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2015 DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI AWARDS

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12

DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI AWARDS These five individuals have defied convention and used their talents to enhance our communities and our world. We celebrate Marion Meadmore and the four additional 2015 Distinguished Alumni Award recipients



26

THE GIFT OF KNOWLEDGE

A fortunate gift transformed alumnus Tony Williams's life from dire to inspiring. Today, he's creating the same opportunity for Indigenous students in the Faculty of Science



28

UNIQUELY TALENTED

A trio of student leaders reflect on life, learning, growing up, and finding their passion

3 PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

From here we see beyond

6 CAMPUS NEWS

Training leaders in downtown Winnipeg; Clara Hughes is just like you and I; alumni lend huge support to grad students, active living

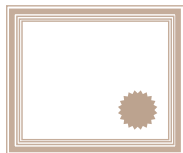
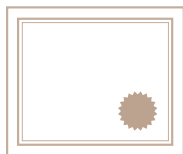
9 CONVERSATION WITH A VISIONARY

President Barnard discusses the Rwandan genocide, its legacy, and the role of the modern military, with Lieutenant-General (Ret.) Roméo Dallaire

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FROM HERE **WE SEE BEYOND**

As a university, we are charged with being innovators and thought-leaders, helping to create better lives for the people of Manitoba, Canada and the world. We do this in collaboration with partners and community members because when knowledge is mutually shared and perspectives heard, relationships are strengthened.

Earlier this year, we saw a tremendous example of leaders in Winnipeg coming together to collectively declare a shared commitment to take on one of this city's, and this country's, most enduring and difficult problems: racism. More specifically, we united in the face of a *Maclean's* article that argued Winnipeg is effectively the worst Canadian city in which an Indigenous person can live.

Although I think there is some sensationalism to this harsh depiction, the sadder reality is that there is also a great deal of truth. The reasons for this are many, but clearest among them are that our city and our province have yet to overcome the impact of poverty and the inter-generational consequences of Indian Residential Schools—which includes a legacy of racism and hatred. The consequences of this are undeniable, as evidenced by the number of missing and murdered Indigenous women across this country. Repairing that damage begins with acknowledging the mistakes of the past, and working together to rebuild trust.

As leaders in human rights research, the University of Manitoba plays a key role in challenging these injustices. Some question why advancing Indigenous achievement has become such a critical priority for the University of Manitoba. The answer is simple: improving access to education and creating a learning environment reflective of Indigenous knowledge and experiences will help to eliminate racism and discrimination in our province, and create greater opportunities for the young and rapidly growing Indigenous population.

Working with partners to increase awareness and knowledge of the history of Indigenous people is vital to the advancement of Indigenous achievement. In March, we collaborated with the Treaty Relations Commission of Manitoba on the inaugural Indigenous Awareness Week. Our focus was on *Treaties, Traditional Knowledge and Elders*, with panel discussions that raised awareness about the history of Treaties and their relevance today as we move forward as a country. For many that attended, the discussions were “powerful”, “moving” and “mind-shifting”.

However, our role is not only as an educator, but also to be an advocate for those facing social injustice. Our University has long acknowledged the harmful effects of racism and in 2011 became the first Canadian university to issue a Statement of Apology and Reconciliation for failing to recognize or challenge the forced assimilation of First Nations, Metis and Inuit peoples. Repairing that damage begins with acknowledging the mistakes of the past, and working together to rebuild trust. We are now the proud new home of the National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation,



and more than 140 of our researchers study issues related to Indigenous peoples.

As advocates, we also celebrate the many successes and contributions that Indigenous people have made to our country. Our honoured alumni include national leaders such as Ovide Mercredi, Verna Kirkness, Phil Fontaine and this year's recipient of the Distinguished Alumni Award for Lifetime Achievement, Marion Meadmore. With this award we recognize Marion's many accomplishments and acknowledge her commitment to advancing Indigenous economic and social prosperity. Her story is one of remarkable courage and perseverance. She has overcome obstacles to success and shown Indigenous and non-Indigenous people in Canada that the right to feel safe and prosper belong to us all. Marion and many other Indigenous alumni who have walked these halls before us have helped to lay a better pathway for all students—now and for the generations to come.

As part of our university's commitment to Indigenous achievement, we understand that acknowledging the strength and resilience of Indigenous peoples and the gifts they share is equally as important as helping to break down the barriers they face.

Recently, *Maclean's* featured a less-discussed article that I believe tells another truth—one we need to celebrate. The story documents how U of M student Ashley Richard held fast to a dream while enduring a reality marked by violence and, at times, despair. Determination prevailed and in 2013, she won the Pauline and Roger Presland scholarship to support her pursuit of an MBA from the I.H. Asper School of Business. She is currently studying as an exchange student at the Kedge Business School in France, and hopes to improve economic outcomes for Indigenous communities after completing her studies.

This fall, Ashley will begin sharing her message of hope with students in Winnipeg's North End—she is an inspiring example to others to never give up on themselves.

Reality and perception are dynamic forces that we must shape together. As we work to make the former better for all people in Canada, it is necessary that we always be open and question the effects of the latter. I ask and challenge each of you to be mindful of this and ponder where we go from here. Because it is only as partners that we will realize the best possible shared future.

DAVID T. BARNARD PRESIDENT AND VICE-CHANCELLOR



TO MAKE A STATEMENT, YOU CAN USE MORE THAN WORDS.

CHALLENGERS DO.

As a Saulteaux member of Sandy Bay First Nation, and a survivor of Manitoba's Residential School system, Robert Houle grew up with conflicting thoughts on culture and spiritualism. His upbringing brought with it a passion for artistic expression. From there, Robert has used his talent to become a prominent Canadian artist, curator and teacher, recently receiving the Governor General Award in Visual and Media Arts. He remains a powerful force in bringing Indigenous perspectives to the forefront.

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Athlete turned advocate



Her tenacity and drive propelled her to a singular athletic feat. Winnipegger **Clara Hughes** [LLD/06] is the only competitor—*ever!*—to win multiple medals in both a Summer and Winter Olympic Games. In February, the six-time medalist stood on a stage in the EITC atrium and acknowledged that she had no advantage over anyone else when it came to battling mental health issues.

“No one is stronger than depression,” said Hughes, 42, whose candid revelations about her lifelong struggle with the illness have in the past couple of years helped kick-start a national conversation around mental health awareness: the Bell Let’s Talk campaign.

