

# Innovating life

Quarterly Research Update from the University of Regina

## MESSAGE FROM THE VICE-PRESIDENT (RESEARCH)

The University of Regina unveiled *peyak aski kikawinaw*, its new Strategic Plan in January after many months of hard work, numerous open forums, and excellent debate. The plan received overwhelming support from the academy for its goals of promoting student success, enhancing research impact, and strengthening commitment to our communities. Of particular relevance to the research community as well as our external audience, is the identification of five research clusters. These clusters emerged as a function of their research impact, the existence of a critical mass of highly qualified professors and graduate students, the relative distinctiveness from other institutions, and the linkage with the Signature Themes from the Strategic Research Plan (2011-2015); which also received overwhelming support from the academic community and leadership. Further, each of the clusters has a direct and intimate relationship with one or more of our Type I Research Centres/Institutes.

The research conducted by our University community is increasingly being recognized as world-class in both quality and impact. However, there may still be those who underestimate our work, and I would argue that this is due to a lack of public awareness of the depth and breadth of the scholarly work being done here in Regina. The identification of the research clusters is an important step in making our external audiences more knowledgeable

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 2)



PHOTO: GEREEMY LAGUE

SUPRIYA BHAT

### [SEPTEMBER]

The Department of Film has received a donation from NBCUniversal, which will allow the department to develop its 4K Production Studio. The U of R's Department of Film is Canada's only university film production program between the Great Lakes and the Pacific Ocean. The donation has been put towards the purchase of equipment and facilities.

[OCTOBER] CIHR has awarded Dr. Thomas Hadjistavropoulos (Psychology) a three-year operating grant worth more than \$300,000 for the development

of an automated system for pain detection and monitoring in older adults with dementia. The research project, led by Dr. Hadjistavropoulos, involves a multidisciplinary team from across Canada.

[OCTOBER] Dr. Gordon Asmundson, Professor of Clinical Psychology, has received more than \$450,000 from the CIHR for a treatment study on post-traumatic stress disorder. Through the study, immediate treatment is available for free for eligible people in the Anxiety and Illness Behaviours Laboratory.

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University  
of Regina

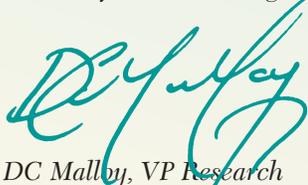
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about our work and thus enhancing our reputation nationally and internationally.

The danger in making such choices is that there may be some researchers whose work does not fit neatly into one of these clusters. In identifying and focusing on research clusters in this way, our intention is certainly not to exclude or minimize the excellent work that falls between or outside these strategic groupings (of note... my own research agenda does not fall specifically within any cluster). Rather, the intent is to demonstrate our strength, to publicly declare the areas in which we have strategic advantage as a University, and to enhance the perception of the U of R as a research institution of excellence.

To those who have contributed their “blood, sweat and tears” toward making these clusters viable...well done and thank you! To those who conduct excellent research in a myriad of disciplines - your tireless effort is not unnoticed and in fact, it is your devotion to excellence in your area that continues to create a fabulously rich and diverse culture of scholarly excellence at the U of R. As I told my class of second-year students this past week when we discussed research impact, you should be proud of this university - we are doing very well! ■

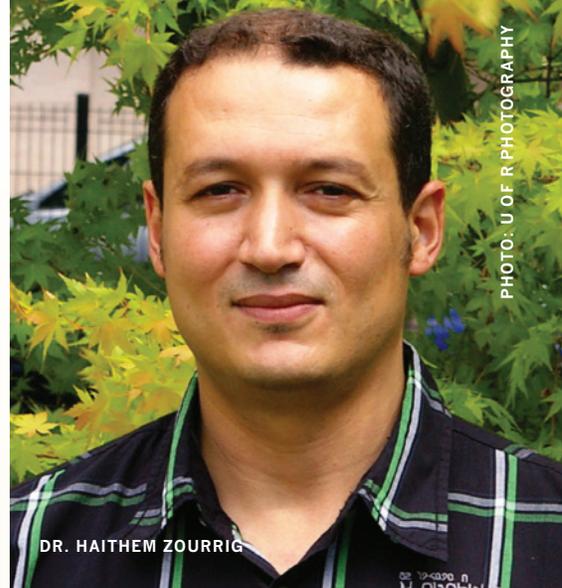


DC Malloy, VP Research

**[NOVEMBER]** Jared Wolfe, MSc. student in Biology, has received a Canada Graduate Scholarship – Master’s Program from NSERC. The scholarship is valued at \$17,500 and will support his research into the effects of industrial nitrogen emissions from the Athabasca Oil Sands Region and climate change on algal communities in northern, boreal lakes of Saskatchewan.

