

Degrees

volume 20, no. 2 | fall 2008

The University of Regina Magazine



**No more
missing
women.**

**Faculty and
students
fight back.**



UNIVERSITY OF
REGINA





More than just the hues of autumn were on display at this year's fall convocation. The main floor of the Connexus Arts Centre was awash with colour as members of the platform procession prepare for the ceremony. University photographer Don Hall took this shot from the balcony just before the group made its way to the convocation stage.

As the editor of this magazine, I am fortunate to hear my share of engaging tales about the people associated with the U of R. It never ceases to amaze me—the incredible stories of the men and women who teach, study and administer at, or have graduated from, the University of Regina.

This is a dream come true for those of us who spend a fair amount of our professional life chasing down stories that we hope will inform, engage, entertain and resonate with readers. As a colleague of mine used to say when I first stepped into the employ of the U of R, “There is no shortage of great stories around here.”

Here’s one of my favorites: In 1961, Minoru Yamasaki, a Michigan-based architect, was hired to design a 100-year plan for the development of an urban park in Regina that included a layout of the Regina Campus of the University of Saskatchewan. Yamasaki’s master plan for Wascana Centre would, in his own words: “Make Regina one of the greatest cities in the world.”

His design legacy can be seen in three buildings on campus: the Classroom and Laboratory buildings, and the Dr. John Archer Library.

In 1966, about the time the U of R was opening its Yamasaki-designed buildings, construction began on his signature project: a Manhattan office complex featuring two 110-storey skyscrapers that were, at the time of their opening, the tallest buildings in the world. On a clear day, visitors to the observation decks of the mammoth structures could see 70 kilometres in every direction.

On Sept. 11, 2001, the glorious vantage point was sent crumbling to the streets of New York when highjackers flew two commercial airliners into the great twin towers, reducing them to twisted iron and rubble.

There was no way that Minoru Yamasaki could have known what fate had in store for his World Trade Center complex when he stood on a Regina stage to receive a University of Regina honorary degree in the fall of 1967.

In this edition of *Degrees* we have the story of Luther faculty member Brenda Anderson who, with the help of others from around the University and around the globe, is doing what she can to ensure mothers like Gwenda Yuzicappi (pictured on the cover) never feel the pain of a missing or murdered daughter.

You’ll also find the stories of our Alumni Crowning Achievement Award recipients—seven graduates, each with their own unique stories of compassion, distinction and achievement.

As well, we present the story of three passionate individuals who are giving back to the University as members of the U of R senate. And then there’s the story of alumnus Mark Docherty, a renaissance man who hasn’t let his advancing multiple sclerosis stop him from helping others who are in need in our community.

You’ll find these stories and many more in this issue of *Degrees*. After all, that’s what *Degrees* is all about—it’s about stories, it’s about storytelling.

If you have a story associated with the U of R, we want to hear about it. Please let us know about your tales of success, courage, discovery, intrigue or woe. Or, if you have an idea for a story, we want to hear from you too. You’ll find all our contact information on the facing page.

Oh, that reminds me, did you hear the story of the U of R student who...

Greg Campbell
Editor



(left to right) Minoru Yamasaki, John Archer and William Riddell at the official opening of the U of R Library on October 14, 1967.

Degrees

The University of Regina Magazine

Fall 2008
volume 20, no. 2

Editor

Greg Campbell '85, '95

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Bill Armstrong

Shannon Bachorick

Don Hall

Brian Miller '89, '95

Marie Powell Mendenhall '80, '88, '01

Brenda Oliver

David Sealy

Mark Taylor '00, '04

All photos by University of Regina
Photography Department
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Original design and layout by
Bradbury Branding and Design.

Degrees is published twice a year by
External Relations at the University of
Regina. The magazine is mailed to alumni
and friends of the University. Ideas and
opinions published in *Degrees* do not
necessarily reflect those of the editor, the
Alumni Association or the University of
Regina. Letters and editorial
contributions are welcome. Advertising
inquiries are invited.

To reach us:

Editorial/Advertising/Letters

Degrees, External Relations
210 North Residence, University of Regina
3737 Wascana Parkway
Regina, SK S4S 0A2
Ph: (306) 585-4402 Fax: (306) 585-4997
E-mail: Greg.Campbell@uregina.ca

Address Change/Alumni Relations

Alumni Relations
210 North Residence, University of Regina
3737 Wascana Parkway
Regina, SK S4S 0A2
Ph: (306) 585-4112 Fax: (306) 585-4997
E-mail: URAlumni@uregina.ca
Toll-free: 877-779-4723 (GRAD)
(in Canada and U.S.)

University of Regina homepage

www.uregina.ca

Publication Mail Agreement Number
40065347

Return undeliverable magazines to:
External Relations
210 North Residence, University of Regina
3737 Wascana Parkway
Regina, SK S4S 0A2
ISSN 0843-7092



On the cover: Gwenda Yuzicappi holds a picture of her daughter Amber Redman whose remains were found on May 5, 2008, on the Little Black Bear First Nation. Find out what U of R faculty members and students are doing to help put an end to the disappearance and murder of woman across Canada and around the world. The story begins on page 14. Photo by Don Hall, University of Regina Photography Department.

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Meet the cream of this year's crop of distinguished alumni.

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U of R faculty members are doing what they can to help stem the terrible tide of missing women in Canada.

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Mark Docherty has packed a lot of living into his 47 years. In spite of a diagnosis of multiple sclerosis a decade ago, one gets the feeling that his best years are still ahead of him.

Changing the World, One Classroom at a Time 34

Education faculty member Buryl Bernard has dedicated himself to a project that is not only helping impoverished Cambodian schoolchildren, it's turning Regina elementary school students into citizens of the world.

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President's Note

It has been an exciting and hectic but most enjoyable time since I took over the President's office on September 1. It's hard to believe we are on the cusp of the holiday season and another Canadian winter—my first in Saskatchewan.

Since my arrival, we have undertaken a full slate of activities and set for ourselves a pace that I feel will serve the University of Regina well into the future.

Among the highlights of the past four months was my first convocation ceremony on October 18. I can tell you it was a great pleasure to be a part of the celebration that is the culmination of all the hard work, dedication and perseverance of our students.

It was so gratifying to share this special day with students, their friends and families. My hope is that as they begin their careers both in the province and beyond, our graduates maintain their connection to the U of R and recognize that we have a shared responsibility to serve our greater community.

Community was in fact the theme of 21 University events presented during the weeks surrounding convocation and my installation as president and vice-chancellor. The entire campus came together to

present "Greater Together with the Community," a series of events that highlighted the amazing diversity of our University and the rich crop of activities that our faculty, staff and students are engaged.

This is one of my top priorities—to build on the relationships that have already been established between the campus, the city, and the province. I have already met many people from the community—U of R alumni, government and industry representatives, and community and business leaders. I am so impressed with the positive reputation the University has in our community. I will continue to work to expand and develop those relationships we have already established, as well as looking for new connections that will serve the University well in the future.

Another of the objectives I have taken on in my first six months is to focus on student recruitment and retention through engagement. This approach is reflected in our new and improved website, which has been revised with students' needs in mind.

We have also embarked on a long-term strategic enrolment plan that will support more extensive future initiatives in a multi-faceted approach to attract high school, graduate,

mature and international students.

An emphasis on internationalization and internationalizing curriculum will be another focal point of mine. And, while we open our doors to international students, we also want to provide our students with opportunities to study elsewhere. As well, we want our faculty and staff to have opportunities for international exchanges and to visit other institutions so that we can give our students a truly international educational perspective.

I am also looking to strengthen the University's leadership team and I look forward to establishing new goals and strategies, building ideas, and working together in respectful dialogue and debate.

In this regard we have undertaken a strategic planning process that will involve major consultation with our internal and external stakeholders to help us identify what our University will look like in the next five years. I would ask that alumni involve themselves in this important initiative when called upon. We plan to conclude the process by fall 2009 with recommendations to the Board of Governors.



It's been a wonderful beginning for me and my family in Regina. We feel so at home. I have enjoyed every moment of getting to know the people of the community and the people who make our campus the special place it is.

The University of Regina is an amazing university. I am so thrilled to be here. With your support and active involvement, I look forward to seeing it grow and prosper.

I wish good fortune to you and your family and all the very best that the holiday season has to offer.

Vianne Timmons

At right: James McNinch.

At left: Gary Boire.

Below: Harley Weston.



Comings and goings

Gary Boire has been named the new vice-president (academic). As the senior academic officer, Boire is responsible for developing, maintaining and supporting top-calibre academic programming and quality teaching. Boire comes to the U of R from Lakehead University in Thunder Bay, Ontario, where he served as dean of Graduate Studies and international liaison officer.

David Gauthier has been appointed vice-president (research and international) for a term until June 30, 2011. Gauthier has served in an acting capacity in the position since March 2007. He has also served as associate vice-president (research) and executive director of the Canadian Plains Research Center. As well, he founded the Centre for GIS and helped found the Prairie Adaptation Research Collaborative (PARC) at the U of R.

Rod Kelln has agreed to extend his term as associate vice-president (research) until

December 31, 2008. Kelln also serves as dean of the Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research.

James McNinch has been appointed the new dean of the Faculty of Education. McNinch holds a BA (honours) in English and history from Simon Fraser University, a diploma in education from the University of Alberta and a PhD in comparative studies from the University of Essex, England. He has served the University in various capacities including as a faculty member and an administrative team member.

Three new appointees have been added to the University's Board of Governors by Saskatchewan government orders in council: **Brenda Barootes BSc'84**, **Lee Elliott BA'88, MBA'o8** and **James (Paul) McLellan BAdmin'81**. The trio join current Board member Sue Barber BA'84, who was reappointed for a second term by the province; Greg Swanson BAdmin '76 and Ben Grebinski BEd'79, PGDEA'89, MEd'91, who were elected by the U of R Senate (Swanson in June 2007 and Grebinski in June 2008);

Jeanne Shami, faculty representative elected by University Council; Jessica Sinclair, Students' Union president and student representative; President Vianne Timmons; Chancellor William F. Ready; and Chair Mo Bundon.

William Chapco, a faculty member of the Department of Biology, retired at the end of August after almost 40 years at the University of Regina.

Congratulations

University president **Vianne Timmons** has been selected as a recipient of the 2008 Canada's Most Powerful Women: Top 100 Award. The Top 100 Award is an initiative of the Women's Executive Network and is co-presented by the Richard Ivey School of Business and Scotiabank. Timmons was also recently appointed chair-designate of the Canadian Bureau for International Education.

Barbara Pollock, vice-president of External Relations, has

received the Outstanding Fundraising Executive Award from the Regina Chapter of the Association of Fundraising Professionals. Pollock led the University's Building Dreams and Futures Campaign to surpass its \$75 million goal by \$7 million.

The **University of Regina Cheerleading Team** placed first at the Canadian University National Cheerleading Championships held Nov. 28–30 in Brampton, Ont. The team had finished in third place in each of the last three years.

Mark Brigham, a biology professor whose work specializes in the ecology and behaviour of bats, was named the recipient of the 2008 Joseph Grinnell Award at the 88th American Society of Mammalogists annual general meeting in June. (See page 21).

Harley Weston, long-time professor in the Department of Mathematics and Statistics, has been named the recipient of the Canadian Mathematical Society's 2008 Adrien Pouliot Award for his contributions to



Far left: University president Vianne Timmons addresses an audience at one of the 21 events of the Greater Together with the Community series.



At left: The U of R's most recent Canada Research Chair, biologist Chris Somers.

mathematics education. Earlier this year, Weston was awarded the 2008 Pacific Institute for the Mathematical Sciences Education Prize.

Lori M. Walker BA'90 MA'96 received the 2008 Garth Ferguson Award for excellence in televised education in Saskatchewan. Walker began her sessional work in 1996 at Simon Fraser University where she taught an introductory criminology course. She has been a sessional lecturer at the University of Regina since fall 1997 where she teaches for the department of Sociology and Social Studies, Luther College and Department of Justice Studies.

The Campion College 2008 Alumni of Distinction Award goes to **Frank Flaman** and **Daniel Coleman BEd'86, MA'89**.

