



# U OF R REPORT

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## Engagement critical to research plan development

The University is nearing completion of the first draft of its Strategic Research and Scholarship Plan (SRSP).

The finished document will be used as a guiding statement of research culture for the next five years and serve as a companion to the U of R Strategic Plan *mâwohkamâtowin: Our Work, Our People, Our Communities*.

Like the University's strategic plan, the SRSP will be based on the input collected from various town hall meetings, interviews with internal and external stakeholders and an online questionnaire.

"(The plan) isn't a platitude. This is a blueprint for action," says David Malloy, associate vice-president (Research) and director of Office Research Services.

Malloy is leading the development of the plan, which will serve as a guide in areas such as



The Strategic Research and Scholarship Plan will be used as a guiding statement of research culture for the next five years.

research policy and performance evaluations which will influence promotion, hiring and tenure.

"I would like (the plan) to be a statement that will keep people on track, aware of what the expectation is, what the

possibilities are, what their accountability is, not only to their students, their departments and the University but also to the external community. That is critical to me," says Malloy.

One of the main issues

people have wanted to discuss during the consultation process is resources.

Money from three federal granting councils remains the primary way the University funds its research. These coun-

cils are the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR); Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada (NSERC); and the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC).

"Whether we like it or not, (money from the tri-councils) is part of the provincial funding formula for U of S and U of R," says Malloy. "It's part of the federal funding formula that is the same across the country. We can't get away from it. How we do in tri-council determines how much money we get from federal and provincial sources; that's just it. That's reality."

"Our opportunity for increased funding flexibility is by more professors applying to tri-council. Some will say, cynically, 'well this is fundraising for the University.' That may or may not be. But I think we have an obligation to support

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## Ambition rewarded with New York Rangers placement

Andrew Millard aimed high and landed his dream internship with Madison Square Garden (MSG) and the New York Rangers.

His five month internship - which will end in May - has him assisting the New York Rangers with fan development programs that focus on marketing and promoting the team throughout the New York Metropolitan area.

The placement is part of the requirement for his undergraduate degree in Kinesiology. To secure it Millard made contacts in the National Hockey League (NHL) and did extensive traveling for interviews.

"This internship is a very unique opportunity to discover if working in professional sports is actually what I want to do as a career," says Millard. "So I figured why not aim high? After all, the internship is unpaid. So why not try Madison Square

Garden and the Rangers and see if they want to take me on board for a semester. You don't know if you don't try. And as I found out MSG - the Rangers really do appreciate individuals who take the initiative.

"I believe that it is important for everyone to discover their passion and to pursue it. A personal belief that I live my life by is to 'Always have a dream!' Be passionate about what you do, and set smart goals, both short-term and long-term in order to realize your dreams."

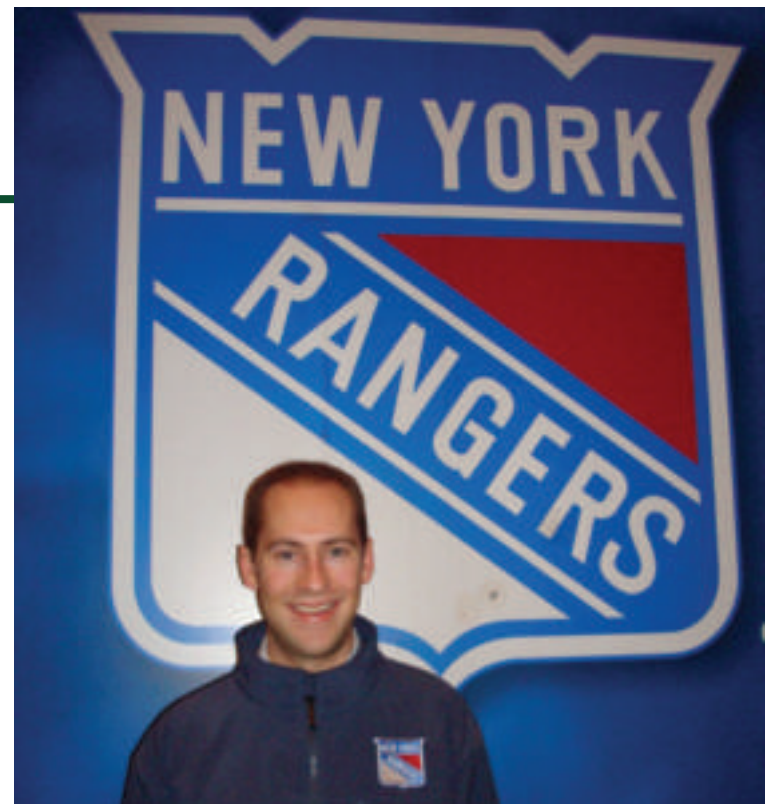
Millard's major is recreation and sport administration, which requires course work in sport and recreation, volunteer management, sport marketing and an understanding of sport management, principles of recreation, leisure and sport development.

