

President's Report to the Board

For the period from April 21, 2018 – June 27, 2018

Submitted to the Board of Governors

Submitted by Dr. Vianne Timmons, President and Vice-Chancellor

In keeping with the University of Regina's commitment to Indigenization and reconciliation, I would like to begin this report by acknowledging that the University is situated on Treaty 4 territory, with a presence in Treaty 6. This is the ancestral territory of the Cree, Saulteaux, Dakota, Lakota and Nakoda people, and the traditional homeland of the Métis – something that has been an important part of our history, and will be equally significant for our future.

This is the final report I will provide on the five key areas of focus that the Board and I identified for the 2017-18 academic year. An end-of-year report summarizing progress through the first 10 months of the year was provided to the Board in April as part of my performance review process. For that reason, this report is not a complete summary of the year, but rather an update on any significant developments since that time. The report also includes updates since April on my academic research, University events and accomplishments, and other matters that may be of interest to the Board.

Objective 1: Student Success – Amid the budget challenges the University will face in 2017-18, ensure that the institution's recruitment and retention activities are not negatively affected

A considerable amount of work has taken place in the areas of domestic and international recruitment and retention since the end of the Winter 2018 semester in April.

In terms of domestic recruitment:

- The University followed up with more than 500 students during a one-week period after the end of the semester to target incomplete applications and unaccepted offers, and has continued to stay in touch with those students;
- UR Beginning 2018 course registration events were held in May and June with total attendance of more than 500 students;
- Efforts continued to expand the University's recruitment efforts in Saskatoon. A course registration event was held in that city to support the increased number of applicants from the region, for example, and a student recruiter is based half-time in Saskatoon to help with relationship-building, increasing the number of applications, and improving conversion rates. The recruiter has been booking meetings with guidance counsellors, attending graduation awards ceremonies where possible, and offering one-on-one meetings to prospective students. She

has also been reaching out to prospective students who have not yet applied to the University;

- A recruitment visit was made to Saskatchewan Polytechnic to provide information to students about Business Administration transfer programs and to facilitate future visits to the Saskatchewan Polytechnic;
- Follow-up recruitment visits as well as new visits were made to grade 11 classes in Regina;
- Representatives of the University attended high-school graduation ceremonies to present scholarship certificates to students;
- A “Discovering Your Direction” event was held for Grade 9 Indigenous students, and representatives of the University attended a number of recruitment fairs and events in the province geared toward Indigenous students;
- Student Affairs partnered with the Centre for Continuing Education to host more than 60 prospective students at an adult learner event on June 9; and
- External Relations continued working with Student Recruitment and faculties across campus to support undergraduate recruitment efforts through online advertising and social media platforms.

In terms of domestic student retention:

- External Relations worked with Student Recruitment to promote the UR Guarantee program in the four-page Convocation section of the *Regina Leader-Post*. In addition, planning took place for promotional activities this fall to celebrate the program’s 10th anniversary and attract additional students;
- The Student Success Centre is exploring the possibility of adding another Advisor position to ensure that drop-in academic advising can be available 100 percent of the time during business hours. The existing two Advisors saw 3,619 students from May 1, 2017 – April 30, 2018, which is an increase of more than 100% over the same period the year before. More than half of those students were seen on a drop-in basis;
- Final numbers show that over the 2017-18 academic year, 113 Academic Recovery Program (ARP) and Arts Transition Program (ATP) students successfully completed their programs and returned to their faculties. These are students who otherwise may not have had the opportunity to continue their university studies;
- Work is being done with the Distance Learning Division to enhance online Student Success Workshops so that distance students can be better accommodated in ARP/ATP programming. The Student Success Centre is also exploring how it could offer Mental First Aid Training for Teaching assistants and Advisors involved with the programs and work more closely with Counselling Services to support ARP/ATP participants;

