



# U OF R REPORT

P2 VISITING MUSICIANS

P3 SAFER FOOD

P3 MATH NETWORK

P4 PRESIDENTIAL SEARCH

## Geology students to make tracks in Colombia

Geology students will take their education out of the classroom and to the varied terrain of Colombia this spring.

"In Saskatchewan, one of the problems for geology students is that they don't get to see very many rocks because of limited outcrop," says Ian Coulson, a U of R volcanology professor. Coulson is co-organizing the trip with geology professor Maria Vélez.

"It's an important component in geology to actually go out there and see things in their natural environment. In Colombia you get to see the material straight from an active volcano, in the environment where it formed, whereas in Saskatchewan most of the rocks are very, very old...hence it is difficult to see the context in which they formed".

The Office of International Co-operation and Development funded the two researchers to travel to Colombia last summer to investigate the feasibility of the student trip. Vélez's contacts



(L to R) Professors Ian Coulson and Maria Vélez combine science with culture for a new geology trip to Colombia.

at the National University of Colombia have also been an asset. She is originally from the country and many of her former undergraduate classmates now have academic positions there, she says.

Coulson and Vélez are hopeful this will be the first of many projects between the two universities.

On this trip, tentatively planned for May 12 to 24, Colombian students will join a

maximum of 12 U of R participants on field excursions throughout the country,

"We have been selective," says Vélez. "They are going to see how rocks are fractured or deformed by tectonic forces,

and then we will take them to an active volcano. We will have to climb up to about 4,000 metres above sea level. So they will see not only the volcano, but all the changes that we see in terms of the eco-system – how the eco-system adjusts.

"We will also try to visit the Atlantic coast where we will see modern marine processes, how the waves erode the sediment, how the waves crash into the beach, how beaches are formed. So there is a mixture of geology and environmental sciences here as well."

By including the students from the Colombian university, U of R students will not only gain more knowledge about geology, they will also benefit from the cultural component, says Vélez.

The trip currently is not a credit course for U of R students but Coulson and Vélez are hopeful that subsequent trips will be for credit.

## Alberta's planning mistakes can be Saskatchewan's gain

Alberta's oil boom came at a price. The resource policies that helped its economy thrive are now constraining its options, and there are lessons for Saskatchewan as it enters its own version of a boom, says Jeremy Rayner, the head of the U of R's political science department.

Rayner is part of a team of researchers studying land use and resource policies in the four western provinces with funding from the Sustainable Forest Management Network of Centers of Excellence. Alberta was first on the list.

"People understand about resource booms and they are beginning to understand about some of the downsides of them. If you were to go outside and talk to people about the high cost of living in Regina and Saskatoon now, the difficulty of

finding a house or an apartment, that's something that comes with a resource boom."

"It's almost always the case that once the issue is confronting people directly there is going to be a huge cost to tackling it that could have been avoided if it was tackled earlier."

When Alberta was developing industries such as oil and gas, and forestry, it seemed reasonable to concentrate on one activity at a time, says Rayner.

The government granted subsurface rights for oil and gas exploration without much concern for what activities were happening on the surface and created separate regulatory regimes and ministries, says Rayner.