**[DECEMBER]** Four U of R scholars have received more than \$1 million in SSHRC-funded Insight Grants.

- Dr. Heather Price (Psychology) received \$194,410 in funding for her project “Children’s Credibility in the Legal System”.
- Dr. Jeanne Shami (English), working with Dr. Anne James (Luther College) received \$172,467 for her project “English Manuscript Sermons and Sermon Notes 1530-1715: Interpreting the Archive”.
- Dr. Charity Marsh (Film) received a grant valued at \$406,335 for her project “Hip Hop Indigenized: Imagined Communities, Diasporic Identities, and Global Youth Empowerment”.
- Dr. Susanne Kuehling (Anthropology) received \$274,845 for her project “The Value of Precious Objects: A Study of Calculations, Articulations, and Negotiations of Gift Exchange in the Societies of the Kula Ring (Papua New Guinea)”.



DR. HAITHEM ZOURRIG

**[DECEMBER]** Dr. Haithem Zourrig, Assistant Professor of Marketing in the Faculty of Business Administration, received a SSHRC-funded Insight Development Grant valued at \$48,197 for his project “Consumer Fraudulent Behaviour: A Cross-Cultural Perspective”.

**[DECEMBER]** the Petroleum Technology Research Council has awarded more than \$520,000 in funding to five U of R projects:

- Dr. Peter Gu – \$40,000 for a project entitled “Measurements of Solvent Diffusion Coefficients in Heavy Oil without and with Porous Media”.
- Dr. Peter Gu - \$40,000 for “Heavy Oil Waterflooding Post Cyclic Solvent Injection”
- Dr. Farshid Torabi – “\$150,000 for “Role of Propane and Methane in Enhancing the Foamy Oil Phenomenon and Performance of Cyclic Solvent Injection”.
- Dr. Tony Yang – “\$150,000 for “Non-equilibrium Phase Behaviour Solvents – Heavy Oil Systems under Reservoir Conditions”.
- Dr. Bill Zeng – \$143,000 for “Non-equilibrium Phase Behaviour Study of Heavy Oil-solvent System under Bulk Systems”.

**[JANUARY]** The U of R’s Sustainability and Community Engagement Fund has awarded \$24,800 to nine innovative projects on campus. Project grants range from \$500-\$5000 and have been made possible as a result of cross-campus partnerships. ■

## WANT YOUR STORY TO APPEAR IN OUR NEXT ISSUE?

The deadline for submissions for the next issue (covering period Jan. 1- Apr. 1, 2015) is **APRIL 17, 2015**.

Please send your content to **Rebecca Berthiaume**: 306.585.4258 [Rebecca.Berthiaume@uregina.ca](mailto:Rebecca.Berthiaume@uregina.ca)



JODY GREENMAN-BARBER

# UNIVERSITY SUCCESSES

## [NOVEMBER]

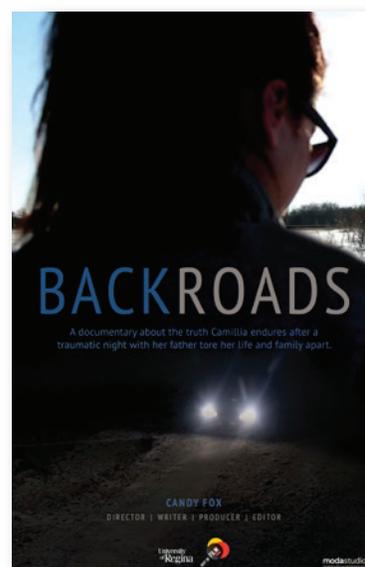
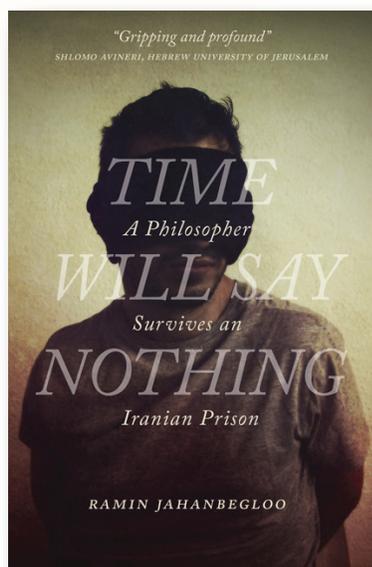
**D**r. James Daschuk, author of the bestselling book *Clearing the Plains: Disease, Politics of Starvation, and the Loss of Aboriginal Life*, was awarded the Governor General’s History Award for Scholarly Research (Sir John A. Macdonald Prize).