A quartet of alumnus from the Department of Media Production and Studies have picked up Gemini awards this year for excellence in Canadian English-language television. **Ian Toews BFA'99** received the Gemini for Best Performing Arts Program or Series/Arts Documentary Program or Series for his television series "Landscape as Muse." The award for Best Direction in a Children's or Youth Program or Series went to **Robert Pytlyk BFA'03** for the series "Drug Class." The Best Individual or Ensemble Performance in an Animated Program or Series went to the actors on the

series "Wapos Bay," which is written, directed and produced by alumnus **Dennis Jackson BFA'98**. **Ron Forsythe BFA'80** received the Gemini for Best Direction in a Live Sporting Event for his direction of the CBC's coverage of the 95th Grey Cup game.

Briefly

Celebrating the University's community connection was the theme during two weeks in mid-October in a series of events called Greater Together with the Community. Faculty, staff and students organized the events designed to engage the public, bring them to campus and, in many cases, bring University personnel out into the community.

On October 18, the University celebrated student achievement at the **2008 Fall Convocation**. Five hundred and forty-three graduates received their degrees, diplomas and certificates. **Jaime Lynn Williams BA(Hons)'01, MA'03, PhD'08** received the 2008 President's Distinguished Graduate Student Award as the student whose outstanding academic performance over the course of a graduate program included an exceptional thesis, exhibition or performance and corresponding defence.

Natalie Fuller BMus'08, a graduate of Luther College, received the President's Medal, the award presented at each

convocation to a student receiving a first degree with a minimum average of 80 per cent who has shown leadership and commitment to extracurricular activities. Fuller completed her four-year-degree program in only three years while maintaining a high academic standing and working actively as a music teacher and volunteer.

The ceremony also included the presentation of the University of Regina Board of Governors Distinguished Service Award to former University president **Jim Tomkins**. The award is reserved for individuals who have made outstanding and sustained contributions to the U of R. Tomkins has been associated with the University for some 40 years and served as the head of the Mathematics and Statistics Department, vice-president (administration) and most recently as president.

Christopher Somers, an assistant professor of biology in the Faculty of Science, has been named as the University's newest Canada Research Chair (CRC). Somers' research examines the nature and frequency of genetic mutations that can be passed on from one generation to the next in birds and other animals. Somers' work supports wildlife conservation and habitat protection while helping scientists better understand the risks of genetic mutation in humans. During the course of his research program, Somers

will use his funding to establish a state-of-the-art genetics laboratory at the University of Regina, and to conduct research on mutations and population genetic changes in animals affected by human activities.

Another donation by **Crown Investments Corporation of Saskatchewan (CIC)** is helping Aboriginal students at the University of Regina and the First Nations University of Canada. At an announcement in late September, 59 under graduate students received bursaries of \$2,500 each.

The students are the latest to receive the bursaries courtesy of a commitment CIC made in 2004 to fund \$2 million in bursaries over the next five years for Aboriginal students enrolled at the U of R and First Nations University of Canada. The bursaries are intended to create more opportunities for youth and Aboriginal participation in Saskatchewan's Crown corporations.

Climate change research at the University of Regina took an important step forward this fall with the signing of a memorandum of understanding (MOU) between the U of R and Innovation Norway, an Oslo-based organization whose mandate is to increase academic and commercial ties between Norway and Canada. The signing of this MOU is the most recent example of the U of R's continuing involvement

At right: Vianne Timmons offers her congratulations to Paul Hill on the occasion of the unveiling of the Paul and Carol Hill Family Commemorative Wall.

Centre: Fourth-year theatre student Kaitlyn Semple, recipient of a Hnatyshyn Foundation Developing Artist Grant.

Far right: Agnes Groome.



in Norwegian energy and environment initiatives. In March, HTC Purenergy, a Regina-based company commercializing carbon capture technology developed at the University of Regina, signed a contract to provide an engineering and design plan for a full-scale CO₂ capture project at a power plant in Kårstø, Norway. Also in March, HTC agreed to provide a design plan for a European CO₂ test centre at Mongstad, Norway.

The University of Regina's **Canadian Plains Research Center** (CPRC) has offered up a copy of its award-winning book *Building for the Future: A Photo Journal of Saskatchewan's Legislative Building* to each and every one of the province's 930 schools. The book was written by Gordon Barnhart, Saskatchewan's lieutenant governor. The CPRC is the oldest research institute at the University of Regina, with a broad mandate to improve understanding and appreciation of the Canadian Plains region, its people and its resources.

On September 2, the University unveiled the **Paul and Carol Hill Family Commemorative Wall** to honour Paul and Carol Hill. Paul Hill, president and CEO of the Hill Companies and Harvard Developments, gifted \$10 million last November to create the Paul J. Hill School of Business. The wall will serve as a permanent reminder of the Hill's generosity and the opportunities it will continue to

provide for U of R students. Part of the gift includes a new opportunity for U of R students to participate in an elite partnership program with one of Canada's leading business schools. Twelve students each received \$40,000 to study at Richard Ivey School of Business and graduate with an honours business administration (HBA) degree. The 2009 scholarship winners are **Amanda Baron, Kalen Emsley, Tina Paridaen, Kyle Scott** and **Minh Vuong**. The 2010 scholarship winners are **Derrick Emsley, Karlee Goby, Seth Hunt, Jeff Myers, Whitney Moeller, Jada Styre** and **Brandon Wolfram**. Each student will study at the U of R's Paul J. Hill School of Business for their first two years and spend their third and fourth years at the Richard Ivey School of Business at the University of Western Ontario. Over the next five years, the Hill-Ivey scholarships will result in 30 students receiving \$40,000 each to support their business education. In addition, \$200,000 will create awards to support doctoral candidates through the Ivey Business School. Funds will also support visiting professors at both the Ivey Business School and Hill School of Business, and the creation of new cases for use in business courses.

University of Regina students are doing their part to create a sustainable campus by reducing greenhouse gas emissions at the U of R. The **University of Regina Students'**

Union (URSU) has pledged \$250,000 to the upgrade of a central heating plant on campus, which will significantly reduce the U of R's carbon footprint. The upgrade will provide at least 20 years of efficient operation and a calculated reduction of 417 tonnes of CO₂ emissions annually, which is equivalent to the carbon emissions produced by almost 180,000 litres of gasoline or the carbon sequestered annually by 95 acres of pine forest.

Fourth-year University of Regina theatre student **Kaitlyn Semple** has received a Hnatyshyn Foundation Developing Artist Grant for English theatre acting. The 21-year-old acting major graduated from Campbell Collegiate in Regina and is the daughter of well-known Saskatchewan musician Jack Semple. Semple receives a \$10,000 grant to continue her studies.

We remember

A great friend of the University **Agnes Groome MA'67** passed away peacefully at St. Joseph's Hospital in Toronto on May 30, 2008. Dr. Reverend Agnes Groome was a woman of remarkable energy and organizational skills. An accomplished educator and minister, she was highly educated, earning seven degrees in seven decades (BA, BEd, BDiv, MA, MEd, PhD and MDiv). Involved in lifelong

learning, she took her last course at the University of Regina at the age of 88. As part of her dedication to education in Saskatchewan, Agnes established several scholarship funds at the University of Regina in the name of her husband Les Groome, her brother-in-law Paul Groome and her parents Sam and Isabelle, and made a generous donation to the University of Regina establishing the Groome Family Fellowship in Health Research.

Bill Howard passed away on October 21 in Victoria, B.C., following a brief battle with cancer. He graduated with a BA in English from the University of British Columbia in 1967, earned a master's degree in 1969 and went on to earn a PhD from the University of Leeds. Bill committed his professional life to the University of Regina as a teacher and administrator. He served as the assistant head of the Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research and was the department head of both the English and French departments. He served two terms as the University librarian and was the faculty representative on the Board of Governors. Howard was also a noted scholar in 19th-century British literature. In 2007 he was awarded the Distinguished Service Award by the University for his lifetime of service.

2008

Alumni Crowning Achievement Awards

Photos by University of Regina Photography Department unless otherwise noted.

LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD DR. NORMAN AMUNDSON BA(HONS)'69, MA'71

Norman Amundson received his bachelor of arts (honours) in psychology in 1969, then went on to earn a master's degree in the discipline in 1971. He received his doctorate in counselling psychology from the University of Alberta in 1975.

Over the course of his stellar academic career at the University of British Columbia, Amundson has distinguished himself as an expert in career counselling and has literally shaped the field nationally and internationally—his influence in the area reaches far and wide.

His research and writing has attracted international interest and recognition and he has been invited to work around the world.

He is the National Career Development Association's outgoing chair of the International Committee. He served as editor of the National Employment Counseling Association's *Journal of Employment Counseling*. He is also a governor of the Canadian Career Development Foundation.

His work is not just of a scholarly or academic nature. His work in career counselling, for example, developed from his concern for professionals who had experienced traumatic unemployment during periods of economic recession. His creative *The Physics of Living* is a book that uses metaphor and the fundamental concepts of physics to help guide and inspire people through their life.

Among the honours Amundson has received is an honorary lifetime Board membership with Education and Networking for Rehabilitation and Career Development Practitioners. At the international level, he received an honorary doctorate from the University of Umea in Sweden,

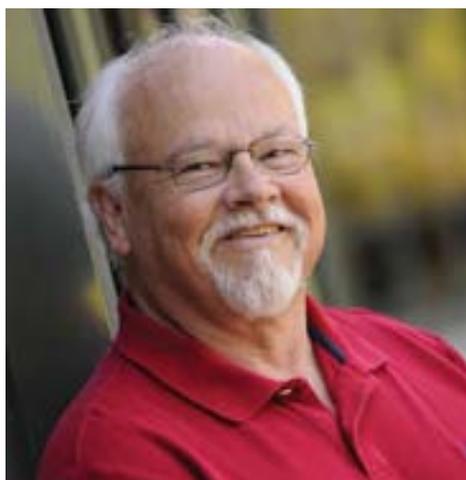


Photo by Martin Dee.

and is an honorary lifetime member of the Swedish Career Development Association.

“I received some excellent instruction in the psychology and the social science programs. The instruction in qualitative research methodology and philosophy of science was particularly helpful. I feel very fortunate to have had this early training in qualitative research methodology. This training gave me perspective at a time when almost all North American research was being done with standard quantitative methods. The research program that I have built at UBC was firmly grounded in the learning that I had received from the U of R.”

Norman Amundson

The **Alumni Crowning Achievement Awards** were established in 2005 to celebrate University of Regina alumni who have realized extraordinary achievements and **made remarkable contributions** to the U of R and their community. The fourth annual Alumni Crowning Achievement Awards gala was held on Thursday, November 13. For more information, visit the Alumni Crowning Achievement Awards website at www.uregina.ca/alumni/aa-aca.htm.

DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI AWARD FOR PROFESSIONAL ACHIEVEMENT NORM BOLEN BA'69

From his beginnings as the editor of U of R student newspaper *The Carillon*, Norm Bolen has risen to the top of the Canadian broadcasting industry.

Hired by CBC in 1976, Bolen worked his way up from a reporter and editor to become head of the network's documentary department and weekly current affairs series.

In 1997 he moved to the private sector with Alliance Atlantis Communications as vice-president of programming for History Television. In short order, Bolen helped make History TV a great success. He was later named head of Showcase and appointed executive vice-president of Alliance Atlantis.

He played a leading role in the Canadian television industry during a period of phenomenal growth and left his mark on specialty channels such as HGTV, Food Network Canada, Slice and Showcase and on classic shows such as the Gemini Award winning "Trailer Park Boys," "Holmes on Homes" and "Turning Points of History."

Bolen has always found time to serve on the boards of industry-related organizations such as the Canadian Television Fund and the National Screen Institute. He has chaired and moderated festivals in Canada and around the world and also mentored upcoming journalists.

For his creative leadership, mentorship and many contributions to Canadian broadcasting, Bolen was honoured with the Crystal Award of Mentorship from Toronto Women in Film and Television and the Canadian Association of Broadcasters, 25-Year Service Award. Bolen serves as chair of the Banff World Television Festival and co-chair of the Hot Docs International Television Festival.

