

U OF R REPORT

P2 MEMORIES MADE

P3 DISCUSSION PAPER

P3 BARBER TAKES HELM

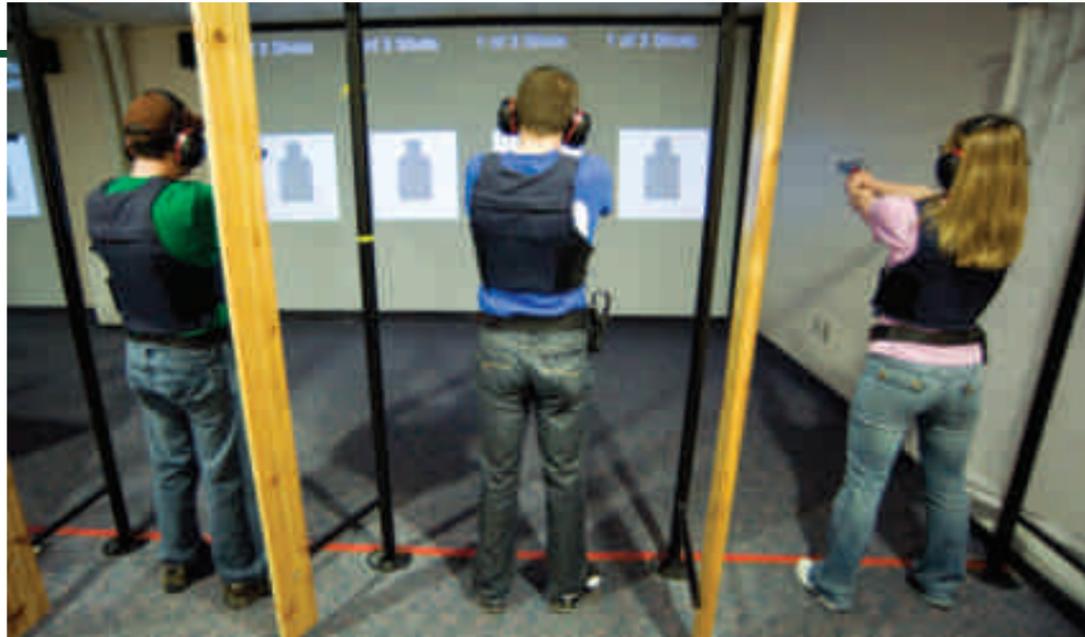
P4 HONORARY DEGREE RECIPIENTS

Police training goes high tech

Students are getting a chance to experience some of the more dangerous aspects of police work – drawing a firearm and driving through red lights – in relative safety through a simulator pilot project with the RCMP.

Psychology professor Richard MacLennan is conducting the research and 21 students in the Police Studies program have assisted by participating in the study. Through the course of a semester the students have used a computerized firearms simulator. They recently finished the firearms study and are beginning a new project using driving simulators.

What makes the firearms research unique is that the students have been trained exclu-



Police Studies students test their skills with the RCMP Training Academy's range simulator. The students are part of a study that examines the transfer of learning between training with simulators and training with live fire.

sively on the simulator and were tested on a live-fire range to examine the transfer of learning.

“One of the benefits of a range simulator is that it is much cheaper than an actual range,” explains MacLennan.

“It’s a good way to give a gentler, kinder introduction to using a firearm versus using a live pistol right off the bat.

They are actually using it here for remedial training with (RCMP) cadets. So if cadets are struggling with their firearms training, they come in here and do what they call learning assistance.”

RCMP Training Academy Corporals Mark Flodell and Curtis Parker (a U of R graduate himself) have been working with the students since the beginning of their training and have seen the benefit of using the simulators.

“A lot of what we learn here is trigger pull and sight alignment whereas at the (live-fire) range you have to deal with more of the recoil, the noise, the actual atmosphere of live fire,” explains Flodell.

“What we want to see is if we
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School children get their first taste of professional theatre

The Conservatory Theatre for Young People is giving many school children their first exposure to live professional theatre.

That’s one of the reasons Gerry Folk, the head of the Conservatory of Performing Arts, decided to launch the program.

The program brings in shows from various theater companies that are linked to topics in the school curriculum. Teachers receive a study guide for each play, which they use to enhance the learning experience for their students.

