

Innovating life

Quarterly Research Update from the University of Regina

Introductory Remarks from the Vice-President (Research) Dr. David Malloy

What is excellence in research? How do we know when we are fulfilling our mandate as a research institute? When do we deserve praise from other scholars, students, the public and governments?

The typical measure across post-secondary institutions has been external funding: “How many Tri-council dollars do you bring in each year?” More is obviously better! Some may argue that the sheer number of publications per professor or department is a key indicator of research excellence. More is obviously better in that regard as well!

But is that the true essence of research excellence? We need to challenge this line of thinking, not only in our own institutions but also in other sectors. We need to demand more of ourselves and our stakeholders to recognize that measures of excellence include more than simply dollars and publication counts.

To that end, we need to raise awareness of the *impact* of our research. Impact implies not only that what we write is being read (and cited) in high-quality peer-reviewed journals, but also that for some disciplines there are other indicators of excellence. It is time that we recognize the value of our research in terms of changing public policy, raising social awareness, or changing the way in which we view our history, as our own James Daschuk has done with his award-winning book *Clearing the Plains*:

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 2)

PHOTO: DON HALL



FUNDING THE WAY FORWARD

[FEBRUARY]

Dr. Peter Dorrington, Assistant Professor in the French Department, was awarded a SSHRC grant valued at \$9,991 for his project entitled “Penser la francophonie canadienne au prisme de la résilience, de la résistance et des alliances”.

[MARCH] Dr. Mehran Mehrandeezh, Assistant Professor in Engineering, was awarded a grant valued at \$18,000 by the Mitacs-Accelerate Graduate Research Internship Program, for a project entitled “Dynamic modeling and real-time adaptive control of a dual ducted UAV with tilting rotors”.

[MARCH] Dr. Paul Laforge, Program Chair and Assistant Professor in Electronic Systems Engineering, along with Mr. Douglas Wagner, have secured Innovation Saskatchewan funding of \$100,000 for “CCUS Control Teaching Equipment Purchase”.

[MARCH] The Association of Professional Engineers and Geoscientists of Saskatchewan (APEGS) donated \$1000 towards Final Projects Day in the Faculty of Engineering.

[MARCH] Melissa Wuerch, a MA student in the Department of Psychology, was awarded the SSHRC

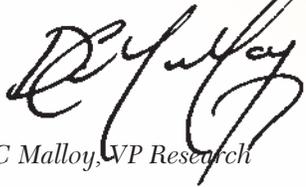
University
of Regina

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www.uregina.ca/research



Disease, Politics of Starvation, and the Loss of Aboriginal Life.

Research excellence is multifaceted, and we need to open ourselves to other non-traditional possibilities of valuing research. Further, we need to educate those outside our institution about the value of research in all its forms. This is something we have never done well enough, and it is high time we take action. ■

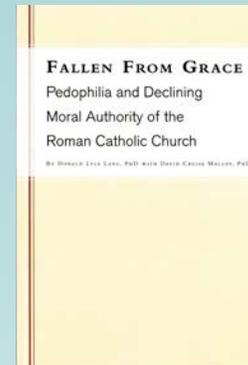


DC Malloy, VP Research

Joseph-Armand Bombardier Canada Graduate Scholarship, valued at \$17,500 for 12 months.

[APRIL] Dr. Bonnie Jeffery will co-lead a team of researchers from the Saskatchewan Population Health and Evaluation Research Unit (SPHERU) in a three-year community-based project to support rural healthy aging. Comprised of researchers from both the University of Regina and Saskatchewan, the team was also awarded \$749,335 in funding from SHRF for three, interrelated studies targeted towards improving rural seniors' mobility, social support, built environment, and information needs. ■

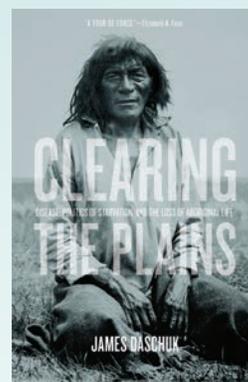
IN PRINT



[JANUARY] Dr. Dave Malloy and D.L. Lang co-authored a new book entitled *Fallen from Grace: Pedophilia and Declining Moral Authority of the Roman Catholic Church*. Published by Friesen Press.



