

President's Message – January 2017

Members of the University community,

During the Fall 2016 semester, a tremendous number of public events took place at our University, and Stuart and I tried to attend as many as we could. There were a lot of highlights. One was the October 1 Rams/Huskies game which was the first football game played in the new Mosaic Stadium. The game set a new Canada West attendance record, and the Rams put an exclamation mark on their turnaround season by recording an exciting victory. Another particularly memorable event for us this fall was Dr. Marie Battiste's November 9 "Deliberation and Debate" lecture on decolonizing and Indigenizing the academy.

That only scratches the surface of everything that took place last semester, but it does provide a bit of a taste of what we can expect for Winter 2017. And because a new year means new beginnings, I encourage you to take every opportunity to experience something new on campus this coming semester.

If you haven't attended any athletics events yet, January is a good time to start. This month, the [Cougar](#) men's and women's volleyball and basketball teams will play home games at our Centre for Kinesiology, Health and Sport. There is room for 2,200 spectators – and the underground parking is a bonus on those cold winter nights! Hockey is also a huge part of Canada's winter culture, so why not cheer on the Cougar hockey teams? They play at the Co-operators Centre at Evraz Place.

Athletic events such as these are great entertainment for students, faculty, staff, and their families and friends to take in. If you've never been to a Cougars game, I'm sure you'll be impressed by the skill and dedication of our student-athletes. And of course, your support is an important part of their success.

The new semester also brings a slate of interesting lectures to our University. Each winter, the Faculty of Arts presents the annual [Stapleford Lecture](#), an endowed lecture series that addresses the areas of human justice, the status of women, the education and care of children, the rights of disadvantaged groups, and/or the history and art of Saskatchewan. On March 2, Dr. Sarah Carter from the University of Alberta will present a lecture entitled: "The Gender of Homesteading: Women and the Contest for Land on the Canadian Prairies." She will discuss Canadian legal and cultural obstacles that denied most women the right to homestead and bring to life the forgotten women who, despite barriers, were homesteaders, farmers, and ranchers on the prairies.

The "Deliberation and Debate" series will continue early in the new semester, with Dr. Jennifer Freyd of the University of Oregon speaking on January 27 about sexual assault and institutional betrayal, and McGill University Economics professor Dr. Chris Ragan speaking on February 1 about carbon pricing.

The University also hosts many events off campus. For example, Shadia Drury, Professor Emerita in the Department of Philosophy and Classics and the Department of Politics and International Studies, will speak at an [Open Minds](#) public discussion on the topic of "American

Politics in the Age of Donald Trump.” That’s coming up on Thursday, January 26, at 7:00 p.m. at the Artesian at 2627 13th Avenue.

When it comes to fine arts, the University also has a great deal to offer this winter. One of those offerings is a superb exhibition of theatre costumes. The exhibition, entitled “Becoming,” takes place at the [Fifth Parallel Gallery](#) and opens January 13 at 6:00 p.m. The exhibit promises to be a fascinating retrospective of impressive costumes that over the years have defined characters and taken their personalities from the page to the stage.

As well as sporting events, arts performances and lectures, many people come to campus “after hours” for [evening classes](#). Some are full-time students, and others are from the wider community – starting new classes, finishing up a degree, enhancing their career skills, or learning a new language. If you are so inclined, I encourage you to join them!

I couldn’t possibly name all of the interesting University-related events that will be taking place over the next few months, but the University’s [events calendar](#) and [athletics calendar](#) are a great start. Take a look at them on a regular basis and think about how you can break out of your routine and try something new.

Although the January weather can sometimes deter us from venturing out as often as we might, I invite you to do a little additional exploring at the University of Regina. There’s so much going on here, and you might be surprised to find something new to do all winter long!

Happy new year, and I wish you all the best for 2017!

Dr. Vianne Timmons
President and Vice-Chancellor