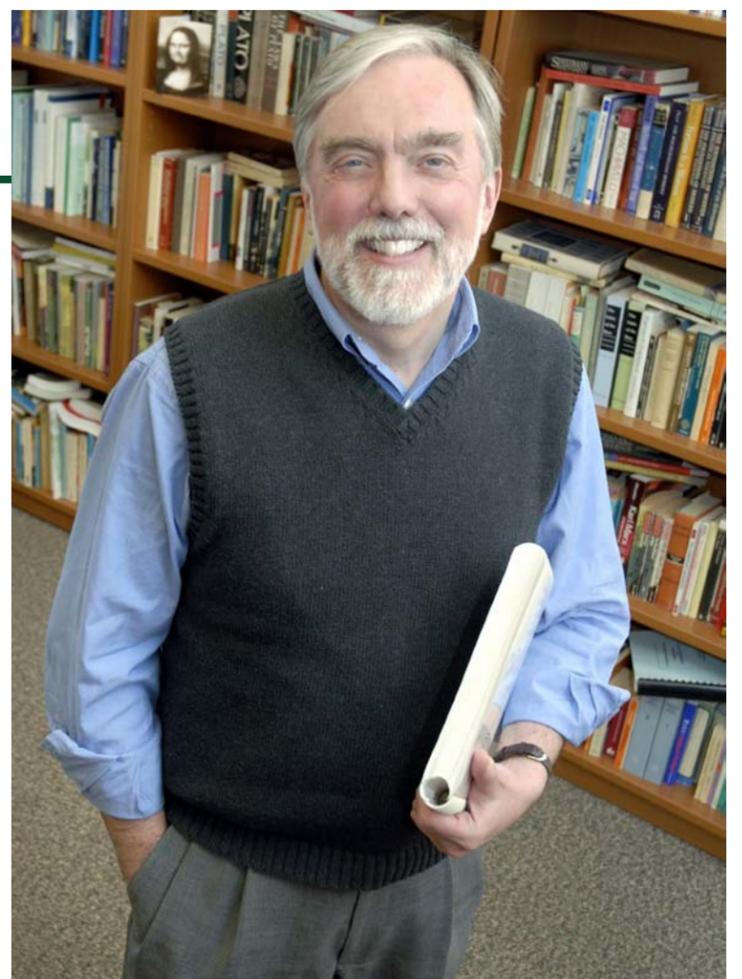
The regulatory frameworks did not take into account factors such as the duty of the

government to consult where First Nations' treaty interests were impacted by resource decisions or the cumulative impact of multiple industrial users. This resulted in conflict, unintended overlap and wasted resources, he says.

With oil and gas and forestry under different regulatory regimes there were often unnecessary duplications. If the oil and gas industry made a small road, for example, they would be required to bulldoze it when they were done to reclaim the land. The forestry industry would then come in and rebuild the road for their use almost in the same place.

There were also missed opportunities. Fewer trees could have been cut down if the forest industry, for example, ran their power lines in the same area

- continued on page 2



Political scientist Jeremy Rayner found lessons for the rest of Canada when he studied Alberta's economic boom.



## Writ Large

Dr. Nilgun Onder  
International Studies  
Co-ordinator  
Faculty of Arts

Two decades ago the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) declared the first week of February International Development Week (IDW). Many universities, government agencies and NGOs in Canada organized various activities during the first week of February in accordance with the objectives of IDW. These objectives include: to increase awareness of the concerns of developing countries and the issues of poverty and social justice; to foster cross-cultural understandings of social, economic and environmental problems developing countries face; to create opportunities for Canadians to find out how they can contribute to improving the human condition around the world; and to illustrate the work of Canada's international development community.

The concept of international development is relatively recent in origin. It first came into use in the decades following the end of World War II. The creation of the UN and its various specialized agencies helped give the idea of development its international character.

The notion of international development emphasizes the significance of international cooperation in the fight against poverty, hunger, illiteracy, and inequality. Contemporary globalization highlights the urgency of greater international cooperation in this area as peoples and communities of the world have become further interconnected through complex networks of economic, political, cultural and environmental interactions.

Globalization has created new problems as well as new opportunities for countries around the world. It is important that every member of our U of R community uses the occasion of International Development Week to critically reflect upon the challenges to the basic welfare of millions of people around the world as well as the ways to improve the global human condition.

These issues also invite U of R scholars to try to bridge scholarly and practical development work. There are a number of areas where the U of R contributes to international development. Many departments and programs teach courses on topics relevant to international development. The new International Studies Program in the Faculty of Arts provides students with the opportunity to specialize in development studies.