- There are currently 40 students registered for the Summer Bridge Program, with capacity for 60 in order to exceed last summer's total of 42 students. This program gives incoming students an early taste of university life, and allows them to complete English 100 prior to the Fall semester;
- The Student Success Office is exploring how the University can offer workshop information more proactively to students over the coming year rather than as a response to academic difficulty;
- In the 2017-18 academic year, 22 students completed the OMA program, with 21 of them being retained for their second year of study in the Fall 2018 semester. This 95% retention rate is the program's most successful to date;
- In spite of protracted economic instability, the Co-operative Education and Internships Program made 817 placements over the past year – 6% higher than the previous year and the fourth-highest total in the program's history. This allowed students to earn \$9.8 million in wages to help them continue their studies. Placements thus far for 2017-18 are at a 50-year high of 414, and include a record 78 Indigenous internship placements; and
- Counselling Services dramatically increased its capacity in the past year with the recruitment and hiring of an experienced psychologist as Manager and the addition of three part-time counselling staff. As a result, critical mental health issues can now be dealt with on a daily basis and wait times for appointments for non-emergent issues are two weeks, which compares extremely well with most other universities and mental health organizations in Canada.

In terms of international recruitment activities:

- The Spring/Summer 2018 Semester saw a total of 2,911 applications, up from 1,547 in Spring/Summer 2017. In addition, the Fall 2018 Semester has seen a total of 4,901 applicants (compared to 4,338 in Fall 2017), with more than two months to go until the start of the semester. It is difficult at this point to predict what this will entail in terms of actual registrations, but it is certainly encouraging and speaks to how effective UR International's recruitment processes are.
- UR International has developed a Conversion Coordinator position whose main responsibility is to connect with student applicants, and encourage/help the student come to Regina. This is very strategic and targeted work done in collaboration with other offices/faculties on campus;
- IS has been asked to assist with the automation of admissions processes, such as attaching documents to student applications, to assist with the large volume of manual tasks necessary for each application;
- UR International has been planning a June mission to China that will see representatives visit 22 agent branches as well as two new high schools. The unit has also been solidifying Chinese exchange and joint program agreements in conjunction with several University of Regina faculties;

- A strategy is being developed to engage with educational consultants in Bangladesh, which is a growing market for students;
- The University led the SaskAlliance provincial mission to Mexico in May, during which several agreements were made to promote academic exchanges for students and to recruit fully funded long-term and short-term students from Mexico. The University is also working to establish a Mexico-based UR International office that will focus on building strategic recruitment and research partnerships; and
- UR International attended an ICEF (International Consultants for Education and Fairs) event in South Africa in May to attract top recruitment agents/educational consultants representing the region of Africa.

In terms of international student retention:

- As noted in an information item provided to the Board, UR International is in the process of separating services for exchange/visiting, certificate, and degree students. Services will have a strong focus on transitional support to accommodate the needs of students dependent upon the length of their specific program of study. UR International is also making plans to coordinate programming and services for students in short-term programs at the University of Regina and develop additional support services with faculties. New initiatives and programming are also being developed in two areas important to supporting international students studying in a new culture: mental health and intercultural awareness.

In addition, the Office of Resource Planning (ORP) continued to support the University's efforts to increase retention rates:

- The project whereby ORP worked with ISM Canada to analyze data from the 2016 Canadian University Survey Consortium (CUSC) survey of first-year students to determine factors that may affect retention is now complete. The results were presented by ISM and ORP to a group of Deans and Associate Deans and other interested parties on June 5, 2018, and the slides and presentation have been made available electronically to those who could not attend. Deans' Council will be considering initiatives that might be taken to improve retention, including ways of increasing participation at orientation activities for entering students.
- The Ministry of Advanced Education is planning to undertake a survey this year, similar to its previous graduate follow-up surveys, of all "early leavers" from post-secondary programs in the province. Brian Christie, Associate Vice-President of Resource Planning, is a member of the steering committee for this project, which is in early stages; and
- In conjunction with ORP, the University Regina's Enrolment Services unit is undertaking a short survey of students who attended a class in Fall 2017 but have not returned (one-term students). The survey is being designed to determine their

reasons for leaving, plans regarding future education, and suggestions for how the University might address these factors.

Objective 2: Student Success – Transition student support and Faculty offices toward more shared services and spaces for assessment and exam accommodations in order to streamline processes and better serve students with disabilities

Over the past year, the Centre for Student Accessibility provided services for more than 1,000 students, which reflects an increase of nearly 90% over the past four years. With this continuing demand for services in mind, planning continued over the past two months for the development of a central testing facility. As a result of this planning, a decision item has been provided to the Board for approval to tender construction.