With more than a 1,000 K-12 students from Regina and southern Saskatchewan descending on Darke Hall for each of the three performances this year, there’s no doubt there was a need to be filled.

“When you look around the country most cities have some form of professional theatre created specifically for young people,” Folk says.

“However, in Regina there was no one presenting or producing a series of professional theatre for young people – theatre that addresses the issues children and teens face in today’s complex world. When we saw this opportunity we realized that the U of R Conservatory was uniquely positioned to fill this gap.”

“Theatre has a way of bringing a community together in ways that television or films do not,” Folk adds. “Students are able to have a shared experience as the story unfolds in front of them. As we look at the issues that young people face I think we have a role to play in address-

ing those issues in ways that students can understand and accept.”

The first production, *The Emperor’s New Threads*, was geared to children in Grades K-3 and addressed subjects such as honesty, peer pressure and ethics in advertising. The second presentation, *Spirit Horse*, examined First Nations stories and traditions, racism, stereotyping, dealing with loss and having pride in your heritage. It was aimed at students in Grades 4 - 8. The final play in the series, *Shakedown Shakespeare*, gave students in Grades 9 -12 a better understanding of the Bard’s work.

The common denominator across all age groups and the three productions was the students’ amazement at the ease with which the actors



The Conservatory of Performing Arts’ new program is helping to introduce school children to live professional theatre. The performances held at Darke Hall explored issues relevant to young people such as peer pressure, racism and stereotyping.

filled multiple roles and their imaginative use of simple props.

“The kids are uniformly astounded by the quality of the performances and are often shocked by the small number of actors playing the different

roles,” says Mary Lou Van De Bon, program coordinator for the Conservatory. “They also marvel at how the same simple object onstage can represent so many different things. It’s very much a learning experience of how live theatre works.”



Writ Large

Joel Graham
Student
Business Administration

After a little over five years at the University of Regina, it is now time to move on to the working world. I clearly remember feeling unsure of where my future was headed after graduating from high school. At that point, many people said to me that it is crucial to experience a variety of paths to help discover where my interests lie. It is a little eerie noticing how similar that situation was to how I am currently feeling as I near convocation.

I spent all my time at the U of R taking Business Administration. In my first two years, I really wasn't overly involved with extracurricular activities and events that took place. In year three, I decided it was time to take a more active interest in my school and joined JDC West (a business case competition), the Business Student Society and a wide variety of intramural sports. This higher level of involvement was one of the best decisions I have ever made. It allowed me to challenge myself educationally, bolster my resumé, and most importantly, develop friendships with hundreds of fellow students and professors. These relationships will be the most important thing I will take from university. There have been so many great times had with classmates that I certainly will never forget. It took getting involved in the school's activities to develop these relationships.

I think one of the most unique parts of the Paul J. Hill School of Business is the dedication and care shown by professors for their students. These professors do everything they can to ensure success both during your university career, and into the professional world. The passion of the faculty has turned our Business School into one of the best in Western Canada. In Sylvain Charlesbois and Bruce Anderson, I have found two people I consider to be mentors. Their work ethic and refusal to take 'no' for an answer regarding the things that they believe in is truly inspiring. I find that they motivate both the students to achieve great things, but also their fellow professors to become more involved. This is the reason for the current success of the Paul J. Hill School of Business.

Leaving the University of Regina, a place where I feel so comfortable and am surrounded by great friends and mentors, is truly both sad and exciting at the same time. I have become very passionate about this University because I think it has so much potential. However, I am equally excited to tackle the great opportunities that are available to me with the knowledge I have gained. I will soon become a proud alumnus of the University of Regina and will look back fondly on my memories of this school.

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 UofR.Report@uregina.ca and include your contact information. Please put "U of R Report" in the e-mail subject line.

– from page 1 *Police training* can transition people who have never held a pistol before to get rid of the shock factor of that first shot. The compression from the shot, the recoil, a lot of times that is overwhelming for cadets.”

Students are also getting an opportunity to use the driving simulators in a new research project, which lets them experience the kinds of driving scenarios that they may encounter on the road as a police officer. Through a main console instructors can add stressors such as road hazards.

One of the most dangerous situations police officers encounter on the job is driving through intersections during emergencies. The simulators allow RCMP cadets to try different tactics to learn to do this safely.

One driving pod is also outfitted with an eye-tracker so instructors can see if drivers have an issue with tunnel vision.