The U of R contributes to international development in the area of research as well. A number of faculty members have research projects that focus on developing countries or are concerned with the challenges of development and underdevelopment. Some of these projects successfully combine theoretical skills with the practical objective of meeting the needs of the poor in developing countries. A good example is the on-going project of "Rural Community Water Conservation" by Dr. Polo Diaz and Dr. David Gauthier, which is concerned with water security for poor rural communities in Chile. The University also has student and faculty exchange programs with universities in many other regions of the world, including many developing countries. These programs provide students and faculty with an important opportunity to develop cross-cultural understandings of the social, political and economic systems of developing countries. International students attending the U of R also make a significant contribution in this respect. The University's current agenda of internationalization is expected to create further international opportunities for our students and faculty.

*Writ Large is written by campus leaders and is intended to challenge readers to engage with and learn about the various 'parts' that make up the wider University of Regina community and connect us to the world. If you have a topic suggestion for Writ Large, please e-mail communications@uregina.ca and include your contact information. Please put "U of R Report" in the e-mail subject line.*

# Visiting musicians to share their expertise and creativity

A new visiting artist program will introduce U of R students to the talents of some of the best musicians in Canada and beyond.

"They say you can never learn a subject just by reading one book because everything there is about the subject is never contained in just one book. Well similarly one can never learn one's musical instrument by studying with one teacher," says Lynn Cavanagh, U of R music department head.

"We recognize here, just like at other universities, that students and faculty need to be constantly exposed to other musicians coming from the outside, giving recitals, teaching our students, showing them a wider horizon of how to perform as an instrumentalist or a vocalist."

The Lois and Thomas Glenn Visiting Artist in Music program will allow the University to host a distinguished musician for one to two days annually. Through this program musicians will perform a recital free to the general public as well as give a masterclass for music students at the U of R and in the community. The first visiting musician was renowned Canadian clarinetist Jean-Guy Boisvert, who was on campus January 25.

During the masterclass each student participant plays



Clarinetist Jean-Guy Boisvert teaches students some of the finer points of playing during his visit to campus last month.

a movement they have worked up to performance standard. The artist then offers suggestions and shares techniques.

"It means that the individual student musician gets the guidance of another teacher who has a different point of view than their present teacher," says Cavanagh. "It's an advantage for all of our students, not just those who play that particular instrument, because usually there is an audience of other students and interested people there to be inspired by what the master teacher has to say. So they learn not just from what was said about their own performance, but also from what they've heard about everyone else's performances."

Alumna Muriel Glenn and her late husband, Gale, established the endowment to pay

tribute to Gale's parents – Lois and Thomas Glenn – who contributed to the fine arts community in the Milestone and Moose Jaw areas.

Muriel also has a strong history in the arts and graduated from the U of R with a degree in music education in 1969.

"This was a way to commemorate Lois and Thomas for their dedication to music and for instilling the value of music education into the lives of their children," she says.

"It exposes students to artists they may have never otherwise worked with and it's available to so many students. That was part of the appeal of setting up a program. It's not a scholarship that's only available to one student; it benefits so many."

- from page 1 *Alberta's* oil industry had its pipelines.

Eventually, Rayner says, industries took it upon themselves to start communicating with each other.

"They realized that they were losing money operating that way and signed agreements with each other to do things that eventually governments would want them to do anyway – to cooperate in road building for example. The oil and gas industry now routinely informs forest companies of their exploration and development plans so that the forest companies can go in ahead of them and cut the trees that would otherwise be wasted. That way, of

course, everybody benefits."

Rayner emphasizes that this system only works if it is profitable. There comes a point when government needs to make regulations to manage its resources.

The Alberta government did this with its Land Use Framework process in 2006-07. This process revisited its land use and resource decisions going back to the 1940s and included consultation with the people of Alberta. According to Rayner approximately 75 per cent of those people expressed to the government that Alberta's resources were overexploited and that the pace of development should slow down.

