

President's Message – August 2011

I hope you are all taking time to enjoy our Saskatchewan summer!

As September approaches, we are busy gearing up for the fall semester, and I would like to thank all of you for the work you have been doing to prepare for the new academic year. Soon the campus will be filled with energy as more students arrive, meaning an exciting time for all of us on campus.

This fall is also an exciting time for our alumni, because the University of Regina will host Alumni Homecoming 2011! From September 29 to October 1, University of Alumni Association president Richard Kies and I will welcome alumni, family and friends to join faculty and staff for a weekend of fun and celebration on campus.

This year marks the perfect time to hold our Alumni Homecoming because 2011 marks the centennial of Regina College, the forerunner of the University of Regina. Homecoming is an excellent opportunity for the extended community of the University of Regina to honour the past, celebrate the present and engage in dialogue about the future.

In 1911, 27 students began their education at Regina College. If they were here today, the campus would be almost unrecognizable to them. Over the past 100 years, an entirely new campus has been built, three federated colleges have joined the University – and the University has become home to more than 12,000 students from all over the world.

Despite all that change, some things remain the same. Our historic College Avenue campus, which began as Regina College, is still an important part of our academic programming and the University's outreach to the community – and we've launched an ambitious plan to revitalize it. Many of our more than 58,000 alumni have studied at our College Avenue campus – and the commitment to excellence in education they experienced during their time here is just as strong now.

Alumni Homecoming 2011 will give all alumni the opportunity to come back to campus to join faculty and staff in celebration – and I am very excited about this! Although some faculty and staff may not technically be alumni of the University, all of you are a major part of the University's success. You have contributed – and continue to contribute – to shaping the University of Regina, and I would like to invite all of you, together with your families, to register for the weekend's events.

We have some great activities lined up. The weekend will feature a pancake breakfast, a Rams football game, opportunities for graduates to return to the classroom, the Alumni Crowning Achievement Awards dinner, and many more fun and interesting activities organized by faculties and the Alumni Association.

I am looking forward to having our alumni, faculty, staff and friends from across the province, throughout Canada, and around the world to come back to the University of Regina to help us celebrate 100 years of history at this great University.

Please take the time to learn more about Alumni Homecoming 2011 or register for the event at www.uregina.ca/alumni/homecoming.

I hope to see you at one or all of the many events we have planned for Homecoming 2011. I can't wait to serve you at the pancake breakfast, join you at the Alumni Crowning Achievement Awards and cheer with you in the stands at the Rams game!

Vianne Timmons
President & Vice-Chancellor