“People develop tunnel vision under stress,” explains MacLennan. “They stop looking around and scanning the environment, which a police officer is supposed to be doing all the time when they are driving. So we are able to throw all kinds of surprises at them and see if tunnel vision



The RCMP Training Academy is equipped with eight driving simulators. These allow instructors to test students' ability to deal with situations such as crossing an intersection through a red light.

happens, if they stop scanning the intersections when they are driving through them.”

This fall the RCMP Training Academy will convert its old museum building to house both the driving and use-of-force simulators. The idea is that cadets will “drive” to a virtual scenario. They will get out of the driving simulator and walk into a use-of-force simulation. The video-based use-of-force judgement scenario is interactive and trains cadets how to pull over drivers, give verbal commands and deal with

issues that require some level of force.

The pilot project has been a good experience for students such as Cort Daku, who is in his second year of the Police Studies program.

“It's definitely a learning experience, a positive one,” says Daku.

“I think it's just good to have something that shows that I've been involved with this agency already,” he adds. “I haven't even started applying yet. So, it looks good that I was able to complete something with a policing agency.”

– from page 4 *Presenting our honorary degree recipients*

Connie Kaldor

Berceuse won the Juno Award for Best Children's Album in 1989 and a U.S. Parents' Choice Award in 1990. Her album *Love is a Truck* was nominated for a Juno in the Folk Roots category in 2000, and she was made a Member of the Order of Canada in 2006.

A Canadian folk icon, Kaldor, through her music continues to convey the human experience with wit, humour and depth.

Kaldor will receive an honorary degree from the University on Thursday, June 4, 2009 during Spring Convocation.

Anne Luke

workshops and training sessions in child development and early childhood

education since 1978.

Her energy and talents as an advocate for early childhood education have also been recognized by numerous organizations.

“It continues to amaze me that the vision to improve lives for those who are marginalized by poverty, racism, and the long-term effects of colonization has captured the imagination of many people,” says Luke. “It is not just the teachers who share the vision. All staff – drivers, cook, family outreach staff, administrative staff, parents and consultants – are all committed to the values and principles that make the ELC an exceptional place.”

Luke will receive an honorary degree from the University on Wednesday, June 3, 2009 during Spring Convocation.

Craig Oliver

Trudeau. Before his vision began to fail him, Oliver would organize a group of canoeists to paddle white-water rivers in northern Canada each summer. Trudeau was part of that group.

“He was, as you might expect, very exacting, very careful, did his job around camp. I was the leader of this group, although that was a bit laughable, but I was the leader and he would respect whatever decisions I made. He once said, ‘In order to be a good leader, you have to be a good follower.’”

Oliver will receive an honorary degree from the University on Friday, June 5, 2009 during Spring Convocation.

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Publications Mail Agreement #40065347
Return undeliverable Canadian addresses to:

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University of Regina
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 on the web at www.uregina.ca (click on “News & Events” and select the link for *U of R Report*).

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Themes emerge in Discussion paper

The draft of a new strategic plan for the University of Regina has been developed based on widespread public consultations over the last few months and was made available online on May 8.

People have an opportunity to provide their comments and critiques about the draft. This input will be used by the Strategic Planning Process committee when it prepares its next draft for Executive of Council review on May 20.

Thomas Chase is chair of the strategic planning facilitation team. "Following review and discussion with Executive of Council this month, we hope to present the draft plan to Senate in early June and then to the Board of Governors in July for approval and implementation," Chase says.

The draft plan takes into account the nearly 100 face-to-face meetings, 1,100 online survey responses, more than 30 written submissions gathered during the initial consultation stage that started in January. In April, themes heard during the consultations were presented in a discussion paper and in an online survey seeking additional comment. More than 300 people responded to the discussion

paper. As well, several focus groups open to campus members provided input.

The discussion paper developed in April reflected ideas that ranged from a comprehensive vision of the University's programs and configuration to specific ideas about campus life.

"We've been urged to be bold in our planning, to make difficult choices that will contribute to the University's long-term health and success," says President Vianne Timmons.

"We have heard that most believe the University's current size is about right, and that we need to focus our efforts on stabilizing enrolments in the short term and then growing them slightly rather than dramatically over the next three to five years."