Rayner says now is the time for Saskatchewan to look to Alberta before setting its own course.

"We in Saskatchewan right now are enjoying a booming economy and we are not under pressure of events to turn to any particular industry as the saviour of the province," says Rayner. "We can take a broader view. We can step back at least for a short while and engage in that consultative process, to ask the people of Saskatchewan what kind of development of natural resources that we want. Now should be the time to do it rather than when we are faced with the Alberta train wreck."

Director of Communications: Paul Corns  
Managing Editor: Therese Stecyk  
Communications Officer: Shanani Sorochynski  
Photography: U of R Audio Visual Services  
Distribution: Natalie Tomczak

Publications Mail  
Agreement #40065347

Return undeliverable  
Canadian addresses to:

External Relations  
210 North Residence  
Regina, SK S4S 0A2

ISSN 1206-3606

The *U of R Report* is published by External Relations, Communications, at the University of Regina. The newspaper is sent to all departments of the University of Regina and federated colleges as well as some elected officials, news media and Canadian universities. It can be found in PDF format on the web at [www.uregina.ca](http://www.uregina.ca) (click on "News" and select the link for *U of R Report*).

We welcome your comments and suggestions. Please send them to [communications@uregina.ca](mailto:communications@uregina.ca), and include "*U of R Report*" in the e-mail subject line.

Contents may be reprinted with permission and appropriate credit to the U of R.



The *U of R Report* is printed on chlorine-free recycled paper.  
Please recycle.

## New tracking system will make the food on your fork safer

A side salad is rarely a conversation starter – unless it makes someone sick.

But *E.coli* outbreaks, such as the incident involving pre-packaged spinach from California in 2006, are making more people talk about what's on their plates.

For Faculty of Science professor Christopher Yost, it's a full-time preoccupation. He was recently named a Tier II Canada Research Chair (CRC) in Microbes, the Environment and Food Safety.

With that distinction comes \$500,000 in funding over the next five years to support his research in microbial source tracking (MST), which can be used to track fecal contamination in irrigation water. The research will also serve as the basis for mitigation strategies that can protect irrigation watersheds from future fecal contamination.

"We have been able to

determine that there is fecal contamination in watersheds for a very long time," explains Yost. "What we haven't been able to do is determine the sources. Are the inputs from a municipal sewage outflow or are they inputs from, say, cattle on a ranch, a farmer fertilizing their fields with inadequately composted manure? The tools we are developing will answer those questions."

The research is part of a larger trend where nations are taking a "farm-to-fork" approach to food safety, says Yost. This means countries are examining all of the factors that affect food safety during food production, from the time they are on the farmer's field to when the product ends up on the consumer's fork. By researching this people have an opportunity to make improvements to the system.

Reducing fecal contamination in watersheds, for



The work Christopher Yost does at the U of R will help protect irrigation watersheds from contamination.

example, not only keeps people better protected from waterborne illnesses, it preserves the reputation of the province's agricultural industry, says Yost.

"We don't have to be fear mongering because we do enjoy a very safe supply of food. But, that's partly because we are proactive," he says. "The tools we are looking at are molecularly based and all relatively new tech-

niques. It's an opportunity for us to ensure we don't have a recall like what happened in California. If you don't hear of a recall from Saskatchewan, it keeps our reputation high."

The Canada Foundation for Innovation (CFI) has lent its support to Yost's research and has given him an infrastructure grant to establish the Research Laboratory for Irrigation Water Protection. Yost is eligible to have this

grant, as well as two years of his CRC funding matched by the province's Innovation of Science Fund.

The new lab will be established in the University's new Lab Building addition and facilitate national and international collaborations. It will also serve as a training ground for the province's up-and-coming researchers.

## Math organization creates connections

The University's latest partnership will help mathematically inclined faculty and students from all departments share their expertise with colleagues and other universities, and build bridges with industry.

