



Co-op dinner will celebrate a successful sandwich scheme

In just over a month, the University of Regina's co-operative education program will celebrate 35 years of growth and success, with award ceremonies and a banquet.

However, sandwiches will not be on the menu on March 25th for what was originally billed as a "sandwich scheme," in which work experience was sandwiched between academic terms for Engineering students at the U of R.

When the University of Regina established a Co-operative Education Program in 1969, it was only the fourth in the country and the first in Western Canada to do so. John Mantle, the first dean of the Faculty of Engineering at the U of R, saw that a program of semesters of work layered among semesters in the classroom would be a good fit at the U of R. Working with Cam Blachford, one of the first faculty members he hired, Mantle tested the idea informally and began the program in earnest in the fall of 1969. The first 21 students were placed in January 1970.

The original program - called

Work/Study - was administered by engineering faculty members, but it has since grown and evolved into an important service housed in its own spacious quarters in the Riddell Centre. The co-op program serves a broad range of employers and students studying in the Faculties of Engineering, Science and Administration. It also helps attract students to the U of R.

"It appeals to students, and even more to their parents," says Linda O'Halloran, who manages the program. "Parents like it because it helps with the cost of university."

The statistics bear that out. Between January 2000 and December 2003 the co-op office placed 2,800 students who each earned an average \$10,000 during their work term. Besides the extra cash, students like the co-op program because the career-related work experience makes their degree more valuable.

"Studies indicate that co-op students do better in their studies, and we know from our experience that they are motivated to

continue," O'Halloran adds.

Brinley Werrett is one student who is glad he took the co-op option. He completed three work terms while studying in the Faculty of Administration.

"I wasn't sure what industry I wanted to be in, but I found through my work experiences that marketing was a good fit for me," Werrett says. "I have friends at other universities, and many of them didn't like their first job. The co-op program helps in that way."

Werrett is currently working for McNair Business Development, a professional services firm located next to the U of R campus. He credits the networking opportunities created by the co-op program for helping him land the position at McNair, which markets to clients across Canada and the United States.

While most of the co-op placements are in Regina and across Western Canada, some U of R students are literally seeing the world during their work terms. One of China's

leading software development firms, CVIC Software Engineering, has hired U of R students for placements at its offices in Jinan, China.

"The owner of the company is a U of R grad," O'Halloran explains. "We are extremely happy to have a strong partnership with CVIC, and we believe there may be other opportunities for co-op students in China."

While China is a fertile field for future co-op placements, more immediate plans are focused on the upcoming 35th anniversary dinner. One of the highlights will be the presentation of the first annual Mantle-Blachford Award to an outstanding co-op student. Cam Blachford, who helped develop the co-op program with former dean Mantle, will present the award.

Co-operative Education's 35th Anniversary Dinner will be held Thursday, March 25th, at the Delta Regina Hotel. For ticket information call 585-5528.

CAMPUS LIFE CALENDAR

Feb. 16-20

Mid-term break
No classes

Thurs., Feb. 19 - 12:10 p.m.

Coffee House Controversies

Informal talks given by Faculty of Arts professors
"The People Killing People: The Death Penalty in Canada"
Speaker: Ken Leyton-Brown
Room 305, 1929 Scarth St.
Info: 585-4226

Feb. 20

University holiday
University closed

Mon., Feb. 23 - 10:30 a.m.

Computer Science seminar

"Additional and Non-traditional Approaches to Channel and Network Capacity Problems"
Speaker: Terence Chan
Rm. 307.16, College West Bldg.
Info: 585-4613

Mon., Feb. 23 - 4 p.m.

Psychology colloquium

"The Development of Memory and Inhibition in Infancy: Remembering Your Do's and Don'ts"
Speaker: Sandra Wisbe
Rm. 566, Education Bldg.
Info/RSVP: 585-4221/4157

Mon., Feb. 23 - 6:30 p.m.

Psychology training clinic

"The Importance of Psychological Well Being During Cardiac Rehabilitation"
Speaker: Jaime Williams
Rm. 157, PAC
Info/RSVP: 585-4004

Tues., Feb. 24 - 7 p.m.

Romeo Dallaire lecture

"Giving a Voice and New Possibilities to Children Affected by Armed Conflict"
Speaker: Lieutenant-General Romeo Dallaire
Education Auditorium, University of Regina
Info: 585-4779/4226

Wed., Feb. 25 - 3:30 p.m.

Latin America Interest Group seminar series

"Mexican Revolutionary Propaganda and the Turner Thesis, Pancho Villa as Frontiersman"
Speaker: Mark Anderson
Rm. 313, Classroom Bldg.
Info: 585-4113

Wed., Feb. 25 - 7 p.m.

International Film Series

"Shook the Lie"
German with English subtitles
Riddell Auditorium, Campion College
Info: 585-4595

Wed., Feb. 25 - 3:30 p.m.

Playwright Reading Series

"The Contest between Harmony and Invention: The Developmental Process of The Red Priest"
Speaker: Mikio Ouchi
Shu-Box Theatre
Info: 585-5562

Wed., Feb. 25 - Noon

Saskatchewan Instructional Development & Research Unit seminar

"Education and Nation Building"
Speaker: Lisa Comeau
Rm. 215, Education Bldg.
Info: 585-4309

Thurs., Feb. 26 - 9 a.m.