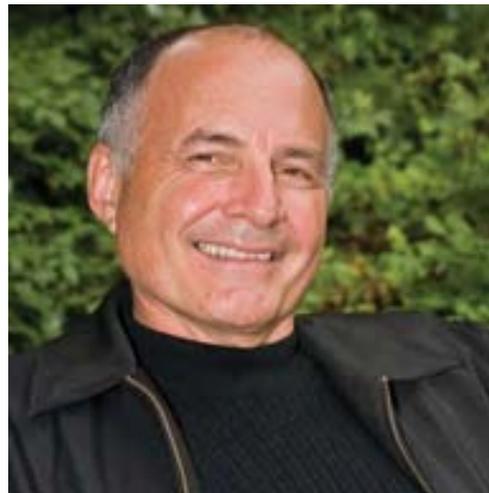


Photo by Christopher Dew.

He is currently a media consultant and a director of mDialog, a web-based high-resolution video distribution platform optimized for the iPhone.

"My time at the University of Regina was very exciting. I recall tremendous exhilaration with the freedom, intensity and academics I encountered there. I was exposed to a tremendous range of interesting professors who introduced me to new ideas and ways of thinking. It was an explosively energizing experience."

Norm Bolen

OUTSTANDING YOUNG ALUMNI AWARD DR. DWIGHT NEWMAN BA'96 (LUTHER COLLEGE)

Dwight Newman, one of Canada's brightest academic stars, earned his bachelor of arts at the U of R in economics and philosophy in 1996. While earning his degree, he was the recipient of a number of prestigious academic awards including a President's Medal.

He went on to complete four more degrees. The first, a law degree at the University of Saskatchewan, he earned while accumulating the highest academic average of any graduate in the 60-odd year history of the U of S College of Law. Later he attended Oxford University on a Rhodes Scholarship and earned another law degree and his master's and doctoral degrees in legal philosophy.

While at Oxford, Newman was the recipient of numerous academic awards and in 2002 received the Herbert Hart Prize as the top student in Oxford's graduate jurisprudence course. He also taught in the undergraduate jurisprudence and public international law courses and co-convened the Oxford Jurisprudence Discussion Group from 2003 to 2005.

In 2005, he was hired by the College of Law at the University of Saskatchewan, then, only a year later, was appointed an associate dean of the College—an unheard of feat at an academic institution.

His meteoric rise was complemented by an astonishing record of publication. At the same time, he has proven himself to be a gifted teacher as his 2006 nomination for a teaching award bears out.

Newman has an unwavering commitment to the humanitarian side of the law. His scholarship and pedagogy focus on the protection of the rights of society's most vulnerable citizens, especially Indigenous Canadians. His time spent in South Africa as a human rights intern endowed him with a special understanding of the inequities still plaguing that nation post-apartheid. For him, the law is an instrument for ensuring that social justice prevails both in Canada and around the world.

As one of the letters of support puts it, "Dwight is well on his way to becoming a national treasure."



Photo by Liam Richards.

“The liberal arts education I gained at the University of Regina is a foundation for everything I have gone on to since. It has given me an appreciation for the many complex sides to different problems that one faces in contexts within the law and within my work in the law. The educational experience in which I had the chance for close interaction with professors gave me a real chance to test ideas and to build confidence in what I could do, and I carry this confidence with me today.”

Dwight Newman

DR. ROBERT AND NORMA FERGUSON AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING SERVICE GREG SWANSON BADMIN'76

For many years now, Greg Swanson has demonstrated exceptional volunteer leadership and service to the University of Regina and the University of Regina Alumni Association (URAA).

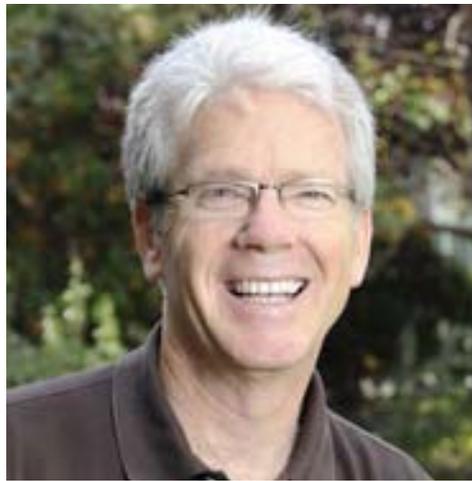
Swanson was a volunteer member of the URAA Board between 1996 and 2007 and was president of the URAA in 2001–02. After his six-year term with the URAA Board ended, Swanson continued as the Association's Senate representative through 2007. On July 1 of that year, he was elected as the Senate representative on the U of R Board of Governors.

Swanson brings a well-respected opinion to the Board with a loyalty and dedication to the University that has always served the institution well. His governance expertise has often been called on and he played a significant role in helping the URAA Board become more strategic with a policy making focus. He also played a crucial part in the development of branch alumni activities across Canada. From 1998 through 1999, he chaired the Harvest Moon Beer Festivals, a significant fundraising effort that supported scholarships at the U of R.

Swanson has many other volunteer interests away from the university. He is past president of the Great Plains Trans Canada Trail Association, Saskatchewan Trails Association, Regina Branch of the Victorian Order of Nurses and Oliver Knowles District of Scouts Canada. He is also past council member of Christ Lutheran Church in Regina, and served as vice-president of the Regina Ballroom Dancing Club.

In recognition of his contribution to the community, Swanson received the Canada 125 medal in 1992 and in 1999 was honoured with the Saskatchewan Legal Education Society Inc.'s Outstanding Volunteer Award for southern Saskatchewan. Most recently, he received a BV peer review rating from Martindale-Hubbell. This review-based rating recognizes Swanson's above average ability and unquestionable ethics as a lawyer.

Swanson is well deserving of this award as demonstrated by his long-term loyalty and dedication to the University of Regina and the University of Regina Alumni Association. Swanson's volunteer leadership and service shows that he clearly takes to heart the University's motto "As One Who Serves."



Swanson is a partner in the firm McKercher LLP and is one of the firm's tax law specialists.

“Alumni of the U of R are its ambassadors. After graduation, the actions of alumni directly reflect upon the U of R and the quality of education that it provides. These ambassadors have an indirect effect upon an employer deciding whether to hire a co-op student or a graduate of the U of R, or a high school student deciding what university to attend. I am honoured to receive this award. It is a bit surprising though that for having fun and being involved with a very exciting and vibrant institution, one receives an award. The opportunity to be involved with the Alumni Association and the University has been my award.”

Greg Swanson



AWARD FOR DISTINGUISHED HUMANITARIAN AND COMMUNITY SERVICE “WE SEE YOU TEAM” DR. PAMMLA PETRUCKA BSC’85 (CAMPION COLLEGE), KEVAN MCBETH CA’99, SHEENAH KO BBA’06

Over the past seven years, a group of dedicated volunteers have come together to add new meaning to the three R’s. Under the leadership of Pammla Petrucka, the We See You team has set out to recycle and reuse Saskatchewan medical equipment and educational supplies in response to the needs of developing countries in Africa and the Caribbean.

The team, which also includes alumni Kevan McBeth and Sheenah Ko of SaskTel’s YOUTHnetwork, has devoted countless volunteer hours to co-ordinating, collecting and sorting medical and educational items that find their way into cargo containers destined for some of the world’s most needy countries.

To date, 56 of the 12-metre containers have been sent under the We See You banner to 14 countries. Each container is stocked according to the needs of the recipient communities—even ambulances have made the trip overseas on more than one occasion.

By involving high school and university students in their projects, the We See You team is helping to further Saskatchewan youth’s understanding of the importance of global citizenship.

Saskatchewan health regions and schools have become the key sources for providing the desperately needed items that are sent to countries like Kenya, Mozambique and Dominica.

In a container destined for Kenya, for example, the team focussed on addressing the needs of orphans, the victims of the country’s HIV/AIDS crisis. Also involved in the effort were youth in Regina and Saskatoon who created handmade teddy bears to bring comfort and warmth to the Kenyan children.

The team’s vision, enthusiasm and commitment to the We See You project is empowering the people of these developing countries, helping them revitalize their communities and giving them hope for the future.

“This award has special meaning as it is a team award. It recognizes that as a group of U of R alumni from three very distinct “eras,” we have come together to represent our alma mater in a unique and global manner. It is so much more important than individual accolades or recognition, and recognizes how our team has become “As One Who Serves.”

Pammla Petrucka

“I think that alumni have the obligation to continually contribute to their alma mater and the community as a whole. I don’t necessarily mean contribute in the sense of strictly financial support, but to be a resource for the next generation of students, the next generation of citizens.”

Kevan McBeth

“I feel extremely flattered to be receiving this award. This acknowledgement motivates me to continue to work hard in trying to make a positive difference, and to provide opportunities and assistance to youth and community members who would like to make a difference in the global community, as well as in our province.”

Sheenah Ko

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OUR MISSING MOTHERS, SISTERS AND DAUGHTERS

Gwenda Yuzicappi outside her home on the Standing Buffalo First Nation near Fort Qu'Appelle, Saskatchewan.

Each year, scores of women, many Aboriginal or otherwise marginalized, are murdered or go missing in Canada. Compelled by events both close to home and afar, U of R faculty and students have come together with members of the community to try to put some understanding to an issue that is incomprehensible.



By Marie Powell Mendenhall BFA'80, BAJC'88, MA'01

Photos by University of Regina Photography Department.



The missing women's conference in Regina brought together people from across North America to discuss the issues around missing and murdered women especially in Canada and Mexico. Here marchers trek from the Conexus Arts Centre to the University campus in a show of solidarity shouting "Ni una mas" (not one more).

The numbers are staggering: there are more than 500 murdered and missing Aboriginal women in Canada, according to Amnesty International's 2004 report *Stolen Sisters: Discrimination and violence against Indigenous women in Canada*.

Women like Amber Tara-Lynn Redman, who disappeared on July 15, 2005, from the Trapper's Bar in Fort Qu'Appelle, Sask., at the age of 19. Her remains were found May 5, 2008, on the Little Black Bear First Nation.

"I always had the strong hope that she would one day come home," says her mother Gwenda Yuzicappi. "But I'm very fortunate on the other hand that my daughter's remains were located, and I was able to bring her home, and for her to start her journey."

"[Amber] was radiant," Yuzicappi remembers. "She was inspired by her culture." Amber participated as a junior princess when she was 12 years old as well as a girl's fancy dancer. "She took that honour as a priority," says Yuzicappi.

Earlier in her life, Amber had been asked to re-enact the traditional Lakota legend of the White Buffalo Calf Woman. Then, after her daughter's remains were found, two of the buffalo living nearby came right up behind her house. "They just looked at us," Yuzicappi says. She believes it was a sign, "that they were coming to give me strength."

The family visited the area where Amber's remains were found. "We needed that as a family." While there, family members remember hearing unexplained movement in the bushes. "We believe the relatives were coming and letting us know that they were there with her. I believe that Amber was not alone that night. Physically she was, but spiritually she had relatives that were with her. For me as her mother, that gave me so much comfort, in knowing that she was not alone."

"It was the Stolen Sisters report that really blew the lid off of the issue of missing women and brought it out into the public," says Brenda Anderson, a religious studies instructor at Luther College at the University of Regina. But it was Amber Redman, she admits, who really drew her into the issue.

"The real heart of it for me was when we were out camping in Fort Qu'Appelle two and a half years ago and I saw the poster for Amber Redman on a drugstore window. And the thought that just went through my head was, not another one. Not another one. How can this be happening? And there was just the point of ultimate failure that society had let down all these women. That it wasn't safe for them to be on the street because they had brown skin."

Anderson's response was to develop a class in feminist theory, followed by a 300-level course on missing and Indigenous women from a global perspective. That class has been cross-listed with women's studies, police studies and human justice, and has attracted students from political science, international studies and journalism as well.

This past spring, students in an eight-day class travelled to Mexico City. Developed by Anderson and Carla Blakley, Bread of Life Lutheran pastor, the class included visits to Lutheran and Catholic centres to meet with family members and grass roots organizations involved in the human rights struggle for Indigenous women.

"These students picked up the challenge and said, 'What are we going to do about it?'" Anderson says. "It was an important goal for us to partner with the community, in this case the churches, in order to show the broad responsibility our whole society shows for this issue."