Objective 3: Research Impact – Increase the number of faculty applications for Tri-Agency funding by 10%

As noted in the April report to the Board, the year-over-year number of Tri-Agency applications was up by 34% – far surpassing the target of 10%. Since April, the Research Office has worked to build on this success:

- Following on the 2017-18 Tri-Agency Cohort Program that helped increase the number of applications so dramatically year-over-year, the 2018-19 program is now underway. There are 32 participants – 15 seeking NSERC funding, 11 seeking SSHRC funding, and 6 seeking funding from CIHR and other health funding agencies. Deans and Associate Deans (Research) were involved in selecting mentors or other support options for their participating faculty members. Eligible participants are receiving \$3,000 to support the development of their applications;
- Two successful SSHRC researchers have received a course release for Fall 2018 to help facilitate their research. This initiative, which follows on course release for three researchers in Winter 2018, is a key support as these SSHRC-funded scholars begin their research in earnest;
- The SSHRC 2018 Insight Development results were announced, and 6 out of 12 applications were successful for a total amount of nearly \$300,000 in funding. The 2017-18 cohort program helped contribute to this 50% success rate, which was near the national average of 59%; and
- External Relations made use of the national platform afforded by Congress 2018 to successfully profile – through local and national media, as well as the University’s homepage and social media channels – important research conducted

by researchers in the Humanities and Social Sciences, including Canada's Tri-Agency-funded scholars.

Objective 4: Commitment to Our Communities – Enhance the network of community champions who engage with the University and advocate for the institution's programming and continuing development

Since late April, External Relations continued its initiatives to enhance the University's network of community champions. These initiatives are being pursued in three broad categories:

1. Improving the infrastructure for connecting with potential community champions:
 - External Relations continued to invest in strengthening contact information within its alumni database. This year alone has seen a 92 percent increase in new or updated email addresses;
 - The unit worked to grow the University's stakeholder base and strengthen relationships with priority audiences (prospective students and their influencers, alumni, donors, funders, champions) through the University's online platforms including:
 - Promoting event-specific material on the University website. External Relations continued to refine and test changes to the homepage that focus stakeholder attention on significant University initiatives, announcements, and events. From May 26-June 1, for example, all homepage banners and articles, highlighted Congress 2018 speakers and events, including Minister Duncan's \$158.4 million SSHRC funding announcement.
 - Allocating funding in the 2018-19 operating budget to redesign and relaunch the website. This project will occur in two phases: Phase 1 – the move of all internal-facing content from the current website to a newly created intranet has just been initiated and is targeted for completion at the end of this fiscal year. Phase 2 – the redesign and relaunch of the external-facing website will occur parallel to Phase 1 with a target completion date and relaunch approximately 24 – 30 months out. The new website will be a primary recruitment and engagement tool for students, faculty, staff, partners, donors, governments and the community-at-large.
 - Launching the online platform for *Degrees* magazine in June. While continuing to print the twice-yearly publication, the goal is to gradually move print readers to subscribe to the online version of the publication and providing them with a wider array of content (video, audio, and animation, for example) while continuing to share the incredible stories of University alumni. This move aligns with recommendations from the alumni survey and the President's

Advisory Committee on Sustainability, as well as current budget realities; and

- Planning summer meetings with Blackbaud (primary solution and services vendor for Raiser's Edge NXT) and Omatic (integration vendor) to ensure that design and implementation work can commence in the fall. This significant project will enable the University to better manage data, more effectively steward donors, identify new donors, engage and track alumni, and build a database of community supporters.