5th Annual Consumer Show

Visit the vendor booths as well speak with representatives
Multi-Purpose Room, Riddell Centre
Info: 585-5003

Thurs., Feb. 26 - 1:15 p.m.

Saskatchewan Institute of Public Policy seminar

"Privacy Legislation Compliance in Saskatchewan"
Speaker: R. Gary Dickson Q.C.
Gallery Building, College Avenue Campus
Info/Registration: 585-5777

Thurs., Feb. 26 - 4 p.m.

Humanities Research Institute Profiling Scholarship Series

"Put Your Best Face Forward: Sturm and Drang and the 4th Wall"
Speaker: Wes D. Pearce
Rm. 020, Riddell Centre
Info: 585-4304

Fri., Feb. 27 - 4 p.m.

History colloquium

"Japan and the Visualization of Manchuria, 1932-1937"
Speaker: Philip Charrier
Rm. 348, Administration-Humanities Bldg.
Info: 585-4211

For a complete Calendar of events at the University of Regina visit our Web site at www.uregina.ca



Scoping out the university/high school transition

"I wanted to get a feel for what a university class would be like. It was a very worthwhile experience."

That's the view of Grade 12 student Morgan Pryce. She was one of 17 students at Winston Knoll Collegiate who took an introductory U of R course in psychology, delivered by University instructors at the high school in northwest Regina last semester. It was a pilot project, one of several initiatives by the University to help students make the transition from high school to university, and improve their chances for success at the university level. Pryce applied to take Psych 101 for that very reason.

"I wanted to get a feel for what a university class would be like," she says. "The reading load was a lot heavier than high school. We had to read a 40-page chapter every few days, and that got to a lot of students. I'm a really big reader and writer, so it didn't bother me."

At the same time, Pryce saw some of her classmates struggle to make the adjustment. She's also been reading articles about high school students with 90 per cent averages receiving Cs and Ds in university. Her observations prompted her to write a column

for the Minus 20 page in the Leader-Post.

"Those high school marks are not a good indicator of how successful students will be in university," states Pryce. She's not sure how to achieve the goal, but she'd like to see high school students read more. "Strong readers always do better in university," Pryce says. "It's easier for them to get through the material."

Pryce also thinks the province is going in the wrong direction by making final exams worth only 20 per cent of a student's final mark, instead of 30 per cent. "I thought after all I had been reading this was a step in the wrong direction in preparing Grade 12s for university."

She says her experience with Psych 101 has given her confidence for when she enters university full-time this fall. "I realize that 17 students is a lot smaller than most university classes, but the school I'm planning on attending next year has only about 2,800 students, and class sizes around 35. So, for me, Psych 101 was a very good indicator of what next year will be like. I will not be cocky, but I've had the chance to solidify my trust in my skills, and I feel I'm more than ready for this new challenge," Pryce

concludes.

Introducing students to the university experience while they're still in high school isn't the only measure that aims at assisting in a successful transition. The University's First Year Services unit hears on a daily basis the concerns of students considering a university education and addresses their concerns with facts gleaned from research, which has been incorporated into the University 100 and University 110 courses. "University 100: Introduction to University" is open to all students at the U of R. It helps students develop the skills, strategies and attitudes that will support their academic development in university. "University 110: Writing for Academic Success" shows students how to apply their developing analytical and writing skills to assignments in the various academic disciplines.

The University's Update page will provide a more detailed article on First Year Services and other initiatives to support scholarship at a later date.)

To find more information about the services the University of Regina offers to help students learn to be successful at the university level, go to: www.uregina.ca/fys



Maki Nagisa (left) and Jonelle Gunderson were part of the University of Regina's fourth annual Infringement Festival, which presented noon and evening plays written, performed and produced by theatre students Feb. 6-14. Nagisa and Gunderson appeared in Velocity, written and directed by Daniel MacDonald.

U of R Photo by A/V Services

We want to hear from you!
Tell us what you think of the U of R Update page.
E-mail your comments to communications@uregina.ca



UNIVERSITY OF REGINA

Public Lecture at the University of Regina

Sponsored by Faculty of Social Work, Department of Justice Studies, Canadian Institute for Peace, Justice and Security, Humanities Research Institute, and Faculty of Education
LT.-GEN. ROMÉO DALLAIRE (RET.)

"Giving a Voice and New Possibilities to Children Affected by Armed Conflict"
Tuesday, 24 February 2004, 7:00 - 8:30 p.m.
Education Auditorium, University of Regina



Lt.-Gen. Roméo Dallaire is the former Force Commander of the UN Mission to Rwanda and author of the best-selling *Shake Hands with the Devil: The Failure of Humanity in Rwanda* (2003). As the Special Advisor on War-Affected Children to the Canadian International Development Agency, Gen. Dallaire is on a mission to create increased awareness about the situation of children affected by armed conflict.

Free Admission. All are Welcome.
Free Parking in Lot 15 (IM area) and Lot 17
Question Period and Book Signing to follow lecture.
For further information, contact 585-4779 or 585-4226