Many of those consulted said that a central part of the University's plan should focus on its relationship with Saskatchewan's First Nations and Métis peoples, as well as the federated colleges and entities such as the Gabriel Dumont Institute. The consultation found that people would like to see the University invest in technology to help recruit staff and students; that there is a desire for the U of R to streamline and simplify its administrative struc-



Ideas heard during strategic planning consultations over the last few months have been presented in a draft strategic plan which was made available online on May 8. Themes that emerged in an earlier discussion paper ranged from a comprehensive vision of the University's programs and configuration to ideas about campus life.

ture and procedures; and that a more systematic approach should be taken to help students transition from high school to university.

There was broad consensus that experiential learning should be integrated into academic programming at both the graduate and undergraduate levels, according to Timmons. The environment and sustainability were also key common issues.

Opinions diverged in a few areas. Suggestions about the future of the College Avenue campus, for example, ranged

from investing in it and making it one of the country's greenest facilities to closing it down and establishing a University presence in the city's downtown and core areas.

Academic programming was another area where people had diverging views. For some, the maintenance of a strong traditional arts, science and fine arts undergraduate core was the highest priority, while others felt that more resources should be assigned to graduate programming in targeted areas and provide competitive financial support for master's

and doctoral students.

As the draft strategic plan goes forward into the next stages of review and then completion, Timmons is confident that the results of the process will be worthwhile.

"I am confident that together we will produce a strategic plan that sets clear directions for the future of the University of Regina, and positions us as one of Canada's leading comprehensive universities," she says. "My sincere thanks to the many hundreds of people who have participated in the planning process."

Susan Barber to serve as Chair of Board of Governors

Susan Barber is the new Board of Governors Chair, deepening her long-standing connection to the University.

She succeeds Mo Bundon, who was appointed to the Board by the provincial government in 2003 and served as Chair since 2005.

Barber was appointed to the Board of Governors in 2005 and reappointed for a second term in 2008. She earned a Bachelor of Arts with Great Distinction from the University in 1984 and received her Bachelor of Laws in 1987 from the University of Saskatchewan. In 1988, she was admitted to the Saskatchewan Bar.

She is currently a partner in the Regina law firm McDougall Gauley LLP, was appointed Queen's Counsel in 2008 and maintains a broad-based practice. Barber has also authored and/or co-authored numerous articles in professional journals, has pre-

sented seminars at conferences across the country, was a bar admission course lecturer from 1995 to 2000 and was a seasonal lecturer in business law at the University from 1989 to 1994.

"You hear this all the time, but I really do think it's important to give back to the institutions that contributed to putting you where you are, whether that be your high school, your university or some other body," says Barber. "I think we all try to find a fit not only in terms of interest but also in terms of level of commitment to something that helped to give us the resources to do what we do today. Certainly the University did that for me."

Giving back to the community is an ideal Barber has carried with her throughout her life. She has served on many community boards and currently sits as a member of the board of the Canada West

Foundation and as vice-chair of the board of the Information Services Corporation of Saskatchewan.

Her volunteerism and commitment to community have been recognized with accolades such as the YWCA Woman of Distinction Award in Business, Labour and Professions in 2000. She was named in *Saskatchewan Business Magazine* as a Woman of Influence and received the Community Service Award from the Canadian Bar Association, Saskatchewan Branch, in 2007.

It is her hope as chair to see the University continue to create partnerships and build its reputation within the community.

"I think it's a goal of just about everybody on the Board that we want this university to be the jewel of the province," says Barber. "We really want to see people come to this university and



Susan Barber was recently appointed the Chair of the Board of Governors. She is an alumna, a partner in the Regina law firm McDougall Gauley and an avid volunteer in the community.

stay here and want to pursue degrees. I think we can all contribute, whether as alumni or otherwise, to making this a university of choice. I think

it's important for us to play a role in trying to set some of that direction and set some of that vision so that we can try to make it a place to be."

Presenting our honorary degree recipients

Connie Kaldor

Connie Kaldor has had an extraordinary career writing and singing Canadian folk songs. While she got her start singing in church with her family – and to Patsy Cline and Beatles records – she is now a Juno-award-winning singer who shares her fierce love of the Prairies in concert halls around the world.

“There is a sense [on the Prairies] of space and possibilities,” Kaldor says. “I find it inspiring. There hasn’t been hundreds of years of people leaving their mark on the visual landscape here. You are always surrounded by an extraordinary sky. It is good to feel small in the universe every once in awhile.”

