

Realize. It starts with you.

Corey Matthews proudly shows photos of members of the North Central Lakers basketball team on his computer. Matthews, this year's recipient of the Outstanding Young Alumnus Award from the University of Regina Alumni Association, identifies several of the people in the photo, gives a bit of their life history and explains where they are now.

"Not all of them are successful, but all of them have experienced some success," Matthews says. It's an observation born out of his own personal experience, the roundabout route that brought him to coaching athletics and teaching a program for kids who are working to re-enter the mainstream educational system. Matthews has parallels from his own life to draw on.

"Basketball kept me in high school," says Matthews, "until I eventually saw that graduation was so close that I might as well finish."

Matthews coached basketball for the first time after he graduated from Scott Collegiate, while he was upgrading his classes before entering the University of Regina. Being accepted to university "blew me away", he says, but at age 19 he wasn't ready.

"I left [university] at the same time they were asking me to leave," he recalls. "I needed to gain some maturity in the real world."

After three years as a labourer, working with older men who urged him to go back to school, Matthews was accepted into the Saskatchewan Urban Native Teacher Education Program, a bachelor of education degree program for First Nations and Métis students, offered through the Gabriel Dumont Institute in partnership with the University of Regina and the University of Saskatchewan. Matthews entered the program in 1999 and scored an 86 percent average in his first year.

"It was the first time I'd applied myself and I knew I belonged there," he says.

With his education degree from the U of R in hand, Matthews began teaching at Scott Collegiate. During his six years there he helped to revitalize the school's athletic program and coached the boys' junior basketball team to two city championships.

Outside school hours, Matthews established and coached the North Central Lakers to provide an outlet for young people to play football and basketball. While others now handle the coaching, he remains keenly involved with the Lakers. "At Scott and in the community I saw a lot of kids who had the same interests as I did at their age," says Matthews. "I didn't intend to do all this, but I saw a need."

As for being named an Outstanding Young Alumnus, Matthews calls it the greatest honour he has received. Matthews credits the award to "all of the people – teachers and professors – who consistently went outside their jobs to show extra care and attention to kids like me. I modeled myself after them without realizing it. For me, the extra effort they gave paid off."



- Corey Matthews

WHAT'S HAPPENING

Thursday, November 12

12:00 - 1:00 p.m.

The Culture of Medicine

Speaker: Charisma Anne Thomson

The science of medicine, while seemingly free of cultural bias, is, and has always been, heavily influenced by social traditions and concepts. This discussion will explore the dynamic nature and varied practices of medical treatments cross culturally and locally.

Location: Gallery building, room 106, College Avenue campus

Fee: \$5

For more information, contact Samantha Lehmond, Centre for Continuing Education, at 585-5887.

Thursday, November 12

1:15 p.m.

Chemistry/biochemistry seminar series

Speaker: Dr. Don Lee

Location: Classroom Building, room 408, U of R main campus

For more information, contact Teri Dibble, Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry at 585-4146.

Wednesday, November 18

12:00 p.m.

Nourishing Thoughts at the Foodbank Lecture Series

Speaker: Elder Sylvia Obey

The lecture series is a joint initiative sponsored and coordinated by the Centre for Continuing Education and First Nations University. The public is welcome at no charge and lunch will be provided.

Location: Adult Centre for Employment and Readiness, 425 Winnipeg St.

For more information, contact Kathy Buitenhuis, Centre for Continuing Education, at 585-5764.

Thursday, November 19

Speaker: Dr. Philip Zimbardo

The Department of Psychology and the Faculty of Arts at the University of Regina are pleased to present lectures by Dr. Philip Zimbardo.

Zimbardo, an emeritus professor of psychology at Stanford University, is internationally recognized as a leading "voice and face of contemporary psychology" through his widely seen PBS-TV series, *Discovering Psychology*, his media appearances, best-selling trade books on shyness, and his classic research, *The Stanford Prison Study*. Zimbardo's most recent work has included two new publications *The Lucifer Effect: Understanding How Good People Turn Evil* and *Time Paradox* along with the creation of an international organization that will promote heroism as an antidote to evil – "The Hero Project".

The first lecture will take place at 2:00 p.m. in the Language Institute Theatre, room 215, U of R main campus. The second lecture will take place at 7:15 p.m. in the Education Auditorium, U of R main campus.

For more information, contact the Department of Psychology at 585-4221 or email psychology.dept@uregina.ca.

Wednesday, November 25

7:30 p.m.

Philosophy Café: An open exchange of philosophical ideas led by a University of Regina philosophy professor.

Speaker: Peter Campbell

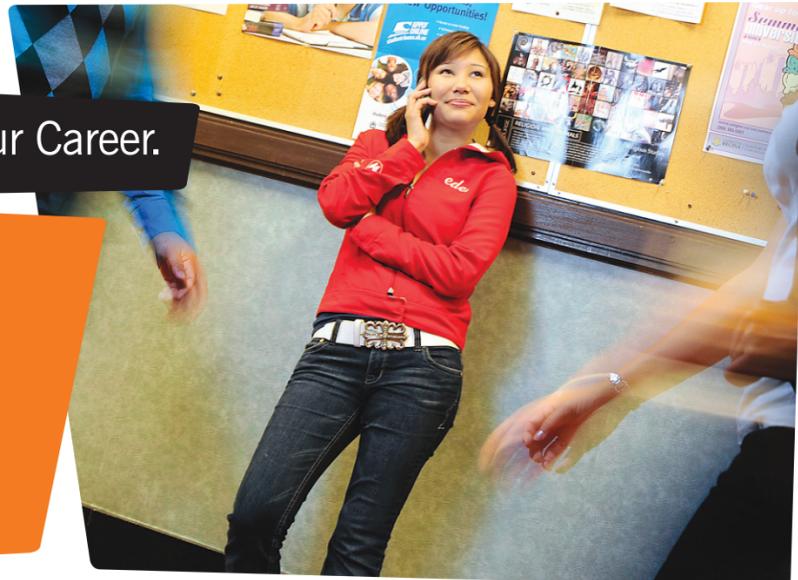
Location: Connaught Library - 3435-13th Ave.

Refreshments will be served. For more information call 585-4332.

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