Anderson, Blakely and the students also worked together on the international conference Missing Women: Decolonization, Third Wave Feminisms and Indigenous

“It was the *Stolen Sisters* report that really blew the lid off of the issue of missing women and brought it out into the public,” says *Brenda Anderson*, a religious studies instructor at Luther College at the University of Regina. But it was *Amber Redman*, she admits, who really drew her into the issue.

U of R psychology student Alexis Johnson ties a pink ribbon on one of the trees between the Conexus Arts Centre and the First Nations University as a way to remember women who have gone missing. In Mexico when a woman goes missing people paint a street pole pink and mark it with a black cross. The art project coincided with the conference *Missing Women: Decolonization, Third Wave Feminisms and Indigenous People of Canada and Mexico*.





Luther College faculty member Brenda Anderson (left) and First Nations University of Canada Academics vice-president Shauneen Pete pose beside *Bison Sentinel*, a memorial to missing and murdered women commissioned by Casino Regina. The creator of the legacy sculpture, artist Adrian Stimson, describes it as a living memorial because of the tree that will grow up through it. The memorial sits in the Healing Gardens near the First Nations University of Canada.

People of Canada and Mexico held in August. The conference goals included raising awareness of violence against Indigenous women, especially in Canada and Mexico.

“The students have been involved right from the start on the core group and on the volunteer positions,” Anderson says.

The conference brought people together from a broad spectrum to discuss the issues, including family members, students, academics, activists, government workers and members of faith communities, law enforcement and the media. Special guests and speakers at the conference included activist Marta Perez of San Salvadore, filmmaker Lourdes Portillo and journalist Isabel Arvides of Mexico. “Having family members speak definitely put a face on it,” says Kim Karpa, fourth year women’s studies student at the U of R. Karpa took the winter and spring classes and helped organize the conference. She says the conference helped open up her awareness.

“Before that I didn’t know about this issue. How many other people are really aware of it?”

Now she’s writing an honours thesis on the subject. “I definitely feel powerless. That’s why I write about it. With numbers comes voice, and hopefully something will be done about it.”

The conference forged links between several organizations. A special room was set aside for family members to use, and elders were available to speak with people if they wished. The national Status of Women has asked to see student papers with useful critiques and solutions, and several participants also took part in the Walk for Justice that moved across Canada to Ottawa.

“That’s a very grassroots kind of work but I don’t want to separate the theoretical [study] from that kind of work,” says Anderson. “I think those two things should be in tandem.”

Myrna LaPlante was also a conference organizer. LaPlante is a member of *Iskwewuk E-wichiwitochik* (Women Walking Together) in Saskatoon, and took part in the Walk for Justice.

LaPlante’s aunt Emily Osmond (LaPlante), 78, disappeared from her acreage north of the Kawacatoose First Nations in the Raymore/Wynyard area. She was last seen on Sept. 9, 2007. Extensive searches of the area and RCMP investigations have not located her.

“Always we have these highs and these lows,” says LaPlante. “We think, today is the day they make a break in the case. We hang onto every hope. Whatever form that she comes home in, the main thing is to bring her home. We never waver on that. We pray every day that she will be found.”

While her family has had co-operation from media and law enforcement, LaPlante says, that hasn’t been the case for some families. “There’s a huge impact,” she says. Family members may have to take time off work and travel for searches, incurring financial costs, as well as emotional and health issues. She estimates it has cost her family \$30–40,000. In the past, with fewer public memorials and almost no media coverage, families and communities were more isolated in dealing with such a tragedy.

A march at the Regina conference began quietly, she adds, but as they went along the chanting got louder and louder: “Not one more.” Recent media coverage has improved for the issue overall, LaPlante says, and especially for Iskwewuk events this fall. “I think the media is listening. People are listening; people are hearing.”

Iskwewuk e-wichiwitochik is a Saskatoon-based support group for families of missing Aboriginal women. The group has adopted the symbol of a pink banner with a black cross, “as a symbol of our commitment to raising the awareness and supporting the families.” LaPlante says the symbol has been used in Regina and Saskatoon and will hopefully become a national or even international symbol to keep the issue in front of the public.

Paula Flores, a conference “guest mom,” had created the symbol when her daughter went missing. Telephone poles in Juarez and Mexico are painted with the symbol every time a woman goes missing. Flores saw the same symbols on trees in Regina during the conference. “She was profoundly moved to



Far left: Gwenda Yuzicappi enjoys a laugh with her sister Erna Whitehead (centre) and niece Maureen Bear, at the Yuzicappi house on Standing Buffalo First Nation.

At left: Marta Pérez, a Zapatista activist speaks at the conference *Missing Women: Decolonization, Third Wave Feminisms and Indigenous People of Canada and Mexico*. Pérez holds a machete, the symbol of the Zapatista's agrarian traditions and way of life.

tears to see people here knowing and caring about the conditions of her country," Anderson says. A call from the conference floor asked for these banners to be used across North America until people pay attention.

LaPlante also spoke during the conference session for families, and she calls it the most emotional of all the presentations and talks about her aunt. She appreciated having a room allocated to allow people to sit and be quiet, and elders available to counsel people. The conference would be a good model for a future conference addressing issues specific to local Aboriginal families, to help them find funding and deal with the impacts.

Yuzicappi was scheduled to speak at the conference as well, but she became ill and was unable to attend. She will be writing her memories of her daughter Amber Redman for *Sisters in Spirit*. "I continue to talk about Amber every day. It gives me so much strength."

"There's a lot of families that I still pray for, and will continue to pray for, that don't know where their loved ones are," Yuzicappi says. "They're still feeling that emptiness. They're still feeling that loss of those loved ones. I continue to pray for them, and for justice.

"I know as a nation that we need to come together to ensure that justice is served for our loved ones."

The session in which families spoke out about their loved ones affected many people at the conference.

"I heard the pain and the anguish and the anger in their voices," says Shauneen Pete, Academics vice-president of the co-sponsoring First Nations University of Canada. "The voices followed me."

"These stories are more than just stories. They're our sisters, they're our relatives, they're our friends, they're potentially any woman."

"I don't know any First Nations women who haven't experienced childhood sexual abuse or family violence, and violence directed towards them because of their gender," says Pete. "The fact that I'm 43 this year in some ways is almost

miraculous, because of the wide range of forms of oppression that exist."

Pete went to school with the parents of Daleen Bosse Muskego, 27, who went missing from the Onion Lake First Nation in May 2004. Family members were scheduled to speak, but on August 8 Daleen's remains were found outside Saskatoon. (Charges have been laid in her case, and in the case of Amber Redman.)

Results from the conference have included increased networking among activist groups, especially through facilitated affinity groups that met on the final day of the conference to brainstorm solutions and calls for action across all of the areas touched on during proceedings.

"We didn't initiate it, we continued from what had already been in place, and I think we've strengthened that a lot," Anderson says. As well, a documentary DVD, website and print publication of the proceedings will help keep up the momentum generated at the conference.

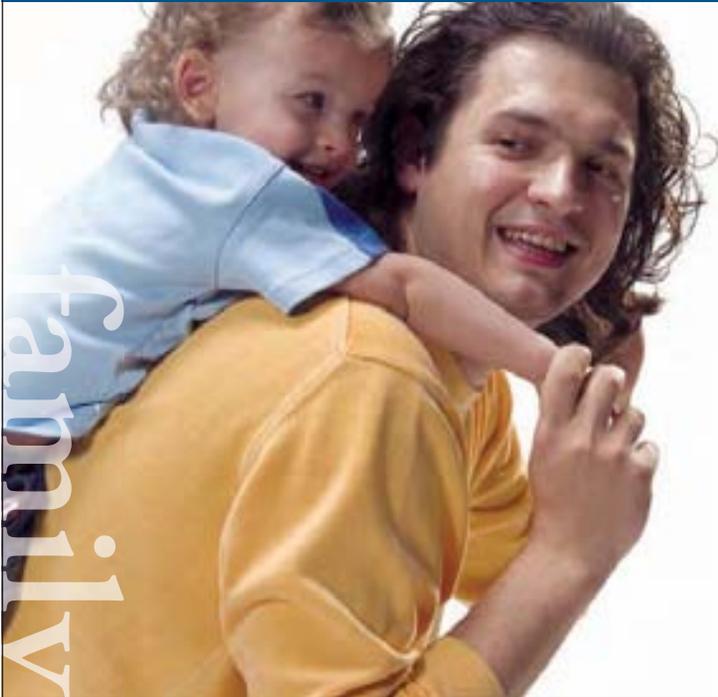
The conference was a chance to build relationships, says Yuzicappi, who had met some of the women and their translators at another conference in 2007.

As well, Pete says, the broad range of topics presented at the conference helped contextualize women's oppression to help prevent sensationalizing the issue.

"Bringing those messages to the public maybe more helpful, I think, than just looking specifically at the loss of [an individual] woman," adds Pete. "Because really, in a country where brown women are so much the target of violence, is any woman safe?" **D**

Marie Powell Mendenhall is the Regina-based author of Dragonflies are Amazing! (Scholastic, 2007), as well as other published articles, poems, and short stories. She is currently enrolled in the University of British Columbia's Creative Writing MFA program.

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We recently got together with **Mark Brigham**, the head of the biology department, a respected bat researcher and a popular faculty member. In June, he was named the recipient of the 2008 Joseph Grinnell Award at the 88th American Society of Mammalogists annual general meeting. The prestigious international award is presented each year to an individual who has made outstanding and sustained contributions to mammalogical education. **Brigham is the first Canadian to receive the award.**

D What about bats would most people be surprised to discover?

Many people are especially scared of bats in our part of the world due to the perceived risk of contracting rabies from them. In Canada, more people have been crushed to death by vending machines than have died due to rabies from bats.

D What is it about being in a classroom and interacting with students that is so satisfying?

For me it is simply that each situation is different so it never gets dull. The thing that stays the same is when you can actively see the light go on in the eyes of a student and you can tell without a doubt that they get it and they think it's really cool!

D When you're not observing bats, what do you like to do for fun?

I play badminton most days with a wonderful bunch of colleagues on campus and I play hockey and curl once a week in the winter. In the summer I am absolutely addicted to golf—it's a great way to see some wonderful wildlife as well. I also get exercise by riding my bike to work and walking the dog for 30 minutes every morning. I like watching hockey (Lord help me, I am a Leafs fan), football, golf, cricket, rugby and Aussie rules football.

D What is one common characteristic that you see in good scientists and good science students?

I think it would have to be tenaciousness. Different from the perception of most people, the vast majority of scientists are not "brilliant" geeks. They ARE talented and bright people to be sure, but I think that the best ones succeed because they are stubborn enough that they will stick with it, until they solve the problem.

D You spend a lot of time in the field conducting research. Can you recount a moment you experienced that best illustrates the magic and beauty of the natural world?

I am so fortunate to have had so many experiences like that; however, to pick just one, I'd relate details about a trip to South Africa in the summer of 2006. I was at a small nature reserve called Kgaswane. The north side of the reserve follows a line of small mountains and we spent many nights tracking birds from the top of the mountains. The view south into the reserve was as magnificent. As the sun set one could see numerous herds of impala, zebra, hartebeest, etc. grazing in a scene that looked for all the world like a clip from Out of Africa. However if one turned around and looked north, you could see the sprawling city of Rustenburg. It sits on one of the most heavily mined areas in the entire world. Sunrises were gorgeous because the sun shone through the dense clouds of emissions from the mines. As the sun rose, you could also make out the huge "townships" outside the city that were home to the thousands of Black workers and their families that make the mines run. I suspect that few of them had ever had the chance to see what lay on the south side of the mountains—barely 10 kilometres from where they lived. I had come 10,000 kilometres and got to see both sides. It made the magic of the south side all that more special.

D What do you like to do to relax?

I love to relax over food and drink while enjoying stimulating conversation with people who have strong opinions that they can back up logically. Okay, that sounds way too ostentatious; I love to eat, drink good red wine and argue!