Hughes participated in UMSU’s Frost Fest (formerly Celebration Week) and spent an hour talking to students, faculty and staff about the disconnect she quietly harboured throughout her competitive career—between her image as a Canadian hero and the real person underneath who was sliding into despair.

Nothing was off limits for Hughes who revealed her pattern of behaviors and coping mechanisms: focusing all her energy on training and competition with the hopes the next win might distance herself from her demons; choosing for years to ignore her diagnosis of clinical depression. She talked about it all, and people listened. And that was the point.

At the end of her remarks, Hughes wiped away tears as she fielded questions and offered advice. She implored the audience to “be the positive force around somebody else” and join her to help end the stigma around mental health.

Active Living Centre officially opens



On April 7, the University of Manitoba opened the doors of its state-of-the-art fitness and research facility to students and members of the community. Officials from all levels of government joined President David Barnard and other representatives for the official opening celebration. Alumni and former Bison athletes like Olympic volleyball player **Michelle Sawatzky-Koop** [BMus(Perf)/93] and NFLer **Israel Idonije** [LLD/14] were there to share in the excitement.

With capacity for more than 2,000 patrons per day, the airy Active Living Centre is a massive improvement over the underground gym it replaces—the Gritty Grotto. Visitors can access the centre’s high-performance training facility, an indoor running track and a 12-metre climbing wall. It also boasts an applied research centre, strength and conditioning facilities, a gathering area for students and three group workout studios. The nearly \$60-million centre is the largest active living facility in Manitoba.



Get active at umanitoba.ca/activelivingcentre

UMTODAY

Alumni network page goes live

U of M alumni, meet your one-stop shop for news, information and networking: the alumni network page. This mobile friendly info hub connects you to *UMToday*, social media channels, as well as the array of events and services available to you. It’s never been easier to get engaged with the U of M and your fellow alumni



Get engaged at news.umanitoba.ca/alumni



U of M alumna one of Canada’s emerging young leaders

For two weeks this spring, Aboriginal Student Centre director **Christine Cyr** [BA/99] will participate in a nationwide event for Canada’s emerging leaders: The Governor General’s Canadian Leadership Conference

Take me to your leaders

YOUR DOWNTOWN WINNIPEG HQ FOR LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

The University of Manitoba's Fort Garry campus has been home to the province's premier management school for decades. And since the 2011 opening of the James W. Burns Executive Education Centre, it's also become a nexus for leadership development in downtown Winnipeg. Nestled in the iconic Exchange District, a stone's throw away from Portage and Main, the centre might on any given day play host to former premiers, company chiefs, board members or managers of various ranks who seek the tools to make them more effective leaders. This is a busy business crowd so the first priority is to make learning convenient. "To accommodate [our clients'] schedules, we try to pack a powerful punch into one or two days," says **Sheila Molloy** [BComm(Hons)/05] who is acting director. Given the diverse nature of Manitoba's business culture, Molloy also stresses the importance of offering the right mix of programs. Leadership fundamentals like negotiation and consensus building are covered as are unique courses, like Taking the Stage, helping


women develop a strong leadership presence. Since its opening four years ago, Molloy says the centre has focused on perfecting this mix for its discerning clientele. This was certainly the case for alumna **Bev Mehmel** [ExtEd/01]. Mehmel, who is director of corporate social responsibility for Manitoba Liquor & Lotteries, says the centre offered a leadership-training program that would have previously required her to travel to somewhere in the U.S. "It's great value and a great learning experience in the heart of downtown," says Mehmel. "And it's accessible to everybody." Mehmel was so impressed by her experience that she convinced two colleagues to sign up for the course as well.




→ Explore your leadership potential at umanitoba.ca/asper/exec


GOBISONS

Players and coaches alike delivered award-winning performances during the Bisons latest athletics season. Here are some highlights:

 High-flying women's volleyball player **Rachel Cockrell** received the Mary Lyons Award as the 2014-15 CIS women's volleyball Player of the Year and was selected as 2014-15 CIS First Team All-Canadian

 **Jon Rempel** [BA/95, BRS/00], women's hockey head coach, earned Canada West Coach of the Year honours for the third time in his 11 seasons with the Bisons

 Bison football slotback **Nic Demski** took in the number five spot on the CFL scouting bureau's winter list of the top 20 players heading into the 2015 draft

 High jumper **Aljahi Mansary** won gold—and set a new conference record—with a successful 2.17-metre leap in front of a home crowd at the Canada West Track & Field Championship

 Bison swimmers **Dillon Perron** and **Kimberley Moors** both earned medals—a silver and bronze respectively—at the CIS 2015 Swimming Championships. This was the first time in more than a decade a male and female swimmer reached the podium at the national championships

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Swell of alumni support carries initiative beyond its goal

Thanks to more than 1,700 donors, the Alumni Association's matching gift initiative surpassed its \$2-million goal. In less than six months, a spectacular \$2,177,714.02 was raised in support of graduate students and the Active Living Centre



Helping First Nations youth combat obesity, Type 2 diabetes

U of M researcher **Jon McGavock** received \$925,000 in funding to determine whether older students teaching younger kids in school how to be strong, healthy children positively influences their ability to stave off chronic conditions endemic among First Nations youth

UPCOMING EVENTS: MARK YOUR CALENDAR

OPEN MONDAY TO FRIDAY

The Ed Leith Cretaceous Menagerie

Take a journey to the Cretaceous Period of 145 million to 66 million years ago, when the world was very different from today. The menagerie features complete skeletal replicas of a tyrannosaurid dinosaur, the world's largest turtle, a vicious fish and a formidable mosasaur. View Cretaceous rocks and fossils of Manitoba too!

Monday to Friday, 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Wallace Building, 125 Dysart Rd., Fort Garry Campus | Free

JUNE 8

Alumni Association Annual General Meeting

5 p.m. – 6:30 p.m. | University Centre, Fifth Floor, Room 543-544, Fort Garry Campus

RSVP by June 1 | Call 204-474-9946 or email alumni@umanitoba.ca

JULY 11 / AUGUST 6 / AUGUST 25

Bruce D. Campbell Farm & Food Discovery Centre

Join us for many exciting family and educational events this spring and summer:

JULY 11

INCREDIBLE INSECTS INVESTIGATION | 10 a.m. – noon

Search for insects in the tall grass and study their body parts under a microscope. Make a 'buggy' vegetable snack. For children aged three to 10.

