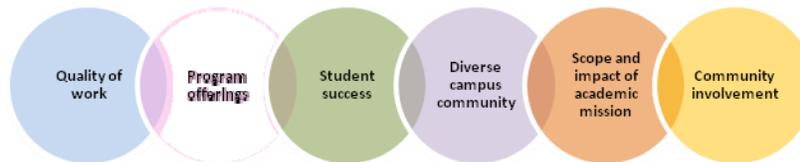


President's Report to the Board

For the period from May 1 – July 4, 2012

Submitted to the Board of Governors

Submitted by Vianne Timmons, President and Vice-Chancellor



This report summarizes my progress to date on the six key areas of priority related to the Strategic Plan and which the Board and I have identified for 2012-2013. It also includes an update on my own academic research program, as well as an overview of University highlights since the beginning of this reporting period.

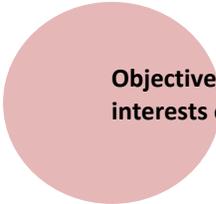
OUR WORK: Teaching, Research and Public Service

Objective: make the University widely known for its quality of work by promoting and rewarding the pursuit of excellence in teaching, research, public service and administration

Demonstrating the University's value to its stakeholders through the quality of our work and the efficiency of our operations is a key priority for the year. Considerable progress has been made in this regard:

- ✓ The creation of a balanced budget for 2012-13 once again demonstrated the University's ongoing commitment to fiscal responsibility and planning for the future. A substantially revised budget letter was introduced in May, allowing all operating units to see reductions and re-allocations across campus. This letter contained a high-level three-year planning/budgeting framework based on assumptions regarding provincial operating funding and projected enrolments. Deans and directors are being asked to start planning according to these assumptions. In addition, a "town hall" meeting held in May to explain the budget and provide context for decisions contained within it.
- ✓ Through the work of the Awards Facilitator in my office, nine provincial and national award nominations for faculty, staff and students have been submitted over the past two months.

- ✓ There have been recent success stories with regard to some of these award nominations. For example, Dr. Greg Marchildon has been named a Fellow of the Canadian Academy of Health Sciences – a remarkable accomplishment which speaks volumes about his work and how it is viewed by his colleagues across the country.
- ✓ In addition, the Saskatchewan Regional Centre of Expertise on Education for Sustainable Development (RCE Saskatchewan) recognized the University with two awards. One honoured the President’s Advisory Committee on Sustainability for supporting the Edible Campus initiative, and for its continuing work to review and make recommendations on issues such as campus transportation, parking, food, space, and energy use. The other award recognized the Print Optimization project for its progress in reducing print material and energy use on campus.
- ✓ In late May, the University of Regina was one of the hosts of the Conference Board of Canada’s “Saskatchewan Forum 2012.” This forum, which was the first of what will be an annual event, was designed to develop a vision of where our province should be by 2022. The Conference Board’s partnership with the University on this initiative demonstrates the growing role Saskatchewan and the University of Regina are playing in Canada.
- ✓ The Johnson-Shoyama Graduate School of Public Policy was recently accredited by the Canadian Association of Programs in Public Administration. This accreditation, which reinforces the quality of the School’s programs, makes the School one of only four accredited in Canada, and the only one in the western provinces.



Objective: align our array of program offerings to respond to the needs and interests of current and prospective students

Another objective is to continue aligning our programs to ensure they meet and if possible anticipate the needs of our students. A great deal of work continues on this front:

- ✓ Regarding the Academic Program Review, departmentalized faculties are now actively engaged in discussions regarding structure and administrative efficiencies. The centralized timetabling initiative is moving forward, the UR Early pilot is being implemented for the Fall 2012 semester, and a new business case model has been introduced via the Advisory Group on Planning, Evaluation, and Allocation for all proposals for new or substantially revised academic programs. In addition, the Associate Vice-President (Academic)

met with the deans to discuss the implementation of the plans which each faculty created collegially. The intent is to complete the implementation of all program changes by March 2013, with structural changes complete by March 2014.

- ✓ The most recent draft of the Strategic Plan on Teaching and Learning has been released and is being reviewed by academic units. A “town hall” meeting was held in mid-June to receive face-to-face faculty input in addition to the written input that had already been solicited. Final revisions to the plan will be made in early fall.