"All of my sports administration courses came into play,"

says Millard. "In particular, I would say understanding organizational behaviour has been significant. Madison Square Garden is an enormous organization and at times it is a bit ambiguous as to who reports to whom with respect to organizational structure. In saying that, knowledge of organizational leadership has been interesting to observe within the workplace as well. Also, knowledge of sponsorship, accounting, and other finances has been helpful in allowing me to have a greater understanding of how our department operates under given budgets, especially given the current state of the economy."

The experience, so far, has fed Millard's passion for sports however, that passion extends beyond personal interest. It is something he hopes to use to make a difference in the world.

"I believe involvement in recreation and sports is criti-



Andrew Millard, will spend five months with the New York Rangers assisting with fan development programs as part a Kinesiology internship.

cal to the health and welfare of individuals and countries, particularly with growing obesity and increasing health care costs," says Millard. If more funding could be provided to encourage healthier lifestyles

through recreation and sports, less money would likely need to be spent on health care. This would lead to a healthier state of mind globally as demonstrated by events such as the Olympic Games."



## Writ Large

Pauline Minevich  
Associate Dean  
Graduate and Research  
Faculty of Fine Arts

We have just witnessed the end of the 2010 Vancouver Winter Games, and as we all know, it was a hugely successful event for Canada. We set a new record for the number of gold medals won by a host country, and pundits everywhere are commenting that we seem to have a renewed sense of national pride.

But it wasn't just about sports. Alongside the games there was a Cultural Olympiad in which artists of every description from all across the country proudly showcased their talents to the world. In my work I'm keenly aware of how important the arts are in defining us as a people and as a nation. We're lucky to live in a country with an incredibly vibrant arts scene, where artists can express themselves and their ideas freely.

In the Faculty of Fine Arts, we're proud to have many wonderful and original artists who constantly challenge themselves and their audiences to see the world in new ways. Some work in conventional media, while others use unusual settings and technologies to explore and expand our horizons. They are recognized nationally and internationally for their work, and I'm especially proud that several were featured at the Olympics.

Rachelle Viader Knowles, a new media artist in Visual Arts, was part of a collaborative team that created *Waterfall*, an interactive video installation commissioned by the Canadian Wildlife Federation. Also from Visual Arts, David Garneau was one of the "Metis 10" selected by VANOC to create two original works of art for the Games. Lionel Peyachew, from Indian Fine Arts, was one of fifteen Aboriginal artists selected by Coca-Cola for its Aboriginal Art Bottle Program. His sculpture, made of buffalo wool, is titled "Buffalo Run."

Lighting designer William (Bill) Hales, from Theatre, won a Betty Mitchell award for his work on NiX, "a fairy tale for the end of the world." This fascinating project, which ran at Whistler during the Games, was constructed entirely out of snow and ice, and Bill says that one of the challenges was to keep up with the speed of the ice melt to keep the design operational!

The Saskatchewan Pavilion earned a reputation as the best party place during the Games, and helping to keep it hopping were applied music instructors Eduard Minevich (violin) and Stephen McLellan (bass), who performed with Jack Semple in their trio The True Jive Pluckers.