In December of 2007 the U of R became a full member of the Pacific Institute for the Mathematical Sciences (PIMS), a Western Canadian organization that promotes research in mathematics and collaboration within Canada and beyond.

PIMS' reputation for facilitating ideas prompted professors from the mathematics and statistics department Shaun Fallat and Stephen Kirkland to pursue a membership for the University. Fallat is the U of R's PIMS site director and Kirkland was one of the people at the forefront of pursuing the membership.

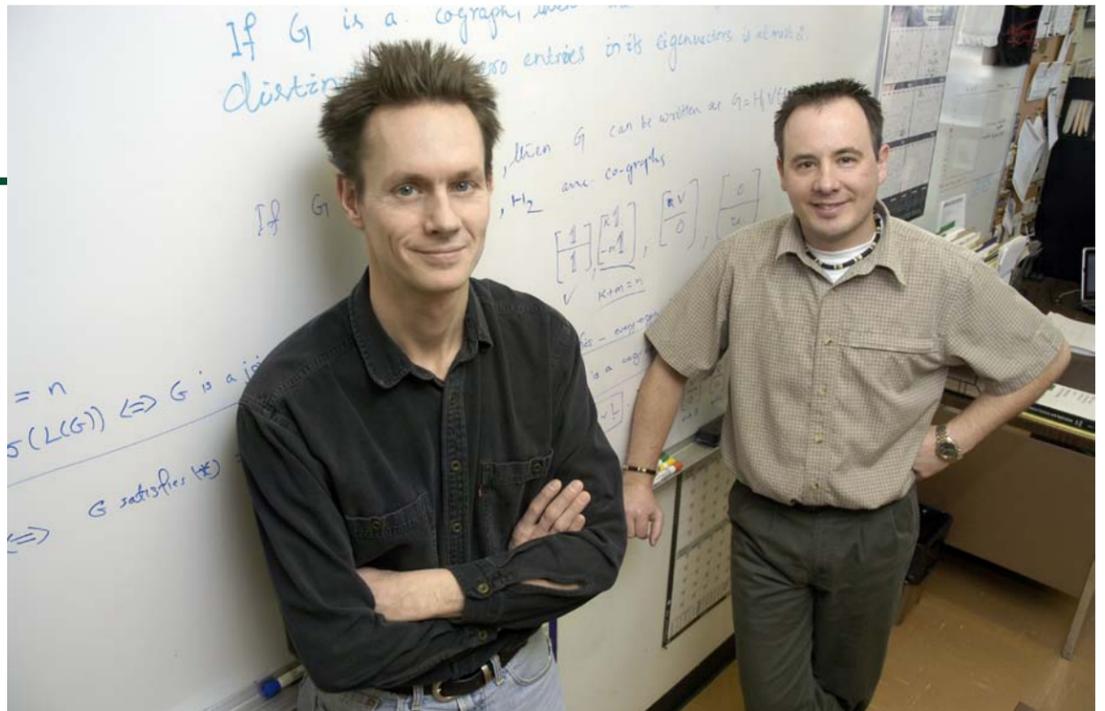
"Many disciplines rely on mathematics and statistics even at the elementary level," explains Fallat. "For example, biologists draw conclusions from their data sets by utilizing many standard statistical meth-

ods. However, they rarely discuss new and innovative ideas or techniques with statisticians. Mathematicians are always in search of new and interesting problems and many such problems come from the applied sciences and the like. PIMS can bring these groups together, partly because they are interested in funding such collaborations, via postdoctoral opportunities, lecture series, conferences, and summer schools."

"PIMS prides itself on being a campus-wide initiative that involves the mathematical sciences in some manner, and since nearly every subject makes use of mathematics at some level, such a mandate is a natural and worthwhile one."

PIMS also sponsors a wide variety of events including the Western Canadian Linear Algebra meeting, which cycles around Western Canada; graduate level summer schools; and math competitions such as the Saskatchewan Math Challenge which alternates between the University of Saskatchewan and U of R every year.