[FEBRUARY] Dr. Jason Childs, Professor of Economics, co-authored the first Canadian edition of *Micro Economics* (Pearson, Toronto) to be published in 2015.



[APRIL] The Saskatchewan Book Awards were held on April 26. Dr. James Daschuk was the evening's big winner, taking home four awards for his book *Clearing the Plains: Disease, Politics of Starvation, and the Loss of Aboriginal Life*. The book received the following awards: Non-Fiction Award, Regina Book Award, First Book Award, and the Award for Scholarly Writing.

DR. DAVID GERHARD'S RAINBOARD (see page 3).



PHOTO: JAY BRANCH

UNIVERSITY SUCCESSES

[FEBRUARY]

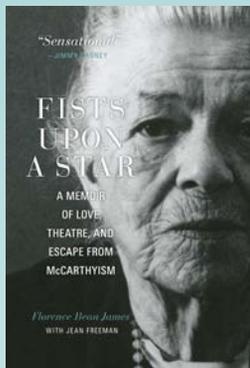
Dr. Heather Hadjistavropoulos, Professor of Psychology, was elected as a Fellow of the Canadian Psychological Association. Fellows are elected based on their distinguished contribution to the advancement of the science or profession of psychology.

[MARCH] Zhong Li, a doctoral student with the Institute for Energy, Environment, and Sustainable Communities was awarded an Alexander Graham Bell Canada Graduate Scholarship from NSERC. This award recognizes Ms.

Li's academic excellence, research accomplishments, and leadership. Valued at \$35,000 per year for two years, this award will support Ms. Li's research on integrated watershed management under changing climatic conditions.

[MARCH] Dr. Luigi Benedicenti, Professor of Software Systems Engineering, was appointed as the Saskatchewan/Manitoba representative on the Canadian Engineering Accreditation Board (CEAB) for a three-year term from July 1, 2014 to June 30, 2017.

IN PRINT



[APRIL] The University of Regina Press also took home two awards at the 2014 Saskatchewan Book Awards. *Clearing the Plains: Disease, Politics of Starvation, and*

the Loss of Aboriginal Life received the Publishing in Education Award from the University of Regina Faculty of Education and Campion College. The U of R Press also received the Publishing Award for *Fists Upon a Star: A Memoir of Love, Theatre, and Escape from McCarthyism* by Florence Bean James with Jean Freeman.



[MAY] Drs. Medrie Purdham and Michael Trussler from the Department of English co-edited a book entitled *The New Wascana Anthology: Poetry, Short Fiction, and*

Critical Prose (University of Regina Press) to be published in May 2014. ■



ENGINEERING STUDENTS WITH THE AWARD-WINNING "CANZILLA"

PHOTO: FACULTY OF ENGINEERING AND APPLIED SCIENCE

SUCCESSES (CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2)

[MARCH] The Canstruction (www.canstruction.org) design of Engineering students Justin Baril, Arin Dolph, Chelsey Knibbs, Scott Moeller, Taylor Phillips, and Jason Whitelaw received the Structural Ingenuity, Juror's Choice (Best in Show), and People's Choice Awards. The team's structure, named "Canzilla" will be entered into the international competition.

[MARCH] Dr. Nuno Ribeiro, former postdoctoral fellow at IPHRC, accepted a tenure-track position in the Department of Recreation, Sport, and Tourism at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign. Dr. Ribeiro will continue to work with IPHRC as co-investigator on a CIHR-funded project.

[MARCH] Dr. Haithem Zourrig, Assistant Professor in the Faculty of Business Administration, won a Best Paper Award in for his paper "A Cross-Cultural Perspective on Consumer Perceptions of Service Failures' Severity: A Pilot Study" (co-authors: Kamel El Hedhli from Abu Dhabi University and Jean-Charles Chebat from HEC Montreal). The award is adjudicated by the Federation of Business Disciplines and the Association of Collegiate Marketing Educators, and was presented at a conference in Dallas, USA.