AUGUST 6

DAIRY DAY | 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Visit the dairy barn to learn how cows are milked. Turn cream into butter and strawberry, chocolate or vanilla ice cream. All ages welcome.

AUGUST 25

PIZZA PARTY | 10 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.

Discover how ingredients for a pizza are created. Prepare your own mini pizza for lunch and bake it in our outdoor stone oven. All ages welcome.

Spaces limited for all events so RSVP to reserve your spot.

Call 204-883-2524 or email ffdc@umanitoba.ca.

Full event details and admission rates for individual events found at ffdc.ca.

JULY–AUGUST

Faculty of Education Summer Institutes in Education

JULY 2-14

**CAREER DEVELOPMENT AND EMPLOYMENT
AMONG EXCLUDED COMMUNITIES**

JULY 6-17

TEACHING AND LEADERSHIP FOR HUMAN RIGHTS EDUCATION

JULY 13-16

FIELD STUDY COURSE IN PERU

JULY 20-31

EDUCATION FOR SUSTAINABILITY

AUGUST 10-21

**MANITOBA WRITING PROJECT: WRITING FOR/AS
HUMAN RIGHTS AND SOCIAL JUSTICE**

AUGUST 10-21

**INCLUSIVE SPECIAL EDUCATION-UNIVERSAL
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AUGUST 10-21

**INCLUSIVE SPECIAL EDUCATION-
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Website: umanitoba.ca/faculties/education/current/PBDE-Graduate-summer-courses.html

AUGUST 22

Pre-Season Bisons Football Game

Bisons vs. Guelph Gryphons

Cheer on the Brown and Gold as they start their defence of the 2014 Canada West championship title in the first-ever CIS pre-season football game.

Game time TBD

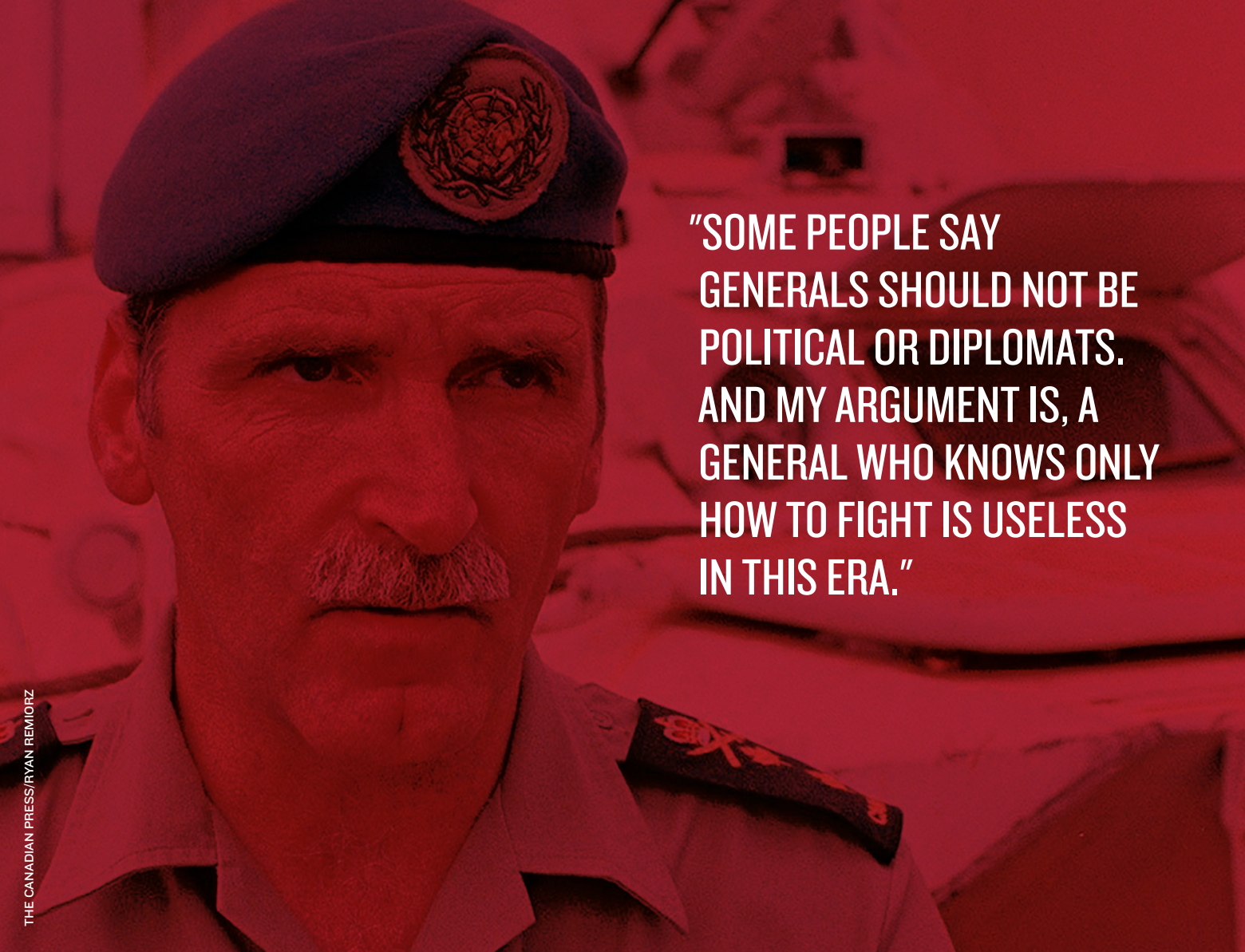
Investors Group Field, 315 Chancellor Matheson Road
gobisons.ca



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"SOME PEOPLE SAY
GENERALS SHOULD NOT BE
POLITICAL OR DIPLOMATS.
AND MY ARGUMENT IS, A
GENERAL WHO KNOWS ONLY
HOW TO FIGHT IS USELESS
IN THIS ERA."

CONVERSATION
WITH A VISIONARY:

ROMÉO DALLAIRE

The image of Lieutenant-General (Ret.) Roméo Dallaire's steely visage is seared into the minds of many as the prologue to his harrowing memoir about the 1994 Rwandan genocide, *Shake Hands With the Devil: The Failure of Humanity in Rwanda*. The ambiguity of his expression—the stoic warrior-general on duty, the human being bearing witness to the impossible depth of inhumanity—leaves a deep first impression and prefaces the retelling of his nightmare.