Its flagship event is the annual Industrial Problem



(L to R) professors Stephen Kirkland and Shaun Fallat are helping to promote networking opportunities for mathematically inclined students and faculty.

Solving Workshop. During this week-long event, industrial partners are invited to present a mathematical problem critical to their industry to an audience that is often comprised of postdoctoral fellows, faculty and graduate students.

Problems presented during previous workshops have included those dealing with cancer imaging, fingerprint identification, log sawing and exploration seismology from industry supporters such as the Boeing Corporation, Husky Injection Molding Systems,

Lockheed-Martin, Michelin Tire Corporation, Random Knowledge, Powertech Labs and Schlumberger.

The next workshop will be held at the U of R June 16 to 20, preceded by the Graduate Industrial Mathematics Modeling Camp – a training camp for the workshop – from June 9 to 13.

The PIMS membership requires local representation at member sites. To this end, a PIMS office is being established in Room 319.3 of College West. As site director

Fallat will co-ordinate event organization, help colleagues submit proposals and serve as the communication link between the PIMS office in Vancouver and the U of R.

"In Western Canada it's hard to get people together across those kinds of distances," says Kirkland. "It sounds silly to say that we need PIMS to go and talk to the guys at U of A – but we do."

For more information contact Shaun Fallat at 585-4107, email [sfallat@math.uregina.ca](mailto:sfallat@math.uregina.ca), or go to [www.pims.math.ca](http://www.pims.math.ca)

# Inclusiveness key to search success

Openness and inclusiveness are important principles guiding the Presidential Search Committee as it undertakes the business of finding the seventh president of the University of Regina.

When President Jim Tomkins was appointed in late March 2007 for a term extending until June 30, 2008, the Board of Governors declared its intention to begin a search that would draw input from the University community.

Regular updates about the president search process are available on the U of R website, as a link off the University Secretary's web page. People are encouraged to read the posted Candidate Mandate and Position Profile and email University Secretary, Annette Revet, with feedback at [presidential.search@uregina.ca](mailto:presidential.search@uregina.ca). This feedback will then be used by the search committee to help make its selection.

People can also find information on the site about Presidential Search Committee membership, terms of reference, meeting updates, the key deliverables schedule and information about the University's search consultant, Caldwell Partners International (CPI).

Caldwell attracts and assesses potential candidates for the committee's consideration, does in-depth referencing of finalists and also serves as an advisor.

"We knew from the outset the University wanted a very inclusive process that broadly sought the input of its many stakeholders," says Harry Parslow, a consultant with

Caldwell working with the U of R search team.

"Accordingly, we contacted directly or electronically several hundred individuals, collected their input on a range of topics, and provided that feedback to the search committee. This is a very large number of contacts, and was quite a bit more inclusive than ordinarily occurs in most searches across Canada – a real credit to your search committee for making this effort."

The survey included people from the internal and external community who have an association with the University. These include faculty, staff, undergraduate and graduate students, alumni, government representatives, ex-chancellors, and donors.

Parslow points out the University of Regina is only one of many Canadian universities trying to find a leader for its school, which provides additional challenges.

"There is currently significant competition in the post-secondary sector for talented individuals, with many universities across Canada presently wanting to attract their own president from among a relatively small pool of candidates," says Parslow. "We want to attract the best candidates for the U of R and we need to make sure they truly know about the outstanding opportunities at this university and in this community – and not just what the weather is like."

To help find the right person for the job the Board of Governors formed a search committee comprised of faculty, staff and student representatives, the



Mo Bundon, chair of the Board of Governors as well as the Presidential Search Committee, stands in front of portraits of former U of R leaders: (L to R) Dr. William A. Riddell, Dr. John H. Archer and Dr. Lloyd Barber. The seventh president is expected to begin his or her term in the 2008 fall semester.

University chancellor, alumni and Board representatives. The Board selected the various areas that would be represented while the individuals selected to serve on the committee were chosen either by appointment or election.