2. Cultivating future community champions:

- Alumni and Community Engagement staff, supported by the Communications team, continued working to develop alumni as community champions and advocates. Over the reporting period, staff organized:
 - The fourth consecutive "Saskatchewan Mafia" reception for government, journalists, and alumni in Ottawa. The event had more than 100 guests, including Senator Pamela Wallin, the Honourable Ralph Goodale and some other Members of Parliament, as well as four ambassadors of countries that send students to the University of Regina;
 - An alumni event in Toronto that was hosted by Alumni Leadership Group volunteers and celebrated the launch of a book co-authored by two U of R alumni;
 - An alumni event in Calgary that was also hosted by Alumni Leadership Group volunteers in Calgary on May 2. The invitation was extended to all alumni in the Calgary area, but specifically focused on recent alumni from the Hill/Levene Business Schools to introduce them to Dr. Gina Grandy, incoming Dean of Business Administration; and
 - The Alumni Association annual general meeting, at which the Alumni Association announced gifts of \$25,000 for the President's Endowment fund and \$100,000 for the "Saving Darke Hall" campaign.
- Alumni and Community Engagement staff also continued to engage alumni as volunteers. It is of note that there has been a 30% year-over-year increase in the number of alumni volunteers, and that Congress, which involved more than 500 volunteers, has helped the University build a strong volunteer base of alumni and other community members.

3. Developing a community champions program aimed at gaining feedback on public perceptions of the University and ways we can improve our engagement with existing and potential external partners:

- In early June, representatives of the University met with eight influential community members (most of whom were alumni) to discuss and ask for their participation in our Community Champions Program. The program

will involve having these community members engage and host others from the community at University events, and promote the University. The University will meet with these champions several times per year to get feedback from them on community perceptions of, issues with, and support for the University. The overall purpose of this developing program is two-fold: 1) to gain a better understanding of community perceptions of our institution; and 2) to generate increased community awareness, interest and support for the University.

- Beyond this work, External Relations has initiated internal conversations regarding the development of a Community Engagement Program focused on Regina for 2018-19. The work will begin with the compilation of initiatives and hours that members of the University spend involved in supporting the community. This will ultimately result in a program to generate awareness of the University's involvement in our local community and further involve the institution in the daily lives of Regina's citizens.

Objective 5: Commitment to Our Communities – Develop a comprehensive revenue-generating strategy

Since the completed revenue generation strategy was presented to the Board at its May meeting, activity to meet the identified targets has been underway in a number of areas:

- The Centre for Continuing Education is preparing to move back into its renewed College Avenue campus facilities in time for Fall 2018 programming;
- Residence and Conference Services enjoyed a successful Congress, demonstrating that they are well-placed to generate revenue into the future;
- The University's 2018-19 operating budget contained a number of features that support enhanced revenue generation. Two term positions in the Development Office were base-budgeted to assist with the retention and recruitment of skilled staff. In addition, a new faculty position was funded in Computer Science to help prepare for the introduction of the new Master of Health Information Management program, and recruitment to fill that position is underway.
- Three requests for funding from the Government of Saskatchewan for new initiatives are being presented to the Board; and
- As noted in section one above, work continues on many fronts to increase student retention.

REPORT ON THE PRESIDENT'S ACADEMIC RESEARCH

This report outlines progress on my academic research program since late April.

INCLUSIVE EDUCATION RESEARCH

- I continued my work as a member of the Executive of the International Association for the Scientific Study of Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (IASSIDD). This included participating in Executive meetings as well as providing input to help plan the 5th IASSIDD Europe Congress, which will take place in Athens, Greece in July.
- I participated in meetings as Co-Chair of SSHRC's Advisory Committee on Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Policy, and hosted three roundtable sessions at Congress related to diversity and inclusion in the Canadian post-secondary sector.

PROGRAM PRIORITIZATION RESEARCH

- On behalf of the partners in a multi-university study on program prioritization at Canadian universities, one of my co-investigators submitted our final report for potential publication in the academic journal *Planning for Higher Education*.

ACADEMIC PRESENTATIONS

- Over the past couple of months, I chaired panel discussions and delivered keynote addresses on issues that are of special importance to me. These included:
 - As noted above, three roundtable discussions at Congress on diversity in the Canadian academy. Topics covered included women in the humanities and social sciences, recruitment and retention of faculty members from equity-seeking groups, and diversity in the context of metrics of excellence;
 - The Association of Canadian Deans of Education's inaugural Ann Sherman Memorial Lecture at Congress;
 - A presentation on inclusion in the post-secondary context for the Human Resources Association of Universities in Western Canada;
 - An address to the Saskatchewan Branch of Canadian Gift Planners on the importance of giving back to community; and
 - An address at University College Dublin on the University of Regina's success at creating an inclusive educational environment for persons with disabilities.

