, an area he feels will be valuable during his term as BSS President. His work experience includes marketing positions with SaskEnergy, TransGas, Urban Roots Strategic Marketing, and his current role in Brand Management at Farm Credit Canada. When Tyler is not working at FCC or planning for the upcoming BSS year, he enjoys playing hockey and golf, as well as spending time at his cabin.

Paula Brinton is a fourth year finance major, and will serve as Vice President Internal this year. Paula is responsible for facilitating student-faculty relations, overseeing BSS Event Chairs, and organizing the Business Speaker Series. Paula is excited about her new role on the executive team, and already has plans to develop the BSS clothing line as well as get the BSS involved in more charitable events, including the national student-run charity, 5 Days for the Homeless.

Paula has gained valuable experience through her involvement over the past two years with the BSS as Spring-Gala Co-Chair in 2007-2008 and Business Dinner Co-Chair in 2008-2009. As well, she has gained work experience through the Co-op Education program, working in the recruitment department at SaskPower and as a North American Equities Analyst Assistant at Greystone Management. Outside of school Paula is an avid traveler. This summer she is participating in a cultural and academic exchange program in South Korea.

Laura Fahlman will be serving as Vice President External for the BSS. Two prior years of experience on the marketing team in 2007-2008 and as the Showcase Co-Chair in 2008-2009 have prepared Laura for her position on the executive team. Laura has plans to increase the visibility of the BSS within the Paul J. Hill School of Business, the University, and throughout the Regina business community. Laura and her team of Corporate Relations Directors are already working hard to broaden the reach of the BSS, targeting new businesses and utilizing alumni networks to raise money and awareness for the BSS. Laura is in her fourth year in business, studying marketing and international business. She has gained a wealth of work experience in her positions with Government Services, Sasktel, and Kognitive Marketing. Outside of working two jobs and going to school, Laura loves being part of the JDC West team, volunteering, and traveling.

Since May, the BSS executive has attended two Business Student Society conferences: the Canadian Business School Council Roundtable in Montreal and the West Coast Leadership Retreat in Comox, BC. At these events the BSS executive team had the opportunity to collaborate with business students from across Canada. The BSS executive also held a day-long retreat in June for the incoming BSS Council in order to meet, greet, and start planning for the upcoming year.

Under the leadership of this dynamic team of students, the Business Students’ Society is poised to have its best year ever!
Keg-a-Rama

The 36th Annual Keg-a-Rama took place on April 3, 2009, raising a record $20,000 for the Regina Firefighters’ Burn Fund. Over 20 teams competed in the fun-filled relay race. The Paul J. Hill School of Business fielded its usual faculty and staff team, which valiantly pulled its empty beer keg around the U of R campus while struggling to avoid a last-place finish. Keg-a-Rama is the longest-running student fund-raising event at the University of Regina.

3rd Annual UR Business Showcase

Business students are taught about the importance of networking, so the 3rd Annual UR Business Showcase, Wednesday, March 18, 2009, allowed students to put theory into action. This student-organized event brought together over 150 students and 100 business leaders for a stand-up reception at the Terrace Building. Student networking workshops held prior to the event taught students valuable networking skills. Student name tags at the event identified the student’s major, which made it easy for them to meet potential employers looking for specific skills.

Associate Vice-President (Academic), Dr. Gary Boire, and Associate Dean, Dr. David Senkow, spoke about the importance of building and maintaining our University’s close links with the business community. Strong support from the business community for the Paul J. Hill School of Business was evident in the excellent turnout for the event.

Much of the event’s success can be credited to the skillful planning and organization of Showcase co-chairs Lauren Dwyer and Laura Fahlman. Their well-coordinated student team was instrumental in ensuring that there was a strong student turnout and that the event ran smoothly.