More than two decades removed from his experiences in Africa, and before a presentation to U of M students as part of UMSU's Frost Week Celebration, Dallaire sat down with President David Barnard to reflect on the lessons and the legacy of Rwanda. The acclaimed author-turned-activist brimmed with personality and charm. But each time he spoke of the deadly fate that befell more than 800,000 innocent people during a 100-day slaughter, the same expression prominently featured on his book washed over his face once again.

DAVID BARNARD: You come from a strong military tradition in your family and yet you were faced with a situation, which you describe in your book, where you felt you could do something but you weren't allowed to. Can you talk about how you felt in that circumstance?

ROMÉO DALLAIRE: We stumbled into a new era of failing nations, failing states, several wars based on ethnicity and tribalism and religion. [And] power-sharing that went beyond what we thought would be possible anymore, certainly after the Holocaust . . . abuse of human rights, massive abuse including genocide.

We were still going in with old tools: classic peacekeeping, classic use of force if necessary, very restrictive rules. Only to realize that we simply ended up being witnesses to these catastrophic situations, not being able to do anything because of our rules of engagement and the mandates we were given.

And so before the policy people and the political people were able to rearticulate what we should be doing in this complex and

wasn't, 'I'll call you back in an hour.' It was a very spontaneous, instinctive reaction.

And that's been a reference that I've turned to often. Although there were no rules around how to respond to that, apart from he was my legal authority and he was giving me a legal order and I was supposed to respond, I couldn't. Because his order was legal but it was immoral. We had over 30,000 Rwandans under our protection and one contingent had already pulled out too fast and 4,000 were killed within a couple of hours. If we pulled out, that 30,000 would have been added to the others. On three occasions within that same half hour, he called, his chief of staff called, and I repeated myself. Then I went to my deputy, I said, 'This is what I did. Now I need to know if you guys are volunteering to stay with me?' Because I had absolutely no authority, no mandate, nothing. The Ghanaian brigadier, who had gone to the U.S. Marine Corps staff college the year before I had gone there said, 'General, if you're staying, we're staying.' And, that was it. We stayed and it took another three weeks before I got a mandate and any inclination that I might be reinforced.



ambiguous era, we in the field were already living the traumas of the horrific dilemmas—ethical and moral and legal—of what to do. Which meant that you ended up taking decisions in the field without necessarily a professional sort of credo—although you had an ethos. And you often turned back to your own values as a reference.

Boutros Ghali [then Secretary General of the United Nations] is an example. The [Rwandan] genocide is on for about three weeks when he gets word that the extremists were going to wipe out the small force that I had left, because they had pulled out everybody. Remembering that people were actually not interested in seeing casualties in a humanitarian mission after Mogadishu [the 1993 Battle of Mogadishu saw the downing of two American UH-60 Black Hawk helicopters, inspiring the book and film of the same name: *Black Hawk Down*] he ordered me out. He said, 'You gotta pull out because they're coming to wipe you out.' And articulated, essentially, that the world can't handle more peacekeepers being killed. It can handle 10,000 Rwandans being slaughtered every day. But it can't handle 450 peacekeepers being killed in the line of duty. My answer to him was, 'No, I am not leaving.' It

BARNARD: You haven't lost confidence [in military solutions]. You talk about the ability of the nation, its leaders, its military to learn about a new world and to adapt to it. Rather than say, this is no longer a mechanism we can use, it's a mechanism that could learn to be more sophisticated. Is that a fair conclusion?

DALLAIRE: I tried committing suicide four times. Because we were not going anywhere. We were not grasping the injuries that we were getting, the operational stress injuries, the PTSD from being put into complex and ambiguous scenarios with no support from the policy people. They simply thought that using force or the presence thereof, or not using it by taking the decision not to decide, not to go in, was the way about it. That has evolved. But it hasn't grasped yet the fullness that the use of force, or the presence of use of force, cannot in itself be any solution to the conflicts in which we find ourselves. We're not at war. We're in conflicts. And the question is, 'How do you resolve these conflicts?'

The learning curve on how you integrate the different disciplines: political, humanitarian, military, security and all the other players into a cohesive plan that permits you to resolve these

civil wars and imploding complex scenarios, where the enemy is not necessarily evident, and people are not necessarily willing to participate in a solution. That sort of construct is still being developed. And so, they talk about whole of government, where they get all the different departments of government working together. They talk about the three Ds: diplomacy, defense and development working closer together. The more progressive thinking is not only conflict resolution but also a new conceptual framework to conflict prevention. It means a new construct in regards to what conflict is and how we respond to it.

That means not a single discipline but a multidiscipline solution. And there's the difficulty. Getting people with the depth to not only be familiar with diplomacy but also be knowledgeable of maneuvering it. Some people say generals should not be political or diplomats. And my argument is, a general who knows only how to fight is useless in this era. He must be credible as a warrior and have the warrior ethic and in extremis be able to use lethal force to protect others. But there's a panoply of things he could participate in to establish an atmosphere of security, to assist in sustaining an

advantages; we had states within themselves trying to establish some sort of modicum of life there.

When you've got many artificially created countries and the religions and the tribes are just split all over the place, some of these classic nation-state tools, including democracy, including nationalism, are just not powerful enough to handle entities that enter, with a far more global game. So, when you talk about ISIS and you talk about the Islamic State and so on, they're working at a higher plane than we are. We're still trying to figure out how to make NATO work, respond to this, or the UN. While they're already—not at a pure physical framework—at a psychological level of how the conflict should be resolved. And it's spread and it's attractive. And we have not developed the tools.

So, sending F-18s to blast away child soldiers in Iraq and Syria is bordering on the irresponsible. That's not going to stop them. However, being fearful of the Muslim religion as such, and not trying to build with it, a counter capability that goes beyond our borders, that I think is just as stupid. The complexity and

DALLAIRE: I'm gonna warn you that my message to these students is that they become activists. That they join NGOs, that they get engaged. I'm telling them not to take over your office for a week, like we did in the '60s, but to engage and to be heard.

BARNARD: I want them to be engaged.



atmosphere of security, to permit the other players to be able to function.

So, we're seeing that is difficult still for people to grasp. Not only the military but the NGOs, who insist on their humanitarian space, they insist on neutrality. That is old thinking. That is keeping a separation from us being able to resolve problems.

BARNARD: We're in an era now of extremely complex situations where we have Islamic State and terrorist attacks in various parts of the world and no declared or defined territory on which these things are being worked out. They are just very diffuse and difficult to understand. Which seems to be an unfortunate but inevitable consequence of the ambiguity you were describing.