OUR PEOPLE: Engagement, Diversity, Success, Esteem



Objective: expand early-awareness and transitional programming for new students to help ensure their success

As we move into the new academic year, enhancing transitional programming and academic support for students is a key priority, with a number of initiatives already underway:

- ✓ The 2012-2013 budget contains an additional \$165,000 in graduate student support and athletic scholarships.
- ✓ There has been an additional allocation to UR International to help with the recruitment and retention of international students, who now account for approximately 20% of the University’s tuition revenue.
- ✓ As part of its three-phase report on student retention rates, the Office of Resource Planning linked retention data with the University’s recent Canadian University Survey Consortium (CUSC) survey results. The most significant result was evidence that among the survey sample, a student’s living situation while attending the University of Regina has a profound effect on student retention. Students living in residence or with family members were far more likely to be retained than those paying all or some of the costs of off-campus rental housing. This is important data as we work toward developing more residence spaces for students and providing priority residence accommodations for new students.
- ✓ The Registrar’s Office is developing a new process for creating the University’s master timetable. This will ensure that courses required by programs are offered at different times, allowing students to progress in a timely manner – something which contributes to retention.

- ✓ The Student Success Centre is working with faculties to offer transition and retention programming for new students in the fall. As well, they will be offering pre-orientation workshops during the summer, developing a tutor registry, and designing an Academic Recovery program together with the Centre for Continuing Education.
- ✓ The UR Guarantee Program will be piloting a peer mentorship this fall, and a program is underway to connect UR Guarantee students and our approximately 300 student ambassadors with alumni mentors.

Objective: continue to develop a diverse campus community

Increasing the diversity of our complement of faculty, staff and students is another priority for the year. A great deal of work has taken place in this area:

- ✓ Work has begun on doubling the space of the Aboriginal Student Centre to better serve students. In addition, funding has been provided to the Centre to replace the funding from the Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce which has now ended.
- ✓ On July 1, Maureen Johns began her role as Executive Lead – Indigenization in which she will support the work of the Aboriginal Advisory Circle and oversee general campus indigenization initiatives.
- ✓ A new facilitator has been hired for the omâ Aboriginal Student Success Program.
- ✓ The annual exhibit of artwork in the President’s residence has been organized, focusing on Aboriginal art from the President’s Art Collection. All visitors to the residence this year will have the opportunity to view the exhibit.
- ✓ Three base-budgeted positions have been allocated to Campus for All to support and retain students in this program.

OUR COMMUNITIES: Presence and Partnerships

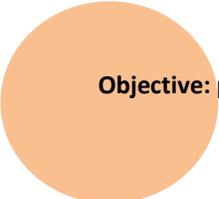


Objective: increase the scope and impact of the University's teaching, research and service to community

We have also committed to increasing the scope and impact of our work within the province and beyond. To this end, the following activities have taken place:

- ✓ The University has signed an agreement with North China Electric Power University (NCEPU) to establish the China-Canada Institute for Energy, Environment and Sustainability Research. The two universities are now working together to establish joint research programs and academic exchanges in areas such as energy, environment, climate change and social adaptation, and pollution reduction. As part of this agreement, 12 Chinese graduate students from the University of Regina presented their work at NCEPU in early June.
- ✓ In late June, it was announced that Dr. Shanthi Johnson of the Faculty of Kinesiology and Health Studies has been appointed by the Federal Government to the National Seniors Council – an important recognition of her work at the University. The Honourable Alice Wong, Minister of State (Seniors) said, “Dr. Johnson’s experience and knowledge of health issues impacting seniors will bring a unique and important perspective to the National Seniors Council.”
- ✓ Researchers at the University of Regina were recently awarded a total of \$2.8 million in funding from NSERC for a variety of projects – a strong indication of the quality of work that is being done here.
- ✓ As a result of a recent mission to China, 40 Chinese faculty members will be coming to the University of Regina this summer for training in interactive pedagogy.
- ✓ As part of a mission to Brazil led by Canada’s Governor General, the University signed a Memorandum of Understanding with four Brazilian universities to facilitate student and faculty mobility.
- ✓ The Faculty of Education has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Cumberland College to provide a four-year Bachelor of Education degree beginning in 2013.
- ✓ In collaboration with SIAST, the University will be providing face-to-face first-year university courses in Moose Jaw beginning in the Fall semester.

- ✓ In early May, a signing ceremony was held to introduce the Faculty of Education's partnership with the Northern Teacher Education Program-Northern Professional Access College to deliver a community-based Master's program in La Ronge.