Top row (left): Rocky Boorman works on his truck. **(right)** The annual inter-agency chili cook-off at the Indian Metis Christian Fellowship Centre. **Far right, top to bottom:** Children watch from the front door of an inner city home as a neighbour across the street is hauled away by the police. **(centre)** Participants from a North Central youth employment program are put through a rigorous workout during a visit to the Regina Boxing Club. **(bottom):** A participant in the North Central Community Association's Youth Employment Program works out at the Regina Boxing Club after a pep talk from Regina mayor and former boxer Pat Fiacco. **Below:** Regina City Police officer Curtis Kemp gets in on a shinny game outside Scott Collegiate during the North Central Community Association's 2007 Fall Fest celebration.



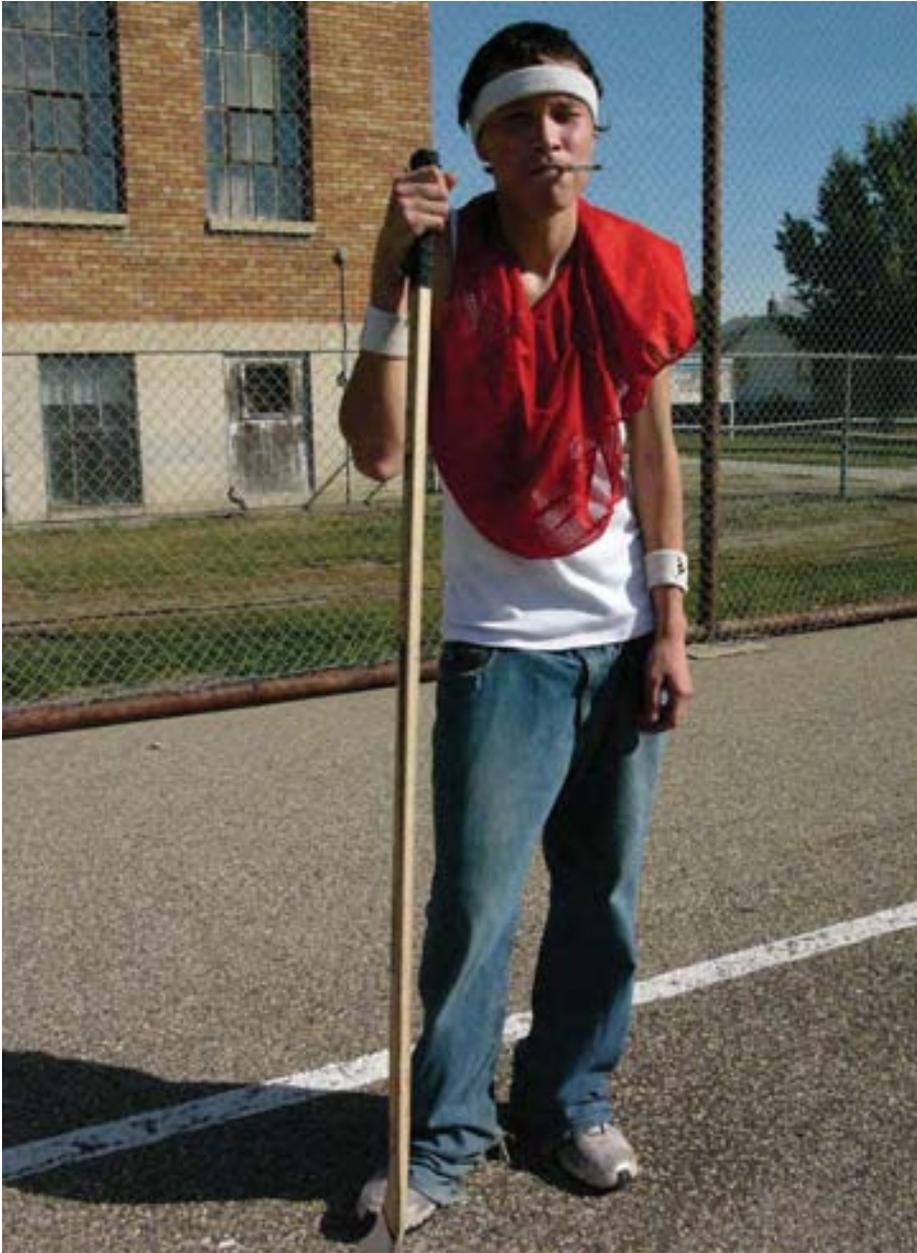
Mark Taylor BFA'00, BJ'04 was born and raised in Regina. After studying art for two years at the University of Lethbridge—where he also played college baseball with the Prairie Baseball Academy—Taylor returned home and earned degrees in film studies and journalism. In 2004, Taylor began his career as a photographer and journalist at the *Times-Herald*, a daily newspaper in Moose Jaw, Sask.

In 2007, Taylor set out on his own to pursue a career as a freelance photographer and journalist. Since then, Taylor has worked for clients such as *The Globe and Mail*, CBC, Canadian Press, *Flavours* magazine, *Harrowsmith* magazine, *Western Living* magazine, *Briarpatch* magazine, the hit television series "Corner Gas" and the *Leader-Post*, where he currently works part-time as a photographer.

Following the 2007 *Maclean's* story that dubbed North Central Regina as "Canada's worst neighbourhood," Taylor was hired by the North Central Community Association (NCCA) to serve as a community liaison and editor of the NCCA's newsletter. This opportunity allowed Taylor to spend close to a year photographing and getting to know the people, places and issues of North Central. While working with the NCCA, Taylor also applied for and received an ArtsSmarts grant from the Saskatchewan Arts Board to teach a photojournalism class to Scott Collegiate art students. Currently, the Organization of Saskatchewan Arts Councils is planning to tour these students' photos of North Central, as well as a number of Taylor's, in up to 24 art galleries throughout Saskatchewan.

"Working in North Central has been an incredible learning experience," Taylor says. "Having lived in Regina almost all my life, I was shocked and ashamed by some of the things I witnessed mere blocks from my own backyard. More often than not, however, I was profoundly touched by the kindness and trust of the people I photographed as well as all the good work being done to make North Central a better place. I hope these photos, as well as those taken by the photojournalism students at Scott Collegiate, might effect some social change."





Above: Nathan Still takes a breather during a break in a shinny game outside Scott Collegiate. **Top right:** Students from Herchmer School rush to the edge of their playground to meet Santa and get a glimpse of a passing parade marking National Children's Day. **Bottom right:** Albert Carpenter walks past a burnt and boarded up home on his street. In June of 2007 one 15-year-old and two 18-year-old boys were stabbed here, one fatally. A month later, a 14-year-old girl was charged with arson after fire destroyed the home. **At left:** A boy races a horse and sleigh team during a community Christmas celebration in North Central.

Homecoming

Serving Senate Brings Alumni Full Circle



It's University Secretary Annette Revet and her office that supports the Senate.

There are 95 members of Senate—the body that oversees academic decision-making at the University of Regina. Many members find their way to the Senate table by **virtue of the positions they hold within the University**. Others are student representatives who are elected, and there is representation from a wide variety of professional societies and organizations. **Fourteen Senate positions** are earmarked for graduates who vie for seats in an annual election. This is a story of **three of those grads**. Although they come from different walks of life, they share a passion for post-secondary education and are living up to the University’s motto **“As One Who Serves.”**

By Bill Armstrong

Photos by Don Hall, University of Regina Photography Department.

To describe taking a seat at the U of R Senate table as a homecoming might not seem like a big deal, but for the people who let their names stand for the job, serving on the Senate is very much a homecoming.

Elaine Bourassa, Patrick Maze and Joseph-Michel Fortier are all elected members of the U of R Senate at very different stages of service. Bourassa attended her first meeting in October. Maze is into his second year of service and Fortier is completing his second three-year term, which follows an earlier stint of six years.

What they share is a passion to serve and a commitment to the job. All three agree—being connected to the U of R through the Senate enriches them, and gives them great satisfaction. It reconnects them to their student days, or completes the circle of their academic career.

“It’s very rewarding to contribute to the decision-making process,” says Maze, who teaches science and psychology at Regina’s Cochrane High School, and represents District 2 on the Senate. “I find the two positions, being a teacher and on the Senate, tend to parallel one another. The issues are often similar.”

What is it that members of the Senate are asked to do? Primarily the U of R Senate makes decisions about academic matters at the University.

“The Senate is the senior academic decision-making body,” University secretary Annette Revet explains. The portfolio includes decisions related to admission requirements; academic standards for students; granting certificates, diplomas and degrees (including selecting honorary degree recipients); establishing or making changes to the University’s academic organization and courses of instruction; and filing applications for affiliation or federation. Generally speaking,

the Senate handles issues sent to it by the Executive of Council. Major decisions made by the Senate go to the Board of Governors, which has final responsibility for the operation of the University. “The creation of the Kenneth Levene Graduate School of Business and the Johnson-Shoyama Graduate School of Public Policy are recent examples of significant decisions that passed through the Senate,” Revet says.

Joseph-Michel Fortier is a seasoned veteran on the Senate whose connection to the University goes back to the mid-1950s, when he took art classes from Ken Lochhead and Art McKay, two members of the famed Regina Five group of artists.

“I attended Saskatoon Teacher’s College in 1956–57 and received a bursary to attend the Murray Point Art School at Emma Lake,” Fortier says. “This was my first experience with the Regina Campus (of the University of Saskatchewan, as it was then). Lochhead and McKay left me with a real affection for Regina post-secondary education.”

Fortier is a retired teacher now living in Saskatoon. He taught everything from kindergarten to Grade 13, and while he taught all subjects at one time or another in his 32-year career, art, English and religious studies were his favourite areas.

While he was teaching, Fortier studied evenings and weekends, earning a bachelor’s in education in 1963, followed by a bachelor’s in history, an advanced certificate, a bachelor’s in religious studies, a certificate high honours in art history, a bachelor’s of fine arts and finally a master’s in theological studies in 1996.

“I obviously believe in higher education, having accumulated 14 years of it,” Fortier says. “I owe Regina for part of my education and my love of learning. I was happy to be asked to let my name stand for election.”



Being prepared to serve is a common theme among Fortier, Maze and Bourassa. Maze read an article in *The Third Degree* calling for nominations for his district, and decided to apply. Bourassa readily agreed when she was approached to let her name stand. Like Fortier, her roots go back to the days when the Regina Campus was affiliated with the University of Saskatchewan. Bourassa is currently chief operating officer of Greystone Managed Investments, but in the early 1970s she was employed on the support staff of Regina Campus. She eventually became secretary to the dean of education before leaving her position to become a student.

Bourassa received her bachelor of administration degree in 1984, graduating as the most distinguished student in that faculty. After working as a consultant for a few years, she returned to the U of R to earn her chartered accountant designation. "So, you see, returning to campus as a member of Senate is like coming home," she states. "I'm honoured to

play a small part in continuing to build this respected institution."

It's only natural that Maze would find his way back to the campus. After all, he earned his BA, BEd and MEd (Admin) degrees at the U of R. His education, he notes, has allowed him to obtain his teaching certificate and progress into administration as a core leader at Cochrane High School.

"As a high school teacher I am naturally interested in trends in academics," says Maze, "and I see my main duty on the Senate as bringing my perspective and thoughts to those questions, such as declining enrolments, which is happening at the secondary and post-secondary levels. There are likely several causes for this and different possible responses, but the question for the Senate becomes, 'How can we be flexible with academic programs while still offering a quality education?'"

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Opposite page (left to right):
Senate members Patrick Maze and
Elaine Bourassa.

At left: Joseph-Michel Fortier.

“The Senate doesn’t have all the answers to the challenges facing the university,” Maze continues, “but it is a diverse group of people who place the university’s best interests at the forefront of the decisions they arrive at. I enjoy listening to others’ perspectives and I feel good about giving back to the university by serving on the Senate.”

For his part, Fortier is proud to bring a perspective to the table that is particularly sensitive to French and First Nations concerns. “I was born of French Canadian parents of Norman ancestry whose ancestors arrived in Quebec City in 1642,” Fortier states, “and I have nephews who are Cree and cousins who are both Dene and Inuit. The University of Regina does outstanding work in regard to these ethnic communities.”