Brett Bell, a sessional instructor in Media Production and Studies, was commissioned to make a short film for the Games. It's called "Climb," and is the story of "a rock climber who struggles to reach the summit of his objective – a city turned inexplicably on its side."

So you can tell from this, the variety of talent that we have in Fine Arts. We're truly proud of these artists and of their important contribution to the best Games ever.

*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.*

## Library's digital archive opens global access to research

The Dr. John Archer Library is making researchers' work accessible to people around the world with oURspace – an open-access institutional digital repository maintained by Archives and Special Collections.

oURspace provides the university community with a permanent online space for its scholarly work whether it's journal articles, visuals or audio recordings.

One benefit of having these materials available in digital form is that search engines such as Google can detect key words in them. This makes it easier for people to find U of R sourced material.

oURspace is also more advantageous than a self-hosted website because of the extent to which it can preserve people's work.

"You could say 'why not set up a web page?' And yes, that actually works. Today, if I put a document online on my website, it is going to be there," explains Donald Johnson, administrator of library digital collections.

"In a week, the site might still be there. In a year, I might have moved it. So there is this persistent url or web address. So, if I'm at the University and I'm doing an article and I cite a faculty member here, in his or her (online) publication we can provide a permanent online address, and in 50 years or 100 years it still points to the same place."

The digital repository is



Donald Johnson, administrator of library digital collections, sees a world of advantages with oURspace – an open access institutional digital repository.

also able to provide archivally sound preservation of the digital files it stores.

"Think of your desktop hard drive, flash keys and CD ROMs," says Johnson. "You've produced some sort of presentation. You say 'well I'm going to save this, burn it onto a CD or store it on my USB flash key.' The flash key may become corrupt. If you didn't name it properly, it may be overwritten. It could get put into the back of your desk and forgotten. You could lose it."

oURspace also looks after the issue of migrating material. In other words, the library can convert the digital files it has into a format the technology of the day can read.

"CD ROMs do last a long time, (but) there comes a time when you can't read them," explains Johnson. "We can refresh that digital data and that can be simply by copying it onto new media. We can also migrate it.

So, if you happen to produce it in a Word 1997 version and somebody wants to look at it and it is now the year 2030, we will have migrated it through the appropriate versions so that in 33 years time that person can still read what it is you produced."

To upload documents to the repository, members of the university community who are comfortable with this type of technology can go to the oURspace website, register and begin the submission process. Those who feel they need some assistance can rely on library staff to help.

"There is always that challenge with digital technology," says Johnson. "I think everybody experiences that. So we try to provide as much assistance and as much instruction as possible."

The oURspace site can be found at: <http://ourspace.uregina.ca/>

– from page 1 *Research* our institution as well as our own research agendas – everyone wins. We will have a stronger research culture and public reputation if more of us apply and make use of the many initiatives offered by the Office of Research Services."

Malloy also adds that it is not just the input dollars and cents that come from tri-council grants that are important – the university community must consider output. The only things

that can reasonably be evaluated are the peer-reviewed outputs of a researchers' work, in whatever form their discipline calls for, whether those take the form of publications, books or performances.

The University's ability to show the public relevance of the research it conducts will also be crucial in the years to come.

"What we are missing is the impact of those outputs, not only on the students and the disciplines but on the community. How does our research, our output that is funded by tri-

council money, affect your grandmother? I think we are responsible to show that linkage. Universities have traditionally stopped at the output being publications and we need to think and act further down the line."

The first draft of the SRSP will be posted this month for feedback on the Office of Research Services website at [www.uregina.ca/research](http://www.uregina.ca/research)

It is anticipated that the plan will be completed by the end of April.

Director of Communications: Paul Corns  
Manager of Internal Communications: Therese Stecyk  
Communications Officer: Shanan Soroachynski  
Photography: U of R Photography Dept.  
Submitted Photos: • Rob Weitzel Graphic Productions  
• League of Adventurists International Ltd.  
• Men's Hockey Alumni Assoc.  
• Andrew Millard  
Distribution: Robert Huber

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

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## Curling crock created for charity

Cans, creativity and a good cause were the building blocks for a team of engineering undergraduates during this year's Canstruction – an event where teams from across North America build giant structures with cans of food in support of their local food banks.