PUBLICATIONS

- I continued revising a policy brief on domestic violence and homelessness that I am working on for publication by the Johnson-Shoyama Graduate School of Public Policy.

CELEBRATING OUR CAMPUS

This report highlights some of the many faculty, staff and student successes as well as other notable campus events since the March report to the Board.

FACULTY AND STAFF SUCCESS

- In March, Dr. Patrick Neary of the Faculty of Kinesiology and Health Studies was a visiting professor at the Sports Performance Research Institute at Auckland University of Technology in New Zealand. He lent his expertise in concussion research to a project designed to improve the quality of life for current and former rugby players who have suffered concussions.
- After a comprehensive review process, Professor Rae Staseson, Dean of the Faculty of Media, Art and Performance, was appointed to a second five-year term. Her term will begin on July 1, 2019.
- Following thorough searches, Dr. Nilgün Önder of the Faculty of Arts was appointed Associate Vice-President (Academic), and Dr. Kathy McNutt of the Johnson-Shoyama Graduate School of Public Policy was appointed Associate Vice-President (Research) and Dean of the Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research. Both appointments are for five-year terms beginning on July 1, 2018.
- Dr. Allyson Stevenson of the Department of Politics and International Studies was named a Tier II Canada Research Chair in Indigenous Peoples and Global Social Justice. Her work over the next several years will be to gain a deeper understanding of the Indigenous child removal system and its ties to government-based efforts toward assimilation.
- Dr. Alec Couros of the Faculty of Education was named a recipient of a 2018 D2L Innovation Award in Teaching and Learning from the Society for Teaching and Learning in Higher Education. The award recognizes those at the forefront of innovation in their home institutions specifically and across the wider field of post-secondary education.
- Former University of Regina Director of Athletics Dick White was honoured by U Sports with the 2018 Austin-Matthews Award for his longstanding commitment to inter-university athletics.
- A University of Regina research team led by Dr. Jennifer Gordon, Assistant Professor in the Psychology Department, has received nearly \$160,000 for a project to look into whether meditation and mindful yoga could help prevent depression for women transitioning to menopause.
- Jack Sures, Professor Emeritus in the Faculty of Media, Art and Performance and the founder of the University's ceramics program, was honoured by the Governor

General in March with the Saidye Bronfman Award for Excellence in Fine Crafts. Mr. Sures passed away in May.

- The University of Regina Press received 13 nominations and won four awards at the 2018 Saskatchewan Book Awards. Three of the four winning books took top spot for excellence in publishing.
- In conjunction with Congress, a book launch was held for *kisiskâciwan: Indigenous Voices from Where the River Flows Swiftly*, edited by Dr. Jesse Archibald-Barber of First Nations University of Canada. This University of Regina Press publication covers over 200 years of history and includes works by over 100 writers, storytellers and historical figures.
- Longtime Geography and Environmental Studies Instructor Mark Cote published a book entitled *That Lucky Son* in which he chronicles his re-discovery of his now-deceased father through his father's wartime experiences.
- Brian Christie, Associate Vice-President (Resource Planning) and Dr. Bettina Schneider, Associate Vice-President Academic at First Nations University of Canada, were members of a panel with Dr Ross Finnie of the University of Ottawa at the final featured event at the recent Congress of the Humanities and Social Sciences. The panel, which was introduced by Gabriel Miller, Executive Director of the Federation for the Humanities and Social Sciences, discussed the usefulness of a data analysis tool that helps track students' post-secondary experiences as well as labour market and other outcomes.
- Marc Butikofer has begun work at the University's new Director of Development. He will play an important role as the University continues to build relationships throughout the province and raise funds to help with our programming and scholarships.

STUDENT AND ALUMNI SUCCESS

- At the 44th annual Spring Convocation, the largest graduating class ever – 2,261 students – received degrees, certificates and diplomas. Among the students recognized was Jae Won Hur, a Business Administration student who received the University of Regina President's medal. Also at Convocation, honorary degrees were presented to Sheldon Kennedy, Dr. Roberta McKay, Elmer Brenner, and alumnus Brad Hornung. As well, Convocation saw the 1,000th graduate of the Saskatchewan Collaborative Bachelor of Science in Nursing, Christen Van De Woestyne.
- Alumna Debby Adair, who graduated in 2017 with a Master of Arts degree in Creative Writing and English, was the recipient of the Saskatchewan Writers' Guild's 2018 City of Regina Writing Award for her unpublished memoir. It was developed as part of her master's thesis, co-supervised by Drs. Troni Grande and Medrie Purdham.