**[DECEMBER]** Jody Greenman-Barber, a graduate student in Fine Arts, has received an award from the Canadian Clay and Glass Gallery. Recipients of the 2014 Winifred Shantz Award were announced in December, and Ms. Greenman-Barber received the second prize for her submission of a proposal to go to Asia to work in a studio, do research, and attend the Korean Ceramic Biennale.

**[DECEMBER]** Dr. Luigi Benedicenti, Professor of Software Engineering, was appointed as a Fellow of Engineers Canada. Fellowships honour individuals who have given noteworthy service to the engineering profession through their work.

**[DECEMBER]** A new publication by the University of Regina Press had a most unusual setting for a book launch – the British House of Lords in London, UK. Author Ramin Jahanbegloo was invited to launch his book *Time Will Say Nothing: A Philosopher Survives an Iranian Prison*, at the Upper House in December.

**[JANUARY]** Candy Fox, a fourth-year film student, made her debut at the Toronto International Film Festival with a short film entitled “Backroads”. Fox wrote, produced, and edited the film, which is a documentary that sheds light on the strength of the survivors of family abuse. “Backroads” was chosen by TIFF as one of the top student films in Canada. ■





(RIGHT, STANDING) PROVOST AND VP (ACADEMIC) DR TOM CHASE AND ADVANCED EDUCATION MINISTER KEVIN DOHERTY WITH U OF R INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS.

# TAKE NOTE!

## [NOVEMBER]

**O**n November 24, Advanced Education Minister Kevin Doherty visited the U of R campus to announce the launch of the province's International Education Strategy. The Strategy includes three main goals: increase global engagement by increasing the number of SK students studying abroad; bringing the world to SK by increasing the number of international students studying in this province; and grow global research partnerships by increasing the number and value of international research partnerships.

**[NOVEMBER]** The University of Regina played host to 24 representatives from academic institutions in Latin American and the Caribbean through the Emerging Leaders of the Americas Program (ELAP). ELAP is a student mobility program funded by the Government of Canada that creates opportunities for students from the Americas to participate in academic and research exchanges at Canadian universities.

**[DECEMBER]** A research team at the U of R has developed a computer program to simulate how soil moves and it is attracting national attention. NSERC recently featured video and article about "Simulating Soil for Heavy Machinery Training", by Dr. Howard Hamilton (Computer Science) and his students in partnership with Edmonton-based Serious Labs Inc.

**[JANUARY]** On January 16, the Federation for the Humanities and Social Sciences announced that it has selected the University of Regina to host the 2018 Congress of the Humanities and Social Sciences. Congress is the largest academic conference in Canada (and the largest interdisciplinary conference in North America!), and will bring more than 7000 attendees from 70 scholarly associations to Regina. Congress will take place from May 26 – June 1, 2018.

**[JANUARY]** On January 13, the University of Regina unveiled its 2015-2020 Strategic Plan. Entitled *peyak aski kikawinaw* (Cree for "We are one with Mother Earth"), the plan identifies three key areas of priority – student success, research impact, and commitment to communities. It also highlights two overarching areas of emphasis – Indigenization and sustainability.

**[ONGOING]** Dr. Yasser Morgan (Engineering and Applied Science) has been working with the U of R's Collaborative Centre for Justice and Safety (CCJS) led by Mr. Steve Palmer, in order to develop digital solutions to improve public safety, including vehicular communications and image processing. CCJS is a research centre that is focused on building the next generation of public safety solutions. Mr. Palmer and Dr. Morgan are working on creating next generation systems which will allow vehicles to autonomously contact 911 in case of accident. ■



TOP: DR. YASSER MORGAN  
BOTTOM: STEVE PALMER



ABOVE: (LEFT TO RIGHT) MAYOR MICHAEL FOUGERE, ADVANCED EDUCATION MINISTER KEVIN DOHERTY, PRESIDENT AND VICE-CHANCELLOR DR VIANNE TIMMONS, FEDERATION PRESIDENT DR ANTONIA MAIONI, PROVOST AND VP (ACADEMIC) DR TOM CHASE



LEFT: OFFICIAL ANNOUNCEMENT OF CONGRESS 2018 IN REGINA.