In Regina, seven teams competed to see who could build the most innovative structure within the theme of the Winter Olympics.

Teams were given 12 hours to build their structure, but the design process started months ago. The structures were on display at the Cornwall Center and Northgate Mall from February 19 to March 6.

Thousands of cans of food were used to build each sculpture. The food used, plus donations the public were encouraged to give at the exhibition, were all given to the Regina and District Food Bank.

The U of R's team of undergraduates was led by professor David deMontigny, who teaches first-year engineering design. For their entry, the team decided to construct a soup pot in the shape of a curling rock using cans of

tuna, ham, mushrooms and tomato soup. The idea – and execution – earned them the competition's People's Choice Award.

The structure required a lot of brainstorming, discussion and volunteer hours from the students.

"It's all volunteer," said deMontigny. "There is nothing in it for them other than it is something cool to be involved in."

The competition had instant appeal for student Jason Whitelaw.

"I want to be engaged in my education and felt like this event offered that opportunity," said Whitelaw. "This event has engaged me in meeting and working with different peers, organizing fundraising events, getting project sponsorship, group designing and the building of a structure. I have experienced personally how fun hard work can be, with the right people, for the right cause."

Engineering student Sotonye Igoniko saw Canstruction as a great way to put into practice the lessons learned in class.



Members of the U of R's Canstruction team use cans of food to build a giant curling rock in support of the Regina and District Food Bank. Top (L to R): Cassandra Hojnik, Solomon Gokana and Victor Guredam. Below (L to R): Professor David deMontigny and student Sotonye Igoniko.

"I wanted to participate in this event because I believe it is related to my field of study. The same problem-solving techniques engineers use for 'big projects' are used in this event. I also learnt that Canada as a country is committed to helping less-privileged individuals."

The U of R team built its entry with financial support from the Dean of Engineering's Office, the Student Union, the Engineering Students' Society and team fundraising.



## They seed, they score: alumni give back through farming

Darren Wilcox is a self-confessed city slicker, but when the time came to go farming to support the U of R Men's Hockey program he was ready.

"Just tell me what time to be there and what to do," says Wilcox, a former Cougar and Regina Pat, who is now with the Regina Police Service.

Wilcox, who earned his Bachelor of Education in 1984, is a member of the Cougar Men's Hockey Alumni Association,

which began informally in 1994 when a group of six U of R graduates organized a golf tournament that raised \$10,000 for the men's hockey program. Money raised is used for scholarships, extra equipment and specialized equipment.

Robert Jamont is one of the original six. He served as a trainer for the men's Cougars while studying for his Bachelor of Physical Activity Studies

degree in the late 1980s.

As the alumni group grew, Jamont explains, they talked about adding a fundraiser that would connect with the province's agricultural heritage, literally seeding now to support the future of the men's hockey program. In 2008, using their alumni and Cougar connections, they leased 280 acres near Strasbourg and went farming.

"We wanted the land to be visible so people driving by would know what we were doing," Jamont explains. "The land is right by Highway 20, so it's ideal."

The 2009 harvest of soft white wheat went 50 bushels to the acre, Jamont reports proudly, generating gross revenue of \$60,000. After the bills are paid, the proceeds will contribute to the total \$90,000 raised in 2009 for the men's hockey program.

While "a lot can go sideways" in farming, Jamont notes, what helps make this venture successful is the net-



The Cougar Men's Hockey Alumni Association plants a crop each year to raise money for the hockey program.

working by alumni to arrange free or low-cost contributions of materials and equipment that cover everything from seeding, weeding and harvesting operations to hauling the crop away. Alumni and friends also chip in with free labour.

"Blaine (Cougars head coach Blaine Sautner) is not a U of R alumni," Jamont observes, "but I think he gets a thrill from driving that new combine we get to use every year."