Because the Senate represents alumni from the entire province, Fortier calls it a model of grassroots democracy. He encourages anyone seeking a solid academic grounding and

knowledge to attend the University of Regina, and for him, it’s personal.

“I believe my eldest daughter is a successful teacher and grad student because of the solid grounding she received at the U of R, a smaller university where she wasn’t just a number. The reward for serving on the Senate is the knowledge that many students will benefit from this kind of positive academic experience,” Fortier states. **D**

Calling all graduates! Help shape the future of the University of Regina. Give back to your University as a member of Senate. Consider letting your name stand for the 2009 Senate election. For more information, visit <http://www.uregina.ca/presoff/senate/elections.htm>.

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Senate is a window on the University

Senates are a rarity at Canadian universities. Most universities employ a faculty council and a board of governors for their governance, but University Secretary Annette Revet says it's important for the U of R to have representatives from communities around Saskatchewan. The Senate serves as the University's window on the world, and also as the world's window on the University.

"We have the people around the table who have different expertise, and a whole range of perspectives from their communities and experiences," Revet says. You must be a graduate of the U of R to be elected to the Senate. The Senate includes 14 representatives from 12 electoral districts (with Saskatoon and Regina having two each) covering the province, plus other appointed members representing about 40 professional or occupational organizations in the province. Both elected and appointed Senate members can serve two consecutive three-year terms. They must sit out at least a year before serving again.

The other members making up the Senate include the past and present chancellors of the University, the president and vice-presidents, other academic representatives, the heads of affiliated or federated colleges, six student representatives, and the minister and deputy minister of the provincial government department responsible for post-secondary education. The chancellor serves as chair of the Senate.

The Senate usually meets three times a year; immediately before the fall and spring convocations, and in February. Revet notes that many Senate members stay to watch the convocation ceremonies. One of the perks of being on the Senate, she adds, is that you can place the academic hood on your own child, spouse or other family member when they graduate from the U of R.

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WestCoastgurl said...

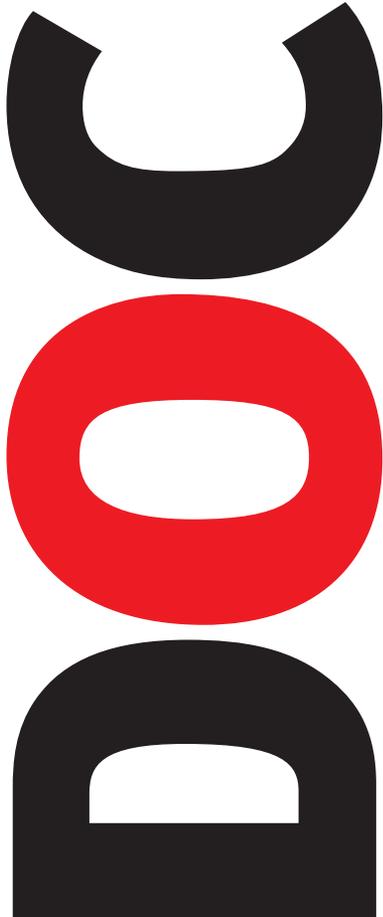
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Posted 11:28 AM



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A man who inspires by example



By David Sealy

Photos by Don Hall, University of Regina Photography Department and courtesy of Mark Docherty.

Mark Docherty has hung out with The Tragically Hip and Sinn Féin's Gerry Adams. He's competed in the Hawaii Ironman Triathlon, earned three U of R degrees and run with the bulls in Pamplona. And while his 1998 MS diagnosis has slowed him a little, anyone who knows the 47-year-old will tell you, his most important accomplishments still lie ahead.

Here's an eye-opener for those of us struggling with the compromises of day-to-day life, fumbling for the spark that spurred us on in our glory days: consider Mark Docherty, a man who inspires by example.

In spite of being diagnosed with multiple sclerosis 10 years ago, the soft-spoken dynamo has been active all his life. Docherty, or Doc as his friends call him, has earned three degrees from the University of Regina—physical geography (SIFC, 1993), human justice (1995) and master's of social work (2003). He is contemplating a fourth.

Docherty has worked as a front-line youth worker, pursued athletic competitions throughout the world and owned a local music club. He is a founding Board member of one of Regina's most effective non-profit organizations, Street Culture Kidz, and has mentored countless marginalized youth. Docherty also worked in Northern Ireland, where he witnessed the landmark signing of ceasefire agreements in 1994.

He wryly refers to himself as Forrest Gump. But unlike the fictional character who witnessed key twentieth century events, Docherty is well aware of the vagaries of



Docherty with The Tragically Hip frontman Gord Downie in 2006.



Docherty with friends former MuchMusic VJ Mike Campbell and executive director of CBC radio Denise Donlon at Campbell's Halifax home in 2000.



Docherty competes in the 1987 Hawaii Ironman Triathlon.

existence. He smiles, "I ended up in all these places, but sometimes thought I don't have any right being there."

The Regina-born and -raised native has recently returned from the Maritimes to assume the directorship of Dales House. Dales House works with youth aged 12–15. Docherty explains, "There's not a typical client. They can be victims of the sex trade, they could be used as drug mules for gangs, and they could be runaways. They're victims of their homes; they're victims of the street. They're in need of protection and that's our function."

Since 1983, Docherty has worked at several youth facilities, including the Paul Dojack Youth Centre and Dales House. Kim Sutherland, the director of Street Culture Kidz and a close friend for many years, says, "I don't think Doc realizes the impact that he has. I see it all the time. A young person comes up to him who was in Dales House 15 years ago, and they'll talk to Doc about the impact that he had.

"Doc's so genuine in his interest. He's formally educated, but he has his finger on the pulse of the grassroots. He's a visionary who is capable of moving the vision forward, which is rare. I can't wait until he gets his PhD, so we can call him Doc Doc."

Docherty is currently in discussions with First Nations University of Canada to do an interdisciplinary doctorate, focussing on the systemic discrimination he has witnessed over the years. "It's not necessarily deliberate, but systems have a way of capturing our most marginalized. In this province it's pretty easy to see the over-representation of First Nations folks in our social and justice systems."

The epitome of a well-rounded individual, Docherty is also a life-long athlete. He trained and competed in a range of sports including rugby, team handball, lacrosse and triathlon throughout Canada, the U.S., New Zealand, Australia, France and Ireland. Shortly after starting his first job as a

youth worker, he became interested in competing in the Hawaii Ironman Triathlon. "I was watching it on TV, and I said to my buddy, 'I can do that.' He just laughed at me."

In spite of his lack of experience, Docherty qualified for the 1985 World Triathlon Championship in Hawaii. "Tropical Storm Fifi was causing huge swells. The extreme heat and the crazy distances back-to-back, I thought that was normal. It's the Ironman; it's got to be kooky." And if that wasn't enough, "The native Hawaiians in the early days weren't happy with the attention the event caused. I didn't know this until I got home and watched it on Wide World of Sports, but they 'chummed' the water to attract sharks."

Docherty managed to finish in the middle of the pack of 400 athletes. "I was physically broken, but in '86 and '87 I did better. I discovered a great deal about physical capacity and my own thresholds. You learn a lot when you're suffering and you need to keep going



Docherty is a regular visitor and a sought after lunch companion at the Street Culture Café located in the downtown Regina YMCA.

and you're the only one you have to answer to."

Not content just to work, compete in triathlons and take university classes, Docherty somehow found time to renovate an old garage in Regina's Warehouse District and turn it into a music club. As co-owner of the Venue (now the Distrikt), Docherty played host to many up-and-coming bands, including 54-40, Cowboy Junkies and The Tragically Hip on their first Canadian tour. "I would contact the promoters and offer the best we could—The Hip got \$467 to play here their first time through the city."

During his stint as an impresario, Docherty met his long-time friend, Mike Campbell, then co-host of MuchMusic's *Mike and Mike's Excellent Cross-Canada Adventure*. Campbell says, "Doc's a lot of fun. He was always very eager to help us find stories that showed his community off in the best light.

"I was always very humbled by his dedication to his work," says

Campbell." I've seen him on vacation, and he'll spot some kid on the street and go over to help him out. He always put the welfare of kids ahead of everything."

In the mid '90s, Docherty worked at the Pat Finucane Centre in the North of Ireland as part of his practicum for his degree in Human Justice. "We helped people who were arrested without trial or legal defence under the *Prevention of Terrorism Act*. They were essentially political prisoners, and could be held without bail, without charge, without lawyers for an indeterminate time. It could be years. So we drew attention to their plight by working with organizations like Amnesty International."

Docherty, who sat on the Bloody Sunday Organizing Committee, remembers the president of Sinn Féin, Gerry Adams, speaking at a commemoration of Bloody Sunday to 30,000 onlookers. "We'd painted Free Derry Corner white from its previous

red, the day before. We had used water-soluble paint and when it rained the red bled through, and Adams said, "The monument is showing us the blood of the victims.'" Docherty eventually witnessed the initial IRA and Loyalist ceasefire agreements coming off the fax machine at the Pat Finucane Centre. "Just holding the agreements was daunting knowing that you are a part of something truly historic."

For someone who had reached daunting physical challenges head-on, he wasn't prepared for what ultimately was going to be the greatest physical challenge in his life. The first warning that something was wrong came to him when he was cycling to Lumsden and his leg began to burn and buckled. His neurologist confirmed that it was MS.

Docherty said to his neurologist, "Okay, let's go. What do I do first? What do we do?" He looked at me and paused and then he said, "We don't know why you have this. There's no cure."

Docherty smiles, "Okay, there's no cause and no cure. For me, that doesn't



Street Culture Kidz connections: director of Street Culture Kidz' Kim Sutherland (left) and Teena Singh share a moment with Docherty.

“I see him inspiring people. He motivates you to do everything you can in life. Because he’s done so much, you feel you can, too.”

fly. I looked around and I tried everything, every wacky alternative treatment you could imagine, from being stung by bees to magnet vests. I went on Betaseron for five years and suffered flu symptoms every day. So I just withdrew and considered what I could do instead.”

He found that a regimen of swimming, his least favourite triathlon stage, was critical in helping him manage the disease. At least four times a week Docherty swims laps to find a sense of freedom and normalcy. “It doesn’t keep it in check, but it keeps me happy. It’s joyful to be in the water.”

Docherty typically swims laps at the Regina YMCA, and then goes to lunch at the Street Culture Café in the Y’s east wing. The café has a bright, retro look

and offers healthy homemade fare. Several guitars are mounted on the wall; a patron takes one down and plays quietly. The café, a Street Culture Kidz project, is staffed by youth and offers them the opportunity to participate in non-threatening, purposeful work.

“It’s a no-reject, no-eject program,” Docherty says. “The programs that kick you out after one transgression don’t work. When kids are exiting gangs or have addiction issues, they need more than one chance. They’ve been abandoned; they’ve been abused. Of course they’re testing—are you going to be another adult who turns their back? Street Culture Kidz says no, we are not.”

Teena Singh BA’07 (Justice) is a former student of Docherty’s and now

works for Street Culture. She sits at the counter reading. “Anytime I think of Mark,” she says, “I see him inspiring people. He motivates you to do everything you can in life. Because he’s done so much, you feel you can, too.”

What next for the man who’s done more than most? Docherty smiles as he drinks his coffee, contented amid the cheerful noon-hour bustle. “I’m looking forward to pushing social issues and advocating for marginalized youth. Does it ever get easier? Yes, I think everyone wants to do the right thing; they fundamentally want to do something well. Sometimes you just have to remind them of that.” **D**

David Sealy lives, works and writes in Regina.

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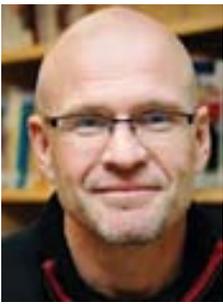
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Buryl Bernard could not have known that his impromptu visit to the land of the Killing Fields and Khmer Rouge would be so transformative. Whatever was at play as the education faculty member toured the **mystical remains of Angkor Wat**, it led to a pledge. Now, Bernard has dedicated himself to a project that is not only **helping impoverished Cambodian** schoolchildren, it's turning Regina elementary school students into citizens of the world.