- Ntawnis Piapot, a Master of Journalism student, was one of two recipients of the Canadian Journalism Foundation/CBC Indigenous Journalism Fellowship. Piapot, the first person in her family to graduate from high school, took English and Media classes at the University of Regina and later earned a diploma in Indian Communications Arts (INCA) in Communication and Media Studies – a seven-week course at First Nations University of Canada that prepares students to work as journalists.
- Adam Sprott, a Master’s student in biology, represented the University of Regina at the 3-Minute Thesis Western Canada final, hosted by the Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research.
- Emily Gardner, an alumna with a BA in Economics, has received international attention for her work as a commissioned street artist in Auckland, New Zealand.
- Dr. Abayomi Akande, a PhD graduate originally from Nigeria, has donated an autoclave reactor to the Faculty of Engineering. He originally bought the specialized piece of equipment for his own doctoral studies because the University did not own one, and it will now be available for the use of future students.
- Carolina Gonçalves, a first-year player with the Cougar women’s basketball team, was named U Sports Rookie of the Year.
- Students from the Paul J. Hill School of Business raised more than \$53,000 for Carmichael Outreach through their annual “Five Days for the Homeless” campaign, which was held in March. It was the third year in a row that the Hill School students raised more funds through the campaign than any of the other approximately 20 participating universities.
- Also in March, UR Guarantee students once again organized the University of Regina Relay for Life, which annually raises approximately \$20,000 for cancer research.
- Patricia Thomson, a Master of Administration student in the Kenneth Levene Graduate School of Business, participated at the United Nations in a panel discussion on Indigenous women’s resilience and experiences.
- Social Work student Tracie Léost was the recipient of a national 2018 Indspire Award for her work to raise awareness for missing and murdered Indigenous women and girls.
- Three Business Administration students – Jonathan Lipoth, Salmaan Moolla, and Frank Nordstrom, placed first among 23 western Canadian universities and colleges at the Enactus Regional Exposition in Calgary. Their project, which teaches high school students about financial literacy, won first prize in the Capital One Financial Edge Category
- At the 2018 Emerge Media awards, Journalism students Caitlin Taylor, Jennifer Ackerman, Janelle Blakley and Josh Diaz won first place in the Videography category for their documentary entitled “Crude Power: An Investigation into Oil,

Money and Influence in Saskatchewan.” Several other University of Regina students were nominated in other categories.

- The Student Emergency Bursary Fund received approximately \$70,000 in support from the proceeds of the fourth annual Prairie Kitchen Party fundraiser, which was attended by more than 400 people from the community.
- The University has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Saskatchewan Research Council’s Aboriginal Mentorship Program that will connect Indigenous science, technology, engineering and math students with mentors at the Research Council for summer employment.
- The recipients of the 2018 Alumni Crowning Achievement Awards have been named and will be celebrated at a ceremony in October:
 - Ken Ottenbreit BAdmin’80: Lifetime Achievement Award;
 - Dr. Allan Bonner BEd’78: Distinguished Professional Achievement Award;
 - Jacqueline Tischer CCE Professional Leadership Certificate’16: Humanitarian and Community Service Award;
 - Dr. Joana Cook BAHons’10: Young Alumni Award; and
 - Amy (Mickleborough) Moroz BEd’98 and Andrea (Gottselig) Ward BEd’00, MEd’10: Dr. Robert and Norma Ferguson Award for Outstanding Service