DALLAIRE: But it is nearly to be expected because the world is now without borders—the communications revolution and so on. The generation that is under 25 is already a generation that I call 'without borders.' They're already global. So, the problems become global and have ambitions that are global, that are not nation-state constructs, not sovereignty constructs. It is, to me, a continuum of the fact that we didn't have states going against each other for

ambiguity have continued to increase and our ability to get ahead of the curve ... we haven't been able to wrest the initiative from the bad guys. We're still reacting. Afghanistan is on-job training. We did 12 years of on-job training on how to handle a failing state and bring it back to democracy and structure. And we didn't succeed. We're still learning from it. And so, because we do not want to get into the depth of those lessons, the bad guys, those who have a different perspective of what should be, still have the initiative.

BARNARD: I want to tell you how much the university appreciates you coming.

DALLAIRE: I'm gonna warn you that my message to these students is that they become activists. That they join NGOs, that they get engaged. I'm telling them not to take over your office for a week, like we did in the '60s, but to engage and to be heard.

BARNARD: I want them to be engaged. 🍷



Marion Meadmore
[LLB/77]
LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT



Tito Daodu
[MD/13, BSc(Med)/13]
OUTSTANDING YOUNG ALUMNI



Nick Logan
[BA/71, BComm(Hons)/73]
PROFESSIONAL ACHIEVEMENT



Juliette (Archie) Cooper
[BOT/79, MSc/82, PhD/87]
SERVICE TO THE UNIVERSITY OF MANITOBA



DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI AWARDS 2015

CELEBRATION OF EXCELLENCE

We all imagine ways to make the world a better place. But it takes a visionary to translate those ideas into action and create meaningful change. This is the defining trait of the inspiring men and women we celebrate at the University of Manitoba this year—and every year—through the Distinguished Alumni Awards (DAA).

Their backgrounds and talents are diverse, but the 2015 DAA recipients share a purpose: to transform the knowledge and skills they developed at the U of M into something that benefits us all.

Among this year's honorees are an Indigenous leader who for six decades has helped give Indigenous people in Canada not just a stronger voice, but also a means toward a prosperous tomorrow; a young doctor who has already travelled across the globe to assist young people in need of care in Africa; a former junior high school principal who helped inspire his students towards an unimaginable philanthropic goal; a retired business executive who flipped the script on corporate culture; and a U of M educator and administrator who has mentored generations of students and helped guide decisions that enhanced our campus communities.

We celebrated their immense contributions to society at the May 12 Distinguished Alumni Awards Celebration of Excellence. Here, we share their inspiring journeys from dreamers to doers.



LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT

Marion Meadmore, [LLB/77]

A large, L-shaped desk runs the perimeter of Marion Meadmore's living room. This neatly-kept Winnipeg apartment suite doubles as her home and base of operation. From here, the long-time community leader continues to chip away at a formidable task: eliminating poverty among Indigenous people.

"When I see a need," explains 79-year-old Meadmore, "I work really hard to meet it."

Poverty among her people is something she didn't even know existed until she took a train into the city with her dad in the 1950s to begin her studies at the University of Manitoba. The daughter of a successful farmer, Meadmore grew up in rural Saskatchewan and was shocked by what she read in the newspaper.

"I never encountered poverty until I came to the city and read it in the *Free Press* about how poor we were and how impoverished us Indians were," she says.

Meadmore took action. In the decades that followed, she helped to launch more than a dozen organizations that address some of the big problems Indigenous people face in Canada, from poor-quality housing to a lack of financial security. Groups have replicated her solution-based models across the country, empowering Indigenous people today in ways that Meadmore could only have imagined.

"Nothing was very dramatic," she says of her early advocacy work. "We just did many, many things."

She did this work mostly as a volunteer and while juggling mom duties to three boys. Along the way, she made history. It was Meadmore who organized the forerunner to the Assembly of First Nations, and when she graduated from the University of Manitoba in 1977, she became Canada's first Indigenous female lawyer. But the legacy that she hopes she's created is far less grandiose. How does she want people to remember her?

"She was easy to get along with," Meadmore offers with a smile.

Growing up on her family farm on Peepeekisis First Nation in Saskatchewan, a young Marion Ironquill would go to bed happy, tired from all the fun she and her two siblings had that day. Her Ojibway father, Joseph, and Cree mother, Helen, instilled in their kids a solid work ethic but infused chores with laughter and silliness. As chief, her father watched out for their neighbours and would often invite those down on their luck from a bad farming season into their home until they got back on their feet. "He taught us that we were there to look after people," she says. "Anything we have, we share."

In the era of Residential Schools, her father tried to buy land in a town adjacent to their farm—which would have guaranteed his kids a spot in the local school—but the owner wouldn't sell. So Meadmore, her brother and sister were carted off to a Residential School 12 miles north. From age seven, Marion would spend 10 months of the year cut off from her joyful childhood, with family time squeezed into a tiny two-month window during summer break. She endured 10 years in a place with all the warmth of a prison.

"There was no one to love you, only to punish you because you always did bad things," Meadmore says.

Before being marched downstairs for mealtime she and her classmates were required to get in position by placing their feet against a line on the floor. "I was bad because I put my foot over. [The supervisors] turned around and would come kick it. And I would put it back again just to be stubborn. Well, the second time you got a hit to the head," Meadmore recalls. "That's the way it was in school as little kids. That's how we were brought up, most of us."

She always knew she would go to university—that's what her dad told her. She describes her father as "a man of the world"; he earned an agriculture degree from the University of Manitoba in 1919.

When Meadmore moved to Winnipeg to attend the University of Manitoba (she was courting a degree in medicine at the time), she was amazed by the size and scope of the province's capital. She could see that Indigenous people new to the city were struggling to adapt to life off the reserve, and started organizing get-togethers so people wouldn't feel alone. What began as Saturday night dances grew into something greater. In 1959, Meadmore helped to open the Indian Metis Friendship Centre, the first of its kind in Canada. Now, there are at least a couple dozen of these support hubs across the country.

"There was not one office for Native people at that time. We didn't know where to turn. Hotels, bars—that's where people went to and we became known for our Main Street drunks and all of that. It was no wonder, those were our friendship centres."

Meadmore had quit university after only one year, once meeting fellow U of M student Ron Meadmore, a farmer and Blue Bomber who would become her husband of nearly six decades. As a stay-at-home mom, Meadmore's passion for learning, and making a difference in her community, continued.