[MARCH] Bree Barnes, a graduate student in Sociology and Social Studies, received a 2014 Saskatchewan Innovation and Opportunity Scholarship. Her MA research studies media representations of the Idle No More Movement.



PHOTO: FACULTY OF ARTS

[APRIL] Katherine MacMillan, a doctoral student in Psychology, received a Scholar Award given by the International Chapter of the P.E.O. Sisterhood. Valued at \$15,000 USD, this award is given on the basis of overall merit. Ms. MacMillan was one of only 85 doctoral students from across North America selected for the award.

[APRIL] Dr. Gordon Asmundson, Professor of Psychology, was chosen to receive the 2014 Donald O. Hebb Award for distinguished contributions to the scientific field of psychology. Presented by the Canadian Psychological Association, this award is the organization's highest award for science.

The deadline for submissions for the next issue is **SEPT. 5, 2014**.

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PHOTO: JAY BRANCH

SUCCESSES (CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3)

[APRIL] Dr. David Gerhard, Associate Professor of Computer Science, received the 2014 Award of Innovation for his invention of the Rainboard, a new musical instrument, mobile app, and musicology research tool. Established by the University of Regina and Innovation Place, Regina this award recognizes the efforts of researchers involved in technology, knowledge transfer, and/or commercialization.

[APRIL] Dr. Yvonne Boyer, former postdoctoral fellow at IPHRC, was ap-

pointed as Canada Research Chair Tier 2 in Aboriginal Health and Wellness at Brandon University. Dr. Boyer also received \$500,000 in funding for a five-year project designed to advance Aboriginal people's rights to health in Canada.

[APRIL] The University of Regina Alumni Association announced the recipients of the 2014 Alumni Awards of Excellence, including two awards for research-related activities. Dr. Mark Brigham (Biology) received the Award of Excellence in Graduate Research Mentorship, and Dr. Yiyu Yao (Computer Science) received the Award for Excellence in Research.

[MAY] Dr. Sandra Zilles, Associate Professor in Computer Science and Canada Research Chair Tier 2 in Computational Learning Theory, has been named by the Canadian Association of Computer Science as one of the top three Outstanding Young Computer Science Researchers in the country. This award, which will be presented at the annual Computer Science Chairs meeting in May, recognizes young computer science faculty members within 10 years of their PhD who have made significant contributions in their careers, particularly to research.



JONATHAN HARRIS

PHOTO: U OF R PHOTOGRAPHY STUDIO

[MAY] Jonathan Harris, a graduate student at the Johnson-Shoyama Graduate School of Public Policy was chosen to receive the 2014 Justice Emmett Hall Memorial Foundation Student Essay Prize in the category of Best Masters Submission. His essay is titled "Access to Residential Long-Term Care in Canada: The Influence of the Policy Legacies of the Canadian Health Act". The award will be presented at the annual Canadian Association of Health Services and Policy Research (CAHSPR) conference in May. ■

TAKE NOTE!

[FEBRUARY]

Cara Bradley, Teaching and Learning Librarian, was invited to consult with and advise the UK's Research Information Network (RIN), a policy unit funded by the UK Higher Education funding councils, the seven research councils, and three national libraries. The invitation resulted from her recent publications on information literacy and programmatic accreditation, including an article published in the *European Journal of Engineering Education* in January 2014.

[FEBRUARY] The second annual Canadian Society for Civil Engineering South Saskatchewan Section student popsicle stick bridge contest was held on February 27 under the leadership of Dr. Kelvin Ng. Individuals and teams of undergraduate engineering students designed and built popsicle stick bridges using only materials supplied by the organizers.

[MARCH] The Department of Anthropology hosted a workshop and public lecture on March 6, featuring renowned anthropologist Dr. Beth A. Conklin from Vanderbilt University. The topic of her lecture "Rethinking Cannibalism: Sensory Ecologies of Death in Amazonia and Beyond" explored cannibalism and other death rites that force mourners into close encounters with corpses.