While music has always been her passion, she also has a flare for theatre. Kaldor earned a theatre degree from the University of Alberta in 1976 and worked with alternative theatre companies including the Mummers in Newfoundland and Toronto’s Theatre Passe Muraille.

However, her passion for music got the best of her, and years later she returned to the stage, this time with musicians instead of actors. Those she has performed with include Shawn Colvin, Sylvia Tyson, the Chieftains, Daniel Lanois and Tracy Chapman.

“There was a point where I said, ‘Okay, if you want to be a musician and songwriter and make your living at it, you had

better put the time and attention into it and head out there to see if anyone wants to hear your songs,’” Kaldor recalls. “I came out of experimental theatre when it just seemed natural to make your show and take it on the road.”

In the early ’80s she established her own independent record label – Coyote Entertainment – and released nine albums. She went on to earn a staggering number of awards and accolades for her work starting in 1984, with a Juno Award nomination for Most Promising Female Vocalist for her performance on the album *Moonlight Grocery*. Her collaboration on the children’s album *Lullaby*

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Connie Kaldor

Anne Luke

Anne Luke approaches her calling as a lifelong educator with an open heart and a profound commitment to the well-being of children. She founded the Regina Early Learning Centre (ELC) in 1977 out of a desire to see disadvantaged children, particularly those with First Nations ancestry, enter grade school with an equal chance of success as others. She considers the development and the continuation of the ELC as one of the greatest successes of her life.

She actively lobbied for the Centre’s long-term stability even while furthering her education at the University of Regina in the field of pre-school education.

“The challenge of taking a basic idea, exploring it in all of its implications, and gathering support, first from the families and then the larger community, has been tremendously rewarding,” says Luke. “The strong support of the parents, the commitment of the staff and community have all contributed to this success. I am grateful to all who believe in what the ELC tries to accomplish. This wide level of support has been particularly evident in the recent success of our capital campaign, Small Hands – Big Dreams, which has raised over \$1.5 million dollars to purchase, enhance and build onto the main ELC site on Athol Street.”

Luke is actively involved in the community, always striving to make the lives of young people better.

She has served as a member of the Saskatchewan Council on the KidsFirst Management Committee since 2001; helped establish a KidsFirst program site at the Regina Early Learning Centre in 2002; served on the Minister’s Early Learning and Child Care Advisory Board from 2005-2007; was a sessional lecturer with SUNTEP in 1995; was president of the Welfare Rights Centre; was a committee member for the Merici Centre and Sofia House in the 1980s; and has been a facilitator of numerous

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Anne Luke

Craig Oliver

Craig Oliver has traveled the world covering newsmakers and world leaders, and in doing so, has gained recognition as a leader in his own field of journalism. A prominent national media figure since the 1970s, Oliver is most recently known for his work as CTV’s Ottawa Bureau Chief and host of Question Period. He has received numerous awards including two Geminis – one for best reporting on a story, and one for best reporter overall – and the Radio-Television News Directors Association President’s Award. He was inducted into the Canadian Association of Broadcasters Broadcast Hall of Fame in 1995.

Oliver’s love of journalism began at the age of 18 when he

worked as a summer relief announcer/reporter for the local CBC radio station in Prince Rupert, B.C. A friend working at the station said he had a ‘good voice’ and encouraged him to apply.

Early in his career he spent time in Regina as a legislative reporter for CBC. At night he studied history and English at the University of Regina, then the University of Saskatchewan, Regina Campus, and drama at the Regina Conservatory of Music in Darke Hall, now the Conservatory of Performing Arts.

“That was great experience for a reporter,” says Oliver. “When young reporters ask me now, when they want to work in TV, what their skills should

be I say, ‘Take drama. Take voice’ because that’s the business we’re in.”

Education is important to Oliver. His daughter is in her third year at the University of Toronto and his son Murray Oliver – who is also a journalist – earned his degree from the University of Regina.

“Basically, I dropped out of high school because, as I tell people, the radio station paid better,” he says. “Nobody ever thought of encouraging me to go to university. My family wasn’t wealthy. They were taxi drivers. So, I’ve worked hard to learn.”

Some of the lessons he learned were outside the classroom and from friends such as former Prime Minister Pierre

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Craig Oliver