Ross Mahoney, who graduated with a Bachelor of Education, was a member of the first men's Cougar hockey team and a Regina Pat. He's now the chief amateur scout

for the NHL's Washington Capitals, which means he's often on the road and not able to help directly with the farm fundraiser. Nevertheless, he's a strong supporter of the association for reasons that are echoed by Wilcox and Jamont.

"You should always put back what you took out," says Mahoney, "and I had great experiences. I was fortunate to be with a great group of guys that went to two national championships. When you look at what Cougar alumni have done in their careers, not just in athletics but in all fields, they've had a high level of success. Anything we can do to support today's Cougars is worth it."



Money raised by the dedicated members of the Cougar Men's Hockey Alumni Association is used for scholarships and equipment.

# Mongol car rally offers adventure for a good cause

The Mongol Rally has everything an adventure-seeking, socially-conscious person like 20-year-old Andrew Konoff could want in a charity event – world travel, challenge and a chance to make a difference.

Konoff is a third-year philosophy student who is raising money to participate in this year's Rally with friend Spencer Pitzel.

To enter, each two-person team is required to raise approximately \$2,000 for international charities. Last year, the rally raised nearly \$350,000 for charitable organizations in Mongolia. In addition to the \$2,000 entry, Konoff and Pitzel will also raise money for a local charity – Oasis Regina, an organization that assists youth in north central Regina.

On July 24th approximately 400 teams will leave the United Kingdom, Spain and Italy simultaneously.

Konoff and Pitzel will begin the rally south of London and travel through the Baltic states, cross the land bridge to Turkey, then cross the Black Sea on a ferry to Russia, travel through Kazakhstan, back into Russia and then into Mongolia.

To make the Rally more challenging, participants are only allowed to use a vehicle with an engine size up to 1.2 litres. There is no set route. Teams are encouraged to discover their own path.

"The cars do need some preparations for the journey: roads in Kazakhstan and Mongolia are virtually non-existent, at least along where we're going," explains Konoff. "So we'll be piling our car full of spare tires, jerry cans and probably not much else. After all, the fun really starts to happen when you break down or get lost. One important modification is going to involve welding extra protection over the oil pan and gas tank – most Rally journeys have ended with rocks to these areas."

Konoff's interest in the Rally extends beyond the adventure. He is active in ArtsCares, a community service-learning program for Faculty of Arts students, and has learned the value of giving back.

"ArtsCares is the program that made me realize how



Andrew Konoff

important it is for me, and any student, to find ways to be involved in our communities," says Konoff. "Volunteering, events like the Mongol Rally, fundraising drives ... it can be hard to see the point if you haven't been engaged with those sorts of endeavours.

"But, once you get involved with community groups, whether it be locally or internationally, it's hard to ignore the importance of those linkages. I think the awareness that I gained in ArtsCares is something that should be a part of any liberal arts education, and especially in our institution. I'm glad that we take seriously the University slogan, 'as one who serves.'"

In addition to the opportunity to contribute, the Rally holds the potential to teach Konoff something about himself as a person and about the world he lives in.

"I do think it'll change me, but I'm not sure in what ways," said Konoff. "It's supposed to be about the challenges – about really being confronted with the unusual and unexpected. And, in the face of all of that, you have to find the humour and beauty in it all.

"If we make this as simple as a jaunt through developing and post-communist countries, I think there would be little gained in perspective. What



I hope is that I'm going to be shaken free of the sort of mental baggage one brings along on a trip by the time I get to Turkey. From then on, I hope I can find something of real human significance in the countries we visit. Living in tents and travelling 300 km a day will probably help me achieve that goal. It's a bit like being a modern nomad."

Konoff and Pitzel held their first fundraising event at the Mongolie Grill; they plan to host a cabaret in April and a series of other events over the next few months. If you would like to help them reach their fundraising goal you can donate online at their Rally website <http://mongolrally.theadventurists.com/saskatchewan>



(endnote)



*The Mongol Rally has raised money for charity since its inaugural event in 2004 through sponsorship and the auctioning off of the participating cars. Teams travel across Europe and Asia in vehicles with an engine size up to 1.2 litres to reach their destination in Mongolia.*