[MARCH] The University of Regina and the First Nations University of Canada hosted the inaugural *Imagining Canada's Future: First Nations, Métis, and Inuit Research Showcase* from March 24-28. This event, funded by SSHRC, the Government of Saskatchewan, and the Office of the Vice-President (Research), and led by Dr. Shauneen Pete (Faculty of Education) showcased the research of First Nations, Métis, and Inuit (FNMI) researchers and allies working with Indigenous



PHOTO: SHAUNEEN PETE

SUNTEP STUDENTS GARRETT LEGARE AND DALTON BURZMINSKI AT IMAGINING CANADA'S FUTURE: FIRST NATIONS, MÉTIS, AND INUIT RESEARCH SHOWCASE.

peoples, communities, and organization. Featuring 24 sessions with 42 presenters over the course of five days, the Showcase demonstrated the depth and breadth of the research being conducted by FNMI scholars throughout Saskatchewan.

[MARCH] Dr. Lei Zhang, Associate Professor of Engineering at the University of Maryland, presented a seminar entitled “An Ultrasonic Testing System for Long Range Pipeline Inspection” at the March 20 Science Pubs Series.

[APRIL] On April 9, Vice-President (Research) Dr. Dave Malloy hosted a town hall meeting with the University community to discuss the Provincial Auditor’s Report on Research (PARR) and the Crago-Kirk report. These two reports are pivotal documents for the U of R as we endeavour to enhance research administration, culture, and productivity. A follow-up session is scheduled for June 9.

RESEARCH PROFILE

Saskatchewan Advantage — Preventing Falls Among Seniors

Saskatchewan Advantage: Preventing Falls among Seniors, led by Dr. Shanthi Johnson, in partnership with RQHR was launched in 2012. The principal goal of the study is to reduce the number of falls among seniors (those aged 60 and up). The study introduced 10 simple exercises developed by the Canadian Centre for Activity and Aging in the lives of rqlr home care client seniors. The study is implemented through the existing infrastructure of Regina Home Care and is currently in the client recruitment stages. Thus far, with have the targeted recruitment number, we are already seeing some major changes in the lives of the people recruited.

One such Regina Home Care client, Carole Bryce, has experienced some very positive changes. Carole was

[APRIL] Dr. Michelle Stewart, Assistant Professor in Justice Studies, organized “FASD at the Frontline: Dialogue and Strategies for New Outcomes” on April 23 at the U of R. The one-day workshop brought together over 200 practitioners from inside and outside Saskatchewan to discuss challenges as well as innovative practices involving FASD.

[APRIL] The Humanities Research Institute announced the 2014 HRI Research Fellows, including Dr. Ian Germani, Dr. Carlos Londono Sulkin, and Dr. Pauline Minevich. Holders of the HRI Research Fellowship represent research excellence in the Humanities at the U of R and its federated colleges and reflect work undertaken across the University. Profiles can be found at: <http://www.humanitiesresearch.org/>

[MAY] Jocelyn Crivea from the Institute for Energy, Environment, and Sustainable Communities is co-organizer of the symposium “Living Labs and Ecomuseums: Integrating Sustainability in Higher Education”, in conjunction with the Regional Centre for Expertise on Education for Sustainable Development Saskatchewan. The event was hosted by the U of R on May 8 and profiled new projects related to ecomuseums, living labs, and community engagement.

[ONGOING] Hundreds of people have attended the Centenary Reflections lecture series organized by Dr. Ian Germani titled “1914: A Turning Point in History and Culture”. The series, hosted by the Dr. John Archer Library and the Department of History, examines the significance of the Great War as a turning point in history and culture. ■



CAROLE BRYCE PERFORMING LEG LIFT EXERCISES

recruited in September 2013, three months after suffering a fractured ankle. When interviewed recently, Carole says that through her participation in the program, she has noticed improvement in her core muscle strength and increased energy levels. After her involvement in the study ends, she plans to continue doing her exercises as part of her daily routine, and says that being able to do the exercises in her own home will be of great benefit to her continued progress. Carole concluded the interview with these words, “I would recommend it to everyone, healthy or unhealthy. I really would, because [the exercises are] simple... they don’t take a lot of time, and you feel the benefit very quickly”. It is hoped that the project will become an integrated part of regular home care services available to all senior home care clients. ■

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