She attended a Winnipeg meeting of some 500 delegates, mostly white, gathered to talk about "the Indian Problem." One of the few Aboriginal people there that day, a woman stood up and shared her plight: eight kids, an alcoholic husband, a Magnus Avenue house so unfit it was missing a floor. "I became close friends with her so I could see if I could help her out somehow," Meadmore says.

But she didn't stop there. She questioned why Indigenous people weren't the ones coming up with solutions to their own problems. Her idea? Bring together chiefs and other leaders and friends to do just that. The National Indian Council was born, later morphing into the National Indian Brotherhood and ultimately the Assembly of First Nations, which today represents more than 900,000 people living in 634 First Nation communities and in cities and towns across Canada.

Another of Meadmore's ideas came to life after witnessing a friend's failed attempts at securing a decent place to live on a single-parent, student income. She started a not-for-profit company, Kinew Housing Inc., that made it possible for Indigenous families to live in quality houses while paying affordable rent. With funding, she bought older homes near

good schools in safe neighbourhoods and hired Indigenous carpenters for renovations. Today, there are nearly 500 Kinew houses scattered around Winnipeg and a lengthy waiting list.

These many housing deals required a lawyer, which got Meadmore thinking about law school. This time she would graduate (in the same U of M class as Ovide Mercredi—who later became national chief of the Assembly of First Nations). Meadmore promptly opened the first all-female law firm in Winnipeg and practiced law for 10 years. As the first Indigenous woman in Canada to do so, she hopes she inspired others to follow in her footsteps. "Every time I turn around there is a new lawyer. Even on our reserve, we have several lawyers. And I'm thinking they must have thought, 'Well, if she can do it, I can do it too.'"

Over 12 years, Meadmore created extensive directories of Indigenous organizations, businesses and programs in Canada, forming a network and a stronger sense of identity. "We were able to see the whole picture and to understand we were not alone," she says.

But Meadmore believes her greatest work is her latest work: The National Indigenous Council of Elders, or NICE. She brought together a group of elders—retired business people, consultants and politicians—to pool their lifetime of experience and their rich cultural insight into a concrete plan to eliminate the poverty of First Nations. "We can talk about changes, talk and talk and talk about issues, focus and everything else, but if we don't have the money and the power to do it, we're never going to get out of the bind we're in," she says.

NICE has identified 18 "wealth creation" models, from manufacturing aid relief supplies on reserves, to increasing the interest earned on the estimated \$500 billion in trust from various sources, including court settlements. No idea is too big. Meadmore would like to see 10 Aboriginal-run gaming or eco or cultural resorts dotting the Trans-Canada Highway from coast to coast. They'll market to tourists from Asia and Europe. (She's already got industry players south of the border willing to set up turnkey resorts.)

Meadmore also plans on developing university curriculum based on NICE's findings so the next generation can continue what they've started as well as find new paths toward a more equal Canada.

Success for her people, she explains, will be "when we're not doing what everybody else tells us to do and we're not on our knees begging for money to do it.... When we're controlling our own destiny and we're able to pay for it, that would be success." But that can't happen, she notes, unless ideas are turned into action.

The balcony of Meadmore's suite overlooks the parking lot of a busy Winnipeg shopping mall—a perfect perch to people-watch, she notes. But you don't get a sense that she does that a lot. In fact, it goes against Meadmore's very nature to just passively observe.

"We have to trigger these things ourselves," she says. "We can't depend on somebody coming to call on us." ■

BY KATIE CHALMERS-BROOKS



PROFESSIONAL ACHIEVEMENT

Nick Logan [BA/71, BComm(Hons)/73]

Which of these activities is presently part of your workday? Growing an herb garden, playing shinny in the parking lot with the boss or having some midday ‘me time’ in a designated quiet room? For employees at National Leasing the answer is all three, thanks to the unique, award-winning corporate culture former president and CEO Nick Logan helped create during his four decades at the helm of the organization. Fun vibes aside, he also helped shape the organization into one of the most innovative equipment leasing companies in the nation.

Logan figured that if employees were encouraged to let their life be a part of their work, chances are good they’d want to do better on the job.

“I had a realization that people only need to work about 40 per cent of the time to get the job done,” Logan says. “They probably spend 20 per cent on personal things, 20 per cent socializing, and there’s sorta 10 per cent where, who knows where that goes? But if we could make them really happy to be working at our place, that 40 per cent would be maximized.” Turns out, he was right.

Today, National Leasing is a powerhouse with some 300 staff members and more than 60,000 customers—a far cry from its humble beginnings in the early ’70s.

Back then, Logan was a newly minted commerce grad working in finance at Birchwood Motors, under the wing of one of the city’s top entrepreneurial

minds: the late Robert (Bob) Chipman. About three months into his job, Logan was asked to shuffle over to another of Chipman’s companies, National Vehicle Leasing. More and more of Chipman’s car customers were asking him why he couldn’t lease them business equipment. A light went on. Chipman just needed the right person in place to make things happen. Logan says of his mentor, “His idea was just, let’s get something going, and then let’s get another thing going. We’ve got a good young person, let’s get that person to work over here. We just kept building companies. Eventually some of them really [took off]. He had that gift—to see a market need and then find a way to fill it.”

Chipman’s entrepreneurial instinct became a guiding philosophy for Logan. One that would influence how he grew National Leasing (then still part of Chipman’s McGill Stephenson group of companies) and how he assembled the team to make it happen. Logan says he and peers—like longtime colleague and eventual successor at National Leasing, Tom Pundyk—were intent on running a high-performance business but also being themselves at the same time. It’s a tone they set early on. “We didn’t come dressed in three-piece suits,” says Logan. “We came dressed how we thought we could be professional and functional. The way the company looks today is very functional.”

To ensure this philosophy trickled down meant staffing the organization with like-minded people. On the topic of hiring, Logan cringed at the prospect that his managers would ever put a job ad in a newspaper. If they wanted the right person, they had to seek them out before they needed them.

“We didn’t interview a lot of people,” says Logan. “We would go find them. It doesn’t matter if you’re over at St. Boniface Hospital and you see some lady handling a million calls and a bunch of people coming up to her desk ... get her name! ... If you’re a good manager, you’ll have a list of those people. Then when you need to fill a spot, you’ve already got five people you need to talk to.”

On the business side of things, Logan says National Leasing got the jump on competitors by adopting technology early and customizing it to their advantage. In essence, they made leasing easier than anybody else could.