"We have a very diverse search committee and it has been a wonderful experience," says Mo Bundon, who is chair of the Board as well as the Presidential Search Committee.

"We all come in understanding that while we might have some differences of opinion, there are a lot of similarities in what we are after. Let's

focus on where the similarities are and where we have differences, then let's discuss those differences so that when we go out we are unified and we understand what we are looking for," says Bundon.

During the University's last presidential search the committee looked quite different. It included the entire University Board, says Bundon. The current search committee has both Board representation and representatives from other areas of the University. It will also be closely involved in checking references of final candidates.

In mid-February Caldwell Partners will present a list of

candidates to the search committee. This list will be narrowed down so candidate interviews can begin in early March and April.

Those who advance will be brought on campus to present to a larger representative group of the university community. These individuals will be given a tour of campus and meet with the Board. The next U of R President is expected to begin his or her term at the start of the 2008 fall semester.

For more information visit the Presidential Search website at: <http://www.uregina.ca/presoff/secretary/>

## Search Committee members selected from across campus

In early 2007 the Board of Governors formed a Presidential Search Committee comprised of faculty, staff, students and Board members. The various areas of the campus community that are represented were selected by the Board while the individuals themselves were chosen by the groups they represent. Search Committee members and the areas they represent are as follows:

- Mo Bundon, Chair of the Board of Governors and Chair of the Presidential Search Committee
- Barbra Bell, Vice-Chair of the Board of Governors
- Katherine Bergman, Dean Representative
- Mike Burton, Undergraduate Student Representative
- Paul Corns, Director/AVP Representative
- Christine Crowe, APT Representative
- Deb Humeniuk, Graduate Student Representative
- Darlene Juschka, Faculty Representative
- Lisa King, Alumni Representative
- Chris Larsen, CUPE Representative
- Dwight Nelson, Member of the Board of Governors
- William Ready, Chancellor
- Jeanne Shami, Faculty Representative of the Board of Governors

## Finding the right presidential fit

Finding a university president involves more than selecting a resumé with the right mix of adjectives.

It means finding the person who is the best fit for our university, says Mo Bundon, chair of both the Presidential Search Committee and Board of Governors.

Ideal candidates for the position will have characteristics common to most university presidents. He or she will have both a strong academic and research background, be focused on students and able to generate revenue for the University. However, in addition to these, the search committee is looking for qualities that create a strong match with the University of Regina.

"If you look at the values that we have at the University of Regina, the values that have become a tradition at the U of R, we want someone who shares those values – a strong understanding of our teaching mission and the students, and research, a clear understanding of community service, a clear

understanding of the province of Saskatchewan, and an understanding of what people call 'Prairie roots' or 'Western roots,' says Bundon, adding that the candidate's ability to see the community's potential is an important asset.

Moreover, Bundon is hopeful highly qualified candidates will be attracted to the position's potential for creating opportunities and benefits for the University and society. With only two universities in Saskatchewan, the President of the U of R can have greater influence than if they were in a centre such as Toronto, with a higher concentration of post-secondary schools.

"Here, the university president is in direct contact with government ministers, understands the political situation and is probably on boards, such as the Regina Regional Economic Development Authority. The university president is a special person here and that person can influence social, community and economic events in this province," says Bundon.

The search process also includes an opportunity for the senior leadership team to meet the leading candidates. Creating opportunities to evaluate candidate compatibility is an important component of the presidential selection. Candidates can sometimes request confidentiality as they move through the interview stages; however, the search committee will continue to look at ways to allow for input and exchanges of information as the selection process unfolds.

"A search process is a two-way street," says Bundon. "It is as much about us wanting to get the right person as that person wanting to make sure that we are the right fit for him or her. So it works both ways. Fit is critical."

For more details on the candidate mandate and position profile, visit the Presidential Search website at: <http://www.uregina.ca/presoff/secretary/>