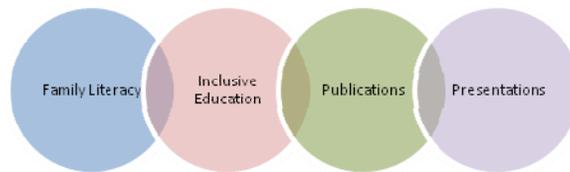


Objective: promote community involvement in and support of the University

Ensuring that the campus community and the larger community remain and become increasingly engaged with our University is another key priority. Much has been done in this regard:

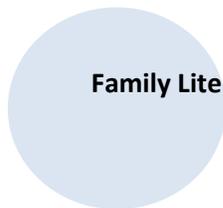
- ✓ In mid-June, the University co-hosted a reception at the annual Global Petroleum Show in Calgary. This afforded us the opportunity to promote the University's research in the area of energy and the environment, and engage with alumni now working in the energy industry.
- ✓ The College Avenue campus revitalization project is making considerable progress, with approximately \$2 million raised so far. As part of the project, we have launched the College Avenue campus Family Fundraising Campaign, which is designed to engage members of the University community. The Family Campaign has already raised \$200,000 toward the College Avenue campus revitalization. Further information about fundraising activities is provided in a separate report.
- ✓ The Senior Advisor of Government Relations has been working to find areas where the University's major priorities align with those of the provincial government and its emerging emphasis on a growth agenda. His meetings with federal, provincial and municipal officials – including our new Minister of Advanced Education – have been positive regarding a number of issues and areas of mutual interest.
- ✓ The Jaleta Pacers running group held a fundraising run that raised close to \$8,000 for a scholarship fund at the University – a great example of a group in the larger community who invests its time in our University.

REPORT ON THE PRESIDENT’S ACADEMIC RESEARCH



This report summarizes the progress I have made on my academic research projects since the last Board report.

FAMILY LITERACY



- ✓ My HRSDC-funded English as an Additional Language family literacy project, entitled “Connecting Families through Community,” is now complete. The final report, together with the completed modules and facilitator guide, has been submitted to HRSDC, as well as to the National Adult Literacy Database, as well as two partner organizations – the Regina Open Door Society, and the Prince Edward Island Association for Newcomers to Canada. The resulting material provides newcomer families with a means of working together to improve their literacy skills.
- ✓ In the coming weeks, a copy of the program will be sent to the Saskatchewan Ministry of Education for its use.

INCLUSIVE EDUCATION



- ✓ At the IASSID World Congress in Halifax, members of my research team will be presenting findings from our work on a SSHRC Community-University Research Alliance project of which I am Education Team Lead.

- ✓ By the time of the Board meeting, the IASSID Halifax 2012 World Congress, of which I am conference chair, will have taken place. This Congress, which focuses on research related to intellectual disabilities, is the largest one of its kind in the world, and has taken close to four years of planning. As conference chair, I have been involved in all aspects of the planning and organization, and I am proud to have represented the University in such a way on an international stage.

ACADEMIC PUBLICATIONS



Academic Publications

- ✓ I am awaiting publication of “The Power of Narrative in Program Evaluation,” an article I co-wrote with two other academics for the *Canadian Journal of Program Evaluation*.
- ✓ I am also awaiting word about an article entitled “Aboriginal Students’ Perceptions of Post-secondary Success Initiatives” that I submitted to the *Canadian Journal of Native Studies*.
- ✓ I am in the process of planning some publications based on my two most recently completed projects, the Train-the-Trainer Aboriginal Family Literacy program, and the “Connecting Families through Community” English as an Additional Language program.

ACADEMIC PRESENTATIONS

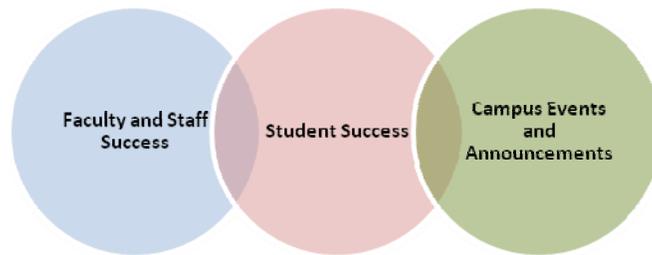


Academic Presentations

- ✓ I have delivered several keynote addresses over the past two months related to my research in the areas of family literacy and inclusive education. These included a literacy-related talk at a fundraiser for St. Andrew’s College, as well as discussions about my experience with inclusive education at the Moose Jaw Early Childhood Coalition Conference, the Saskatchewan Association for Community Living Conference, and a meeting of the Public

Section of the Saskatchewan School Boards Association. I also spoke to a group of Aboriginal students while they were on campus about another area in which I have conducted research, Aboriginal education.

CELEBRATING OUR CAMPUS



This report highlights faculty, staff and student successes as well as campus events worthy of mention since the last Board report.