CHANGING



Cambodian schoolchildren like these at Aknuwat Primary School are the beneficiaries of a new program started by Faculty of Education member Buryl Bernard.

by B. D. Miller BA(Hons)'89, BJ'95

Photos by University of Regina Photography Department and courtesy of Buryl Bernard.

THE WORLD

one classroom at a time

Children helping children is the philosophy behind a new pilot project in Regina that is being developed by U of R Education faculty member Buryl Bernard.

The Cambodian-Canadian Classrooms for Change project is partnering elementary schools and classrooms in Regina with needy schools in Cambodia. Under the supervision of teachers and parents, local students will design and complete fundraising initiatives to benefit their counterparts in southeast Asia.

Bernard says the goal is to improve the quality of educational opportunities offered to the Cambodian children, as well as encourage students in Canada to develop understanding, empathy, hope and the ability to take action to make the world a better place.

Bernard got his inspiration for the project last summer during a trip to southeast Asia. After touring Vietnam, he decided to spend a few days in neighbouring Cambodia and visit the famous 900-year-old temples of Angkor Wat.

"These temples are very mystical, spiritual places, and I started thinking about my life and what I was doing with it," Bernard says. "I resolved to do something to help Cambodia, but I wasn't sure what."

Cambodia ranks 131 of 177 countries on the United Nation's human development index, which is based on education level, standard of living and life expectancy. Canada is at the opposite end of the scale, ranked fourth.

While in Cambodia, Bernard also visited a local school and saw firsthand how poverty and lack of funding was affecting the students and teachers there. "I was so moved by my experience in Cambodia with the schools and at Angkor Wat," he says. "It's difficult to come back and forget about those kids over there. I came back to Regina and started thinking about what I could do to help these people and these children. It's something that happened to come at the right time for me in my professional life and personal life."

The project began in September with the partnering of Aknuwat Primary School in Achalak Village Commune, central Cambodia, with Jack MacKenzie School, a K-8 public elementary school in southeast Regina. Three classrooms at Jack MacKenzie have already committed to participate, with the specific fundraising initiatives to be determined by the students themselves.

"Some of the students who participate [at Jack MacKenzie] may be as young as eight years old, so they'll

need some guidance from the teachers," Bernard says. "But this will be a student-driven initiative. The students will develop their own ideas so that they have ownership of this project."

To help foster bonds among the children on opposite sides of the Pacific Ocean, Bernard envisions monthly photo and e-mail exchanges between the partnered classrooms in Canada and Cambodia. Participating teachers in Canada will also be encouraged to teach units on Cambodian culture.

Sayla McCowan teaches a class of 29 Grade 5 and 6 students at Jack MacKenzie School. When she first heard about Bernard's project, she immediately wanted her classroom to become involved. "I thought it would be a perfect way for our children to learn about another country, to learn about what's happening with education in other countries and to be able to help out," she says. "Buryl is very passionate about this project and he really got us fired up about it as well. We're thrilled to be part of this—it's a marvellous project and something we need to do."

McCowan has already talked to her students about the project and how different it is to go to school in an impoverished nation such as Cambodia. "We looked around our classroom and talked about all the things we wouldn't



Top left: Bernard poses in front of the 900-year-old Cambodian temples of Angkor Wat. Top centre: Friendly students at the project's partner school, Aknuwat Primary School in Achalak Village Commune in central Cambodia. Bottom left: An old tire rim becomes the school bell at Achalak. Bottom centre: Cambodian classrooms typically lack the supplies and resources we take for granted in Canada. At right: Bernard and some of the Jack MacKenzie School students and teachers involved in the project (teachers, back row, left to right) Sayla McCowan, Laura Rhead, Karen Marchuk.

have. I tried to get the students to imagine what our classroom would be like with bare walls and not much to work with other than a piece of chalk and a slate, and how different their learning would actually be."

McCowan hopes her students will be able to secure matching funding or other support for their fundraising efforts from a charitable foundation established by retired educator Jack MacKenzie, for whom their school was named.

A committee helps administer MacKenzie's foundation, assessing each application on its merits before approving the release of funds. MacKenzie says his foundation is part of a tradition of caring that has been cultivated over the years at Jack MacKenzie School.

"We have a couple of themes at the school," he says. "One of them is random acts of kindness. Being kind to others is something that the parents, pupils and staff try to reflect in the way they live and act, and also through school projects such as providing hampers to the needy at Christmas."

Although a formal application for support from the foundation will need to be made, MacKenzie says Bernard's Cambodia initiative strikes him as "an ideal act of kindness to people who are needy, and right in line with the purpose and targets of the fund." But he adds, "The pupils can't just tap into the money. They have to put a lot of their personal effort and personality and resources into the project. There has to be significant contributions from the class, and the pupils have to demonstrate that it's their project."

Meanwhile, the teachers in Cambodia will decide how the monies raised can be best put to use on behalf of their children. "We'll leave that up to their discretion, but there will be accountability," Bernard says. "One hundred percent of the funds raised by our classrooms in Canada will go directly to the Cambodian partner classrooms and schools. I've promised everyone that if you donate a dollar, that entire dollar will go to those kids in Cambodia."

The fundraising efforts at Jack MacKenzie School to help the children

in Cambodia will begin in earnest in January. Bernard is confident that the children and staff at Jack MacKenzie School will help his project get off to a roaring start, laying the groundwork to hopefully expand the initiative to other schools across Canada and Cambodia in the years ahead.

"There's no shortage of classrooms in Cambodia that could use help," he says. "No electricity, dirt floors. If they have a chalkboard, they're lucky. Every public school there is in need." **D**

B. D. Miller is a Regina-based playwright and fiction, and non-fiction writer whose work has appeared in numerous magazines and anthologies and on CBC radio. His historical drama Kobyla, about the life and death of convicted war criminal Hermine Braunsteiner, received a staged reading as part of the Saskatchewan Playwrights Centre's 2008 Spring Festival of New Plays.



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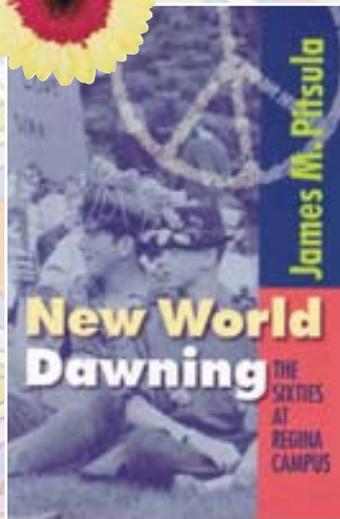
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Alumni Association President's Message



I would like to start by welcoming all the newest members of the Alumni Association—the graduates of the fall convocation. Their successes speak volumes about the University's programs, faculty and level of student support. These new alumni will now join the alumni professional and volunteer communities and model the quality education they received at the University of Regina.

I would also like to acknowledge Dr. Vianne Timmons who was installed as the seventh University President at fall convocation. I welcome her and her family to the University and to Saskatchewan. I look forward to further aligning the Alumni Association with the University of Regina through the joint initiatives agreement in the coming year.

The Alumni Association Board of Directors has completed a strategic planning session to continue to review its mission and direction. We continue to strive to increase the number of quality connections between the students, alumni and University. I am looking forward to a year of partnership, growth and new opportunities.

Planning is underway for a student and alumni online community—a U of R Facebook—to keep connected with the people and places that brought great memories to each of our lives. Please ensure your contact information is current to be a part of this exciting future initiative. You can update your contact information by visiting our website at: www.uregina./alumni/uyi.htm.

Recently, we celebrated the Crowning Achievement Awards acknowledging some of our outstanding alumni. The University of Regina Alumni is blessed to share a common educational grounding as there are many alumni who deserve added recognition. Our alumni have pushed beyond the ordinary and have modeled inspired and talented leadership that betters our communities. It is these people who would be prime candidates for our next Alumni Crowning Achievement Awards. Who could you nominate? Who has encouraged you? Who pushed you to go beyond the ordinary?

I have heard many inspirational stories from alumni who have been mentored by other alumni and the professional faculty at the University. These mentors motivated the students to push beyond the realm of the ordinary to achieve success.

University faculty, staff, and alumni play a key role in shaping the reputation and the successes of our local and global communities. Alumni involvement in extended communities reflects the value of an education from the U of R.

This year's Alumni Crowning Achievement recipients model outstanding talent, intelligence, diversity, and perseverance which stem from their involvement with the University of Regina. They have lived the motto "As One Who Serves."

As you read your Degrees magazine, be reminded of the difference each one of us makes by using our skills acquired from our time at the University of Regina. The alumni highlighted in this issue have been acknowledged for their contributions to society however, each of us has grown since those university days, and with so many talents shared throughout Canada I know I am proud to be an alumna of this University. The University of Regina graduates share in many milestone accomplishments every day through careers, awards, research, social justice, strength to endure the difficult situations and by just living out the mission of the University. We are ones who serve.

On behalf of the entire Alumni Association Board of Directors, happy holidays and all the best in the New Year.

Charlene Banjac

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1960–1969

David Goldsmith BA'68 retired in 2003 after a long career in government, mostly in Saskatchewan. He has been appointed for a three-year term as director of the Board of the Interior Health Authority, which serves all of southern British Columbia except for the lower mainland. Goldsmith is also a scrimshaw artist who works on frozen woolly mammoth tusks, recycled piano keys and antlers.

Don Parsons BA'67, BED'72, PGDEA'82 retired in June 2007 after 40 years as a teacher and administrator in the adult and K-12 systems in Saskatchewan and the Yukon. He is hauling crude oil and water in the southeast Saskatchewan oil patch and loving it. He lives in Torquay, Sask., with his wife Fadiah.

1970–1979

Winona Kent BA'74, BAHC'75 had her feature film script, *Committee of the Unloved* optioned by Vancouver's Sister Films and Carrie Wheeler Films. Kent wrote this script with her writing partner Nola Tompkins. In addition to writing, Kent works as a program assistant at UBC's Faculty of Medicine, School of Population and Public Health.

John (Jack) M. Stewart BSc'71 MSc'75 is a professor of biochemistry at Mount Allison University where he has been for over 25 years.

1980–1989

Shelley Boyes CLGAJ'88, MPA'05 started the Kiley Carlson Memorial Scholarship at the U of R in 2007 in memory of her daughter who was killed in a single vehicle rollover in 2006. Each year Boyes hosts a walkathon to raise funds for the scholarship.

Maria Campbell (Honorary Degree)'85 received the Officer of the Order of Canada on July 1, 2008, for her contributions to Canadian literature and media as a writer, playwright, filmmaker and educator, as well as for her advocacy of Métis and Aboriginal issues.

Cam Fuller BAJ&C'89 was named the new editor of the *Saskatoon Star-Phoenix* Arts and Life section in June 2008. In 1999 and 2000 he was named media personality of the year at the Prairie Music Awards and in 2001 was nominated in the same category at the Western Canadian Music Awards.

Jacklynn Holmes (née Rogowski) BAdmin'88 received her MBA through the University of Phoenix FlexNet Program in July 2007. She is now a senior consultant with a Calgary consulting company and also teaches business courses online for the University of Calgary. Holmes has been married to her husband Chris for nine years and they have two young sons, Noah (six) and Jonah (four).

Raymond Konecni CLGAJ'89 accepted the position of director, Customer Support Services within Information Services, at the U of R in August 2007. Konecni and his wife of 19 years, Annette, live in Southey, Sask., with their three boys, Andrew, Justin and Aaron.

Eric Langager PGDEP'86 was a rural schoolteacher in western North Dakota when he studied at the U of R in the 1980s. After graduating in 1986, he was a public interest lobbyist, then spent some years in the trucking industry before moving to Arizona to become a technical trainer. He taught for several years at the University of Advancing Technology in Tempe, Ariz., before moving to Beijing, China, in 2004, where he teaches in the College of Software at the Beijing University of Aeronautics and Astronautics. He is interested in meeting other U of R alumni who may live in his part of China and can be contacted through his blog: beijingdiary.blogspot.com.