# WHAT'S NEW AT THE U OF R?

## NEW MASTER OF JOURNALISM PROGRAM

The School of Journalism looks forward to its initial cohort of graduate students enrolled in their Master of Journalism (MJ) program, to start in Fall 2015. The program is the first of its kind to be offered in the Canadian Prairies.

Students who already have an undergraduate journalism degree are eligible to apply for the one-year intensive professional degree (direct entry), while students who hold other undergraduate degrees can apply to the two-year enhanced stream (bridging entry), which offers enhanced basic training and a newsroom internship.

“Our graduate students will be required to submit a major professional project, such as a documentary film or series of in-depth articles,” explained Dr. Mitch Diamantopoulos, head of the School of Journalism. “Our teach-

ing faculty are really excited about the opportunity to work with students at a more advanced and intensive level”.

In addition to the hands-on work that is the core of the University’s journalism education, MJ students will take upper level graduate courses and work together in graduate seminars. “About a third of our students already have degrees, and they’re eager to take on more challenging studies. This opportunity will provide them with deeper, specialized knowledge for in-depth reporting in their areas of interest”, said Diamantopoulos. ■



Sun Life Financial  
Psychology Training Clinic

The New Sun Life Financial Psychology Training Clinic at the U of R is now accepting clients who may not be able to easily access other psychological services.

The Clinic, which opened its offices on November 7, 2014, is part of the Clinical Psychology program in the Department of Psychology. The clinic pairs clients with student-therapists who are pursuing their doctorate through the U of R’s nationally accredited Clinical Psychology program. The services provided by the students are closely supervised by registered doctoral psychologists in the Department.



DR. HEATHER  
HADJISTAVROPOULOS

Dr. Heather Hadjistavropoulos, Director of Clinical Training, says the situation benefits both the client and the student-therapists. “Clients have the opportunity to access specialized services that may not be

available otherwise”, says Dr. Hadjistavropoulos. She notes that before receiving services, clients must meet certain criteria, such as having mild to moderate psychological concerns and not being in receipt of other mental health services.

Services offered in the Training Clinic vary from year to year, depending on the expertise of the registered doctoral clinical psychologists who are assigned to the clinic. For the 2015 Winter term, the Clinic is accepting adult clients who are experiencing difficulties with anxiety or depression and are interested in receiving cognitive behavioural therapy as part of a group.

For more information about the Sun life Psychology Training Clinic, visit [www.uregina.ca/arts/psychology/training\\_clinic.html](http://www.uregina.ca/arts/psychology/training_clinic.html) or Like their Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/PsychologyTrainingClinic](https://www.facebook.com/PsychologyTrainingClinic) ■



PHOTO: REBECCA BERTHAUME



PHOTO: U OF R PHOTOGRAPHY

LEFT TO RIGHT) DRS BRIEN MAGUIRE, LUIGI BENEDICENTI, AND SHEILA PETTY

**GEORGE REED CENTRE OPENS AT THE U OF R**

The George Reed Centre for Accessible Visual Communication (GRC) is a new initiative at the University of Regina, funded by the George Reed Foundation. The mission of the Centre is to foster, coordinate, and promote research activities in accessible, visual, and inclusive communication.

The GRC intends to serve as the focal point for Pictogram research provincially, nationally, and internationally. The Faculty of Kinesiology and Health Studies (KHS) is pleased to house the Centre, particularly as the Centre complements the faculty's academic and community programs while honouring the historical and charitable engagement that Mr. George Reed has had with KHS.

The GRC was pleased to host its inaugural event in November 2014 – a Pictogram Symposium – where we showcased the first projects funded through the Centre. Drs Luigi Benedicenti (Engineering) and Sheila Petty (Fine Arts) are exploring the comprehension ability of pictograms on electronic devices, while Dr Brien Maguire (Science) and Subhas Maharaj (developer of the Pictogram Visual Language System and Senior Speech Pathologist, Heartland Health Region) are engaged with health professionals from the Wascana Rehabilitation Centre to examine the application of pictogram symbols for children and adults who require a visual strategy for communication and the creation of applicable software programs.

There will be a call for research proposals in 2015, as well as a multi-day event which will showcase Pictogram research from local, national, and international researchers.

For more information about the GRC, contact Brenda Rossow-Kimball, PhD (Fellow, GRC) ([brenda.rossow-kimball@uregina.ca](mailto:brenda.rossow-kimball@uregina.ca)) or email [GRC@uregina.ca](mailto:GRC@uregina.ca)



PHOTO: U OF R PHOTOGRAPHY

(LEFT TO RIGHT) DR HAROLD RIEMER, GEORGE REED, AND PRESIDENT VIANNE TIMMONS

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