FACULTY AND STAFF SUCCESS

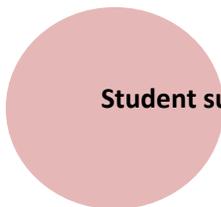


- ✓ In a highly competitive market, the University successfully recruited and hired a new Dean of Business Administration, Dr. Andrew Gaudes, who will begin in August.
- ✓ Dr. Sheila Petty has begun her term as Acting Director of the Institut français while a national search takes place over the next year for a long-term Director. I would like to thank Dr. Peter Dorrington for his service in this capacity over the past few years.
- ✓ Dr. Volker Greifenhagen has begun his term as Dean of Luther College. I would like to thank Mary Vetter for the seven years she devoted to this role.
- ✓ It is also of note that searches will take place this academic year for a new Dean of Engineering and Applied Science and a new Executive Director of the Johnson-Shoyama Graduate School of Public Policy.
- ✓ Dr. Chris Yost, Canada Research Chair in Microbes, the Environment and Food Safety, was invited by the United Nations Development Program China to present a keynote lecture in Xiamen in September 2012. Dr. Gordon Huang, Canada Research Chair in Energy and the Environment, who is on the organizing committee, will also present a major address to the conference.
- ✓ Dr. Charity Marsh, Canada Research Chair in Interactive Media and Performance in the Faculty of Fine Arts, had her research chair renewed for a

five-year term. Her successful application to the Canada Foundation for Innovation will bring an additional \$700,000 for research support.

- ✓ Cisco Systems Canada has provided \$2,000 toward establishing a research chair in electronic governance. An application to the NSERC Industrial Research Chair Program is now being planned to further this initiative.
- ✓ Faculty members Carmen Robertson and Mark Cronlund Anderson won several Saskatchewan Book Awards for their book entitled *Seeing Red: A History of Natives in Canadian Newspapers*.
- ✓ The Canadian Plains Research Center also received a Saskatchewan Book Award for *First in Canada: An Aboriginal Book of Days* by Jonathan Anuik.
- ✓ An event was held on May 25 to celebrate retirees from the 2011-2012 academic year. Retirees include some longtime faculty members who have devoted their working lives to our University:
 - Dr. George Maslany of the Faculty of Social Work
 - Dr. Jeanne Shami of the Department of English
 - Dr. William Brennan of the Department of History
- ✓ In addition, Marilyn Bickford, Administrative Assistant in the Department of history, retired after 48 years of service. She was the longest-serving employee on campus.

STUDENT SUCCESS

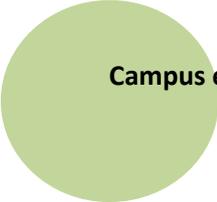


- ✓ At Convocation in early June, more than 1,700 students received their degrees, diplomas and certificates. Some of the notable student award winners were:
 - Keith Arnstead of Faculty of Engineering and Applied Science – President’s Medal.
 - Neil Arnstead of Luther Science – University Medal
 - Dr. Adam Dubé in Psychology – Governor General’s Academic Gold Medal.
- ✓ University of Regina students received 20 graduate research scholarships worth a total of \$640,000 from the Tri-Councils in the most recent round of

funding. Students also received four post-graduate doctoral studies awards, including an NSERC Vanier Scholarship – one of only 50 awarded in Canada.

- ✓ Students also received 20 Undergraduate Student Research Assistant NSERC scholarships that will allow them to work with mentoring professors over the summer. This is an important means of training some of our future graduate students.
- ✓ Former BSc and MSc student Dr. Nevan Krogan, who worked in the laboratory of Dr. Rod Kelln, has been named the recipient of the 2012 Distinguished Alumni Award for Professional Achievement. Dr. Krogan is an HIV/AIDS researcher at the University of California, San Francisco.
- ✓ UR Guarantee students hosted the first-ever Relay for Life on campus, raising more than \$37,000 for cancer research.
- ✓ Film student Matt Yim's piece *April Doesn't Hurt Here* was selected by the Toronto International Film Festival as one of 10 Canadian student films to screen at the Ninth Annual Student Showcase.

CAMPUS EVENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS



Campus events and announcements

- ✓ More than 900 prospective students and their families attended an open house in early May.
- ✓ Also in early May the Faculty of Science hosted its second annual “Science Rendezvous event” on campus. This was a great opportunity for young people and their families to learn about science at the University.
- ✓ HRH the Prince of Wales and the Duchess of Cornwall visited First Nations University of Canada in late May as part of their visit to Canada. This was a wonderful testament to the work FNUUniv does.
- ✓ In late May, the Seniors' University Group at the Lifelong Learning Centre hosted the 28th Annual Distinguished Canadian Awards dinner, with Dr. Tom Jackson as this year's honouree.
- ✓ In early June, the Canadian Mathematical Society 2012 Conference was hosted by the University of Regina. This marked the first time since 1985 that

it was held here. Dr. Douglas Farenick and Dr. Don Stanley did a great deal of work to organize the conference.

- ✓ Also in June, Printing Services hosted the annual conference of CUPMAC, the Canadian association of university print management departments.
- ✓ The Aboriginal Student Centre organized the June 21 National Aboriginal Day celebration on campus. In addition, celebrations took place at First Nations University of Canada on June 23.