Janine Pearson BA'83, BMus'83, BAHC'87 is the recipient of the Theatre Department's Distinguished Alumni Award. Pearson is the head of voice and coaching at the Stratford Shakespeare Festival in Stratford, Ont. She is also an instructor in the Festival's Conservatory for Classical Theatre Training and teaches in the education program. As well, she teaches at and is on the Board of the Centre for the Arts (a professional actor's studio in Toronto), and is on the Advisory Council for Ryerson University's Theatre School.

1990–1999

Sabrina Cataldo, BA'97, BJ'99, CPR'04 is currently working as a communications strategist at the Saskatchewan Arts Board and has taken a one-year leave of absence from her English master's program to recover from major jaw surgery. As part of her recovery, she started a blog at www.smilingbella.com to chronicle her experiences and help others going through the surgery. She also submitted a non-fiction monologue about German orthodontic fetishists finding her blog to CBC Radio, which was purchased for broadcast and aired on the program SoundXChange on September 4, 2008. The monologue is archived on the show's website at www.cbc.ca/soundxchange/audio.html.

Kim Grzybowski (née Protasiewicz) BSW'97 is working on her master's of Indigenous social work at the University of Victoria.

Erin Stepenoff BAdmin'98 and **Dion Tchorzewski BA'89** were married on February 23, 2008.

Jeff Beesley BFA'96 took time from his busy television directing duties ("Little Mosque on the Prairie," "Corner Gas") to direct the edgy thriller *Dolan's Cadillac*. The film was shot in and around Regina and Moose Jaw in June. The film stars Christian Slater and is adapted from a Stephen King short story.

Curtis Kleisinger BEd'96, BA'99 has been named as a finalist for a Governor General's Award for Teaching Excellence in Canadian History. Kleisinger teaches at Michael A. Riffel High School in Regina and has spearheaded an intensive interactive program in which students learned about Canada's involvement in the two world wars.

Katherine Owens (née Goldsworthy) BAHons'98, MA'01, PHD'08 is employed full-time as a psychologist at the Regina Mental Health Clinic, writing a research paper, teaching a graduate class for the Department of Education and volunteers with the Regina and District Food Bank as a member of the Board of Directors. She and her husband **Travis Owens BAdmin'01** have a daughter **Tori** who is in Grade 10 at Luther College High School.

Jeff Stusek BAdmin'93, MBA'00 was appointed president and CEO of Information Services Corporation of Saskatchewan (ISC), effective July 1. The company is responsible for the administration of land titles, geographic information systems, surveys, mapping and the personal property registry.

2000–Present

Jennifer Allen BKIN'07 spent four months in West Africa volunteering as the Students Without Borders gender advocacy assistant in Zabzugu, Ghana. She is open to making presentations on her experiences and is planning to pursue other international volunteer placements in the field of physical therapy. She is currently taking her MScPT at the University of Alberta and can be reached through the WUSC (World University Services of Canada) University of Alberta chapter at www.ualberta.ca/~wusc/.

Chad MacPherson BSc'06 was named general manager for the Saskatchewan Stock Growers Association in May. MacPherson is an articling agrologist with a background in water stewardship.

Chris Turbuck BA'04, BFA'04 received his MFA from Montana State University-Bozeman this year. He is also one of eight international recipients of the 2008 Kala Artist Fellowships from the Kala Art Institute in Berkeley, Calif.

Matt Wadsworth MPA'08 won the \$2,000 grand prize from the Pivot Legal Society for his essay on *Housing Solutions for the Downtown Eastside*, which will be used to help solve the current housing crisis in Vancouver's Downtown Eastside.



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CHASING THE FLAME— A COACH'S DIARY



The Coaching Association of Canada's Women in Coaching program asked U of R track and field coach Carla Nicholls to keep a diary as she realized her sporting dream—participating in the Olympic Games. So began the six-month adventure that brought the Olympic flame and Nicholls together in Beijing. Here are some excerpts.

By Carla Nicholls

Excerpted with the permission of the Coaching Association of Canada's Women in Coaching Program. Photos by Don Hall, University of Regina Photography Department and courtesy of Carla Nicholls.

U of R track and field head coach Carla Nicholls. Opposite page, left: National Stadium or "The Bird's Nest," home of Nicholls' beloved Olympic flame and site of the opening and closing ceremonies of the Beijing Olympic Games. Opposite page, right: Nicholls during the closing ceremonies of the 29th Olympiad.

Prelude

I remember watching the 1972 Olympic Games when I was five years old. I was fascinated. To say the Olympic flame is burning in my heart may sound melodramatic, but it's true. Not only has the Olympics been a dream, it has been a passion. My dad, my number-one fan, always believed I would make it somehow. I tried as an athlete, but just didn't have the talent.

March 10, 2008

Today Scott MacDonald called. He's Athletics Canada's national team project director and technical manager of the Olympic team. He told me that I was being named to the team as an event coach. I was, of course, extremely professional, thanked him for the opportunity, hung up, calmly walked into my bathroom, closed the door, and screamed, "Oh, my God, I can't believe it!"

March 23, 2008

Tonight I was at Broadview Hospital with my dear father, my best friend and my backbone. I was holding his hand, leaning into the bed so I could be closer to him, listening to him struggle with every breath and trying to imagine how someone so wonderful could be struck with such a dreadful disease. In the background a little nightlight cast a ray of light on a newspaper clipping that was hanging



on the wall at the foot of his bed. It read: “Nicholls named to Olympic team”. At that moment, there was only my dad and me in the world. For the first time, the Olympic Games meant nothing to me; I just wanted my dad back. Yet seeing that piece of paper hanging there reminded me of what was to come. I knew my dad was so very proud of me, but at this very moment, who cared?

My dad passed away the next morning. I took the clipping down, folded it into my pocket, and now have it hanging in my home office.

April 15, 2008

I have to say this Olympic assignment is full of surprises. I’ve been asked to be a guest speaker on three occasions after the Games! Why me? I guess this dream really is big! I promise to say “yes” to every engagement and share my experiences. Perhaps I can give others hope that dreaming is closer to reality than they think.

June 22, 2008

Forty-four days until the Olympic Games begin! I’ve been busy being a mom and a personal coach. Booked my flights for Olympic Trials and finished my athletes’ workouts right up to July 2. I’m starting to realize that this calm before the storm will only last a few more days.

July 1, 2008

Olympic trials—yes—finally! This whole Olympic thing has felt quite surreal up to now. I’m super pumped again and realize these next few weeks are very exciting—it is time to enjoy and embrace every minute of it!

July 27, 2008

For Beijing, I am coaching high jump, long jump, triple jump, pole vault, heptathlon and decathlon. It’s a lot, but head coach Les Gramantik will share the load. I’ve never felt this confident about a coaching assignment; I must be where I belong.

August 3, 2008

Today I am en route to chase my dream.

August 8, 2008

Woke up in Singapore [Canadian track and field team training site] this morning, struggled to get out of bed for my morning run. I was shuffling amongst the locals as they do their tai chi on the beach when I realized it was opening ceremony day. It was an amazing feeling, taking in my surroundings, and knowing that the flame was getting closer and closer to the Bird’s Nest stadium. I had the best run since coming here. The sun was rising, ships were in the background, Chinese music filled the air—it was almost spiritual.

August 15, 2008

It is 1 a.m., and in seven hours I fly to Beijing. Good night, Singapore. My flame is burning in Beijing and I can’t wait to get there! Track and field starts in nine hours!

August 15, 2008

We were cruising along a special Olympic lane on the freeway when suddenly I saw the Bird’s Nest stadium and the FLAME!!! So exciting.

August 16, 2008

Today was my first time to coach during an Olympic competition. Jessica Zelinka was having the heptathlon of her life—her best long jump and javelin performance of the year. She needed to run like crazy to finish eighth and set a new Canadian record. She ran 2:07, a huge personal best 800-metre time, second day score and heptathlon total score, finished sixth, and set a new Canadian record!

August 17, 2008

Everything is great in Beijing, just absolutely great, and I am where I belong!

August 19, 2008

Today we had our first medal since 1996! Priscilla Lopes-Schliep won the bronze medal in the 100-metre hurdles. I’ve had the extreme good fortune to be part of the team that helped her to prepare for her heats, semi-finals and final. Watching our flag being raised during the medal ceremony was AMAZING. I was so proud of Priscilla

and the entire team who worked to get her ready. There was such a sense of accomplishment.

August 20, 2008

Must hit the sack; it’s 1 a.m. AGAIN and I have to be up at 0600hrs to prepare for two days of decathlon! The following day I will coach the women’s long jump final and have another round of Olympic experiences.

August 22, 2008

Long jump was the last event I coached at the Games. It was a great experience to be at the front row coaching a final event.

August 23, 2008

Hit the markets and the Great Wall of China. Back to the track—another big night for us. It was a long, slow walk home that night. Track was over and we were all exhausted from early mornings, late nights and emotional rollercoasters all wrapped into one week. I was too exhausted to celebrate so went to eat and fell into bed.

August 24, 2008

China is a different world in a lot of ways, but the people are lovely, always smiling and excited to meet Canadians. I am so privileged to have this experience. Experiencing different parts of the world is one of the beautiful benefits of sport.

Closing Ceremony

As we finally stepped into the stadium, the crowd went crazy! It was amazing! It was the biggest party and celebration I have ever seen. The Olympic flame shone bigger and brighter than ever, and then suddenly—it was out. I felt like I was the only one in the stadium for a small moment in time. I stared at the handle that had held the flame. There were no tears. For the first time, I was not emotional about this crazy flame. I realized that the flame was not a dream; it was a reality for me. I have dreamed about it for so many years, finally made it and have never felt so at home. **D**

You can read the complete diary by visiting Nicholl’s blog at www.coach.ca/eng/women/blog/beijing.cfm.

the student faces of success

The Faculty of Arts takes pride in its students' varied and exceptional achievements. Throughout the Faculty's many departments and programs, Arts students are continually making their mark, through their academic accomplishments, their commitment to the community, and their passion for life. They bring to everything they do the curiosity, critical thinking skills, and detailed analysis that are the hallmarks of an Arts education.

TODD BRYANTON

"I wrote my two published short stories on the third floor of the Ad-Hum building at the U of R, tapping away on my laptop, feeling like I was in the centre of a creative matrix."

TODD BRYANTON is currently working on an MA in English. He is a musician, composer, writer, video editor and artist. He is a published author, and has composed music for the Gemini Award winning comedy series *Corner Gas*, as well as the CBC mini-series *The Englishman's Boy*.



DR JAIME WILLIAMS graduated from the University of Regina with a PhD in Clinical Psychology. Her primary research interests involve examining the impact of fear of falling on caregiver burden among families of seniors with dementia. She has now taken up a position as an assistant professor at the University of Saskatchewan, where she continues her research into this area and into the areas of pain management among older adults and predicting memory outcomes following surgical procedures for epilepsy. When she isn't in the lab Dr Williams can usually be found drawing, painting, and enjoying dance in all its forms.



DENNIS WARD

"As someone who decided to go to university later in life, I've valued how the Faculty of Arts accommodates different learning styles. I'm fascinated by people and what they do, so in studying Anthropology I've found not only my passion but a whole new career path. I just wish I'd done this sooner!"

DENNIS WARD, MA student in the Department of Anthropology
Research Interest: alternative identities in online gambling and gaming



DR JAIME WILLIAMS

STACEY LOLACHER

"This is not a question of race, of constitution, of political power, or of jurisdiction. This is a question of human rights."

Political science student STACEY LOLACHER is co-founder of *Regina Streets Magazine*, a new non-profit newsletter distributed and sold by the homeless in Regina. Stacey's goal is not only to raise public awareness of the human face of poverty, but also to provide a source of income to people who would otherwise have none. Stacey's poverty-fighting initiative is just one way that Arts students give back to the Regina community.

VICTORIA PATZWALD MEGAN EDWARDS

McDougall Gauley Fellowship winners VICTORIA PATZWALD and MEGAN EDWARDS, undergraduate students in the Department of Justice Studies, are conducting innovative studies in the area of community-based justice administration. Victoria is studying the impact of a municipal project to install back alley lighting throughout Regina's North Central area, while Megan is researching ways in which the RCMP can adopt more responsive and aboriginally-centred models of justice administration on Saskatchewan reserves.



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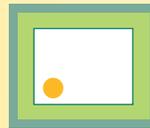
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