As the company grew, technology continued to play a big role in their success. They were among the first to move their lease applications online, capitalizing on the Internet before it was even a part of most businesses. Their in-house legal counsel, Jackie Lowe, determined that imaging software could then be added to make their operations even quicker—and paperless—a path they were on by 1999. “We were doing things cheaper,” says Logan. “It was so much easier and [the technology] allowed us to do things faster. We were doing applications and authorizations ... for maybe 60 per cent of our business in minutes while our competition was doing it in days. They’re still trying to catch up. That’s 15 years later.”

For all its success, National Leasing endured its share of hardship too, including the energy crisis of the early ’80s and the market collapse of 2008. Both, says Logan, benefited the company in the long run.

“During a recession you just get a lot smarter,” he says. “And then, you get through it and it seems like in almost no time you’re doing business again. But with a much more appropriate structure.”

Retired from National Leasing since 2014, Logan today runs his own investment business. Logan says myriad volunteer and philanthropic pursuits round out his still-busy schedule. When asked what he recommends to business students who seek his counsel, Logan stresses the importance of giving over receiving.

“Find out what’s going on in this community and how you can make it a better place,” he says. And give back. “The government can do just a piece of what we need to get done. The rest, 90 per cent, is citizens helping citizens.”

BY JEREMY BROOKS



COMMUNITY SERVICE

Wayne Davies [BED/9I, PB DipEd/07]

A stabbing incident and a publicized Facebook “kill list” garnered École Selkirk Junior High some unwanted headlines back in 2009. But they didn’t paint an accurate picture of the school, or the kids who went there. The students knew better. Fortunately for them, so did their newly-hired principal Wayne Davies.

“I believe in them,” says Davies, 48. “I really love working with kids. Especially those who have had their back to the wall for one thing or another.”

Six-foot-six Davies, a big guy with a big laugh, helps students dream big too. But even he could have scarcely imagined then that a guitar-building program he and some other teachers developed for kids would become a fundraising

phenomenon capable of raising more than \$175,000 for local causes. The more pressing task at hand was reversing the school’s bad reputation, which Davies turned into an opportunity for his students by encouraging them to tell a different story about their school.

“Leadership means stepping up and doing things,” says Davies.

The kids embraced the challenge and their efforts—a community open house dubbed Action! 2010—sent a ripple of positivity through Selkirk, Man. Davies wanted to build on that momentum and increase their confidence. Working with teachers Kris Hancock and Scott Sampson, he launched the Building on Student Success (BOSS) Guitar Works program, which, as the name suggests, invites kids to build custom guitars.

Around the same time, Davies was paying close attention to the development of the Canadian Museum for Human Rights (CMHR) and wondering how he could connect his students to the project. The museum represented a cause that was close to his heart. Growing up in Selkirk, Davies endured his share of bullying.

“[It] was bad through elementary and into junior high it was horrible,” says the father of two. “That’s why I try to be pretty proactive on that stuff.”

So much so in fact that Davies once held an assembly at school to speak about a common trigger for bullying—sexuality.

“I said [at a school assembly] I will love you no matter who you are. And, I went further defining how that looked, whether you’re gay, straight, questioning, I’m cool with it. What’s really interesting is we had some kids come out,” recalls Davies, with tears in his eyes. “So that was really, really interesting. Very powerful. The response was amazing.”

Determined to protect—and empower—his students, Davies pitched the idea of turning BOSS guitars into a fundraising vehicle to Hancock, Sampson and the 17 or so kids in the BOSS program. They would build three guitars, get them signed by musicians (’70s rockers Nazareth, Kenny Shields and Trooper would heed that call), sell them for \$1,000 and give the proceeds to the CMHR. He shared the idea with friend Ralph James, co-founder of the band Harlequin and one of the top band managers in the Canadian music industry. He helped add contemporary acts like Nickelback and Billy Talent and things snowballed from there.

“No one saw how big it could get,” says Davies.

Three guitars became 21, and then 31. Guitar legend Randy Bachman signed one, then donated another from his personal collection. Music icons Rush, Fleetwood

Mac, Slash and KISS bassist Gene Simmons got in on the action too, as did legendary skateboarder Tony Hawk and Hollywood tough guy Bruce Willis. Willis’s guitar, Davies notes, is the only one that ever came back damaged—a setback he quickly turned into an opportunity. They dressed it up with fake bullet holes, scarred it with a torch then sold it (for \$900) as the *Diehard* guitar—a clever homage to the popular Willis action flick.

In three short years, the group created more than 350 guitars, raised \$101,000 for the CMHR, and an additional \$74,000 for 60 more local charities. Along the way, the core group of BOSS participants inspired the support of their classmates, teachers and the community, and changed the way people thought.

“If you were from Selkirk, you had to rethink the junior high,” says Davies. “And if you were from outside Selkirk, you had to rethink Selkirk.”

At every step along the journey, someone seemed to step it up. Whether it was the celebrities who connected one autograph opportunity to the next through word of mouth or Winnipeggers like Earl Barish [BComm/63], owner of the Salisbury House chain of restaurants and staunch BOSS supporter, whom Davies says bought more of their guitars at auction than anyone else. People wanted to get involved, Davies says, because the kids were so committed. They set the bar higher for themselves as well.

“I’ve got a bunch of kids [who came out of Selkirk] who think it’s normal to raise \$101,000 for a museum,” says Davies.

Two years removed from the BOSS experience and just seven months into his new job as assistant superintendent for the Interlake School Division, Davies recognizes that community-building experiences early on can resonate for a lifetime. ♥

BY JEREMY BROOKS

In tiny, remote South American mining camps, Juliette (Archie) Cooper’s lifelong passion for teaching took root. There, the long-time educator and administrator was home-schooled in a classroom of one. With her mom as teacher, Cooper learned through storytelling, hands-on exploration, and even a zany weather experiment involving runaway mercury balls.

“She put fun and joy into learning,” Cooper says of her late mother, Juliet.

“So it was always something I liked to do.”

Decades later, and 10 years after she retired from the U of M (for all of three weeks), Cooper still teaches. Today, she’s a professor emerita in the College of Rehabilitation Sciences. So, why not call it a day?

“I love to teach,” says the 72-year-old mother and grandmother. “I love the interactions with the students. Why would I give it up?”