CAMPUS EVENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

- For the first time, Canada’s largest annual gathering of academics was held in Regina, when the University of Regina played host from May 26-June 1 to 5,300 distinguished academics, policy-makers, researchers, and practitioners at the 87th Congress of the Humanities and Social Sciences. There were many events open to the community, from the flag raising at City Hall to concerts by Buffy Sainte-Marie and Jeffery Straker, and presentations by National Chief Perry Bellegarde and Jennifer Welsh. Programming also included Cultural Connections and Community Connections events.
- At Congress, Kirsty Duncan, federal Minister of Science, announced funding of \$158.4 million for 808 research projects across Canada. Three University of Regina researchers were among the recipients:
 - Dr. Margot Hurlbert, a professor at the Centre for the Study of Science and Innovation Policy at the University’s Johnson-Shoyama Graduate School of Public Policy: \$245,045 for her project titled “Implementing community citizen engaged best management practices through adaptive management”
 - Dr. Sheila Petty, a professor in the Faculty of Media, Art, and Performance (MAP): \$79,167 for her project titled “A cinematic history of the origins and legacy of la marche pour l’égalité et contre la racisme in France”

- Dr. Francesco Freddolini (Luther College): \$78,805 for his project titled “Regal alterities: imagining exotic rulers and ambassadors in early modern Europe.”
- In March, the federal government made two major announcements of funding for health care work being conducted by University of Regina researchers. The first was \$30 million for the Canadian Institute for Public Safety Research and Treatment to address first responders’ and public safety personnel’s mental health concerns. The second was approximately \$1 million in support of two projects – Dr. Randy Johner’s work on substance abuse treatment, and Dr. Shanthi Johnson’s development of a joint exercise program for older adults and their caregivers.
- Other federal government funding received in recent months included Western Economic Diversification support of almost \$350,000 for plant research and more than \$135,000 for La Cité universitaire francophone to purchase French educational resources and audio-visual equipment.
- The University of Regina was recognized in province-wide awards for sustainability projects. RCE Saskatchewan (the Regional Centre of Expertise on Education for Sustainable Development) recognized 23 projects that are making our province more sustainable – and five of them were at the University.
- Elementary school students from two Saskatchewan communities spent time on campus in recent weeks. A group of ten grade 4-6 students from Ituna who are members of an extra-curricular club called “Girl Power” visited with a number of women leaders on campus, including the RBC Woman Executive in Residence. As well, approximately 70 grade 7 and 8 students from Yorkton’s M. C. Knoll School spent part of a day touring the University of Regina. Both visits were initiated by University of Regina alumni.
- The ninth annual Inspiring Leadership Forum was once again a sold-out event, with 600 attendees on hand to hear the inspirational stories of internationally renowned business leaders including Bonnie Brooks, former President of the Hudson’s Bay Company.
- The U Sports Women’s Basketball Final 8 Tournament was held in March, bringing teams and fans from across the country to our campus. This was the third time in the past decade that the University hosted the event – an indication of how highly respected the institutions’ athletics programs are.
- The University presented the 8th annual President’s Community Award to the Saskatchewan Roughrider Football Club in recognition of the club’s many contributions to the life of the province.
- More than 120 University of Regina employees and students participated in the Annual Campus Beautification day on May 8, demonstrating their pride for the University and helping prepare for the 2018 Congress that was held later that month.

- An exhibition of rare Inuit prints was curated for Congress by Ali King, Curator of the President's Art Collection. The prints are part of an ongoing donation to the University made by Dr. Jacqui Shumiatcher beginning in 2014. In addition, to coincide with Congress Ms. King has created a beautiful and educational online campus art guide which may be viewed at: www2.uregina.ca/president/art/.
- Throughout the semester, a number of high-profile public lectures took place on campus, including:
 - The Centre on Aging and Health's annual Distinguished Lecture, delivered by Dr. Danielle Martin, a Toronto physician and advocate for Canada's health care system;
 - The 2018 Faculty of Arts Woodrow Lloyd Lecture, featuring Mi'kmaq lawyer and scholar Dr. Pam Palmater;
 - The inaugural H.N. Gupta Memorial Lecture, by Dr. Martino Lupini of CalTech; and
 - The Johnson-Shoyama Graduate School of Public Policy's Tansley Lecture, featuring Preston Manning, founder of the Reform Party.
- The University of Regina announced that starting August 1, 2018, its campuses will be completely smoke-free. Under the new Smoke-Free Campus policy, smoking tobacco, cannabis or other products, including cigarettes and electronic cigarettes, will not be permitted. The policy will allow tobacco to be burned on campus in accordance with the current University of Regina policy Smudging/Pipe Ceremonies. Students and employees have access to the smoking cessation programs available through their benefits plans and the Students' Union.