During the 40 years she’s been connected to the U of M, Cooper has worn many hats: professor, director of the then-School of Medical Rehabilitation, dean of the Faculty of Music. Her mom ignited her passion for education, and it was her father, a mining engineer, who imbued her with a desire to never stop learning. “He was in his 90s and bought himself an Apple iMac,” she says with a laugh. That restless curiosity inspired Cooper to seek out new opportunities to learn about the U of M—and it was through volunteering that she found them. Beyond her teaching and administration duties, Cooper has committed countless hours to fundraising efforts, boards and committees tasked with various governance issues. She is an exemplar to everyone at the U of M, of how one person giving above and beyond the duties of their job can help propel the institution towards success. This desire to work with others towards a greater good also traces its roots back to her father.

As a child, Cooper saw how her dad’s willingness to listen and learn helped him



SERVICE TO THE UNIVERSITY OF MANITOBA

Juliette (Archie) Cooper [BOT/79, MSc/82, PhD/87]

navigate the mixed bag of cultures in the South American mining operations they called home—a collision of Americans, Europeans, and locals—as well as the colonial sentiments some harboured during those days.

“My dad was very clear, he respected everybody,” says Cooper. “[South America] was not our home. He always dealt with people as equals.”

She was learning life’s lessons yet, on the cusp of Grade 8, she lacked social skills given she had never attended school outside the home. Her parents enrolled her at a girl’s school in bustling Lima, Peru, where she quickly discovered her dearth of decorum. “Social norms that I knew nothing about, I had to learn very fast,” she admits.

Boning up on manners and etiquette were nothing compared to the culture shock Cooper experienced at 16, when she moved to Toronto to live with her grandparents and finish high school. In South America, excelling at school was the standard. But in Canada, at a co-ed school, dating boys and socializing seemed to trump having good marks.

“I learned very quickly that in the early ’60s, girls weren’t supposed to be smart,” says Cooper. That view, like most things in secondary school, was temporary and did little to deter Cooper from her goal of studying occupational therapy (OT).

“There was science involved in it, psychology involved in it. The whole idea of helping people with a disability be the best they could be—that really appealed to me,” says Cooper.

She earned her OT diploma from the University of Toronto before working in the city as a therapist. Cooper began her career at the U of M in 1973, as a part-time lecturer. She knew that to get where she wanted to be, she’d have to augment her credentials.

During the next 11 years, she earned three degrees, including her doctorate—the first in OT in Manitoba—while juggling full-time work and raising a family with husband, John. Cooper says the U of M gave her the freedom to pursue her professional and educational goals.

“There were no big road blocks put in my way,” she says. “If you were crazy enough to work full-time and do graduate studies, then go ahead.”

That support helped inspire Cooper to give back to the university as a volunteer fundraiser, and as part of the board of governors and senate. Since 1981, she’s been on 56 university committees and 35 provincial or national boards. Cooper’s advice to young professors? Get involved beyond teaching and research duties.

She says she also found her inner leader here, serving for five years as director of the School of Medical Rehabilitation. This earned Cooper a reputation as an effective administrator, and set her up for a unique experience: interim dean of the Faculty of Music.

For 18 months starting in 2005, Cooper, who owns up to having zero musical abilities, guided the faculty through its own version of a blues song—a hastily departed dean, no budget and maxed-out instructors. While they focused on music, she “played the spreadsheets,” as she put it, keeping everything in order. In advance of a holiday concert, some students approached her asking if she’d be willing to participate.

She told them she could play all of two chords on an accordion and they thought that sounded just fine.

“So, I stood up and made a fool of myself,” says Cooper. “Playing an accordion with a cowboy hat on. That was fun.” ♥

BY JEREMY BROOKS



OUTSTANDING YOUNG ALUMNI

Tito Daodu [MD/I3, BSc(Med)/I3]

LEARN MORE ABOUT THE DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI AWARDS—including the names of all the recipients since 1959 as well as the award criteria—on the alumni network page at



umanitoba.ca/distinguishedalumni

Growing up, Tito Daodu could have easily gotten stuck in a rut by focusing on what she didn't have: much money or a sense of safety in the rough Winnipeg neighbourhood she called home.

Getting dressed in the morning meant being mindful not to wear gang colours. She had to make sure she walked back quickly to her apartment after school. She was well versed in her classmates' personal connections to the stories on the six o'clock news—the guy arrested for a stabbing was so-and-so's cousin.

"All of those things felt close to home," says Daodu.

So too did everything the 28-year-old doctor feels helped her to succeed. Daodu likens herself to a lottery winner—lucky because she had cheerleaders in nearly every corner.

"I had a lot of people in my life who said I could achieve whatever I wanted." She didn't see getting into trouble as an option; her Nigerian-born mother made sure of that. Her mom's voice would override those of her school chums, many of whom saw a trip to Juvenile Detention as a rite of passage.

Daodu had bigger plans. And she had mentor Ken Opaleke at West Broadway Youth Outreach to help her on her path. She was in Grade 3 when Opaleke called out to her and her sister, Dupe, from across the street, inviting them to join the neighbourhood's after-school club. Daodu did and has never really left.

"I have had the pleasure of seeing her grow from a shy, energetic, nine-year-old participant in the program to a now caring, selfless young woman who a great number of inner-city children have come to emulate and rely on, not only for academic and physical guidance but on a personal level as well," says Opaleke.

Daodu went from mentee to mentor and launched a homework club at the centre, forming meaningful connections to kids as she helped them through mundane school assignments. Daodu says she would be hard on the kids when they didn't "try to achieve", just as Opaleke was hard on her. Daodu went to St. Mary's Academy on bursaries, steadily inching her way toward university. When she earned her degree in medicine from the University of Manitoba in 2013, more than a dozen West Broadway kids showed up at convocation, rooting for "doctor number 2." (Daodu is the second West Broadway 'graduate' to become a physician.)

"Quite a few of them have said, 'I want to be doctor number 5 or I'm going to be doctor number 7,'" says Daodu. "When I go back I try to instill in them that this is totally achievable. I look at those kids and I think 'I was exactly that kid.'"

She is now doing her residency in general surgery in Calgary while chipping away at a master's in international surgical care. To Daodu, it makes perfect sense to seek out a problem and then try to be part of the solution. As a med student, she made a cold call to a researcher featured in a documentary about the shockingly high number of pneumonia deaths among children in Nigeria, her native country. "It was staggering to me that 200,000 children under age five die of pneumonia every year. In Canada, it would be unheard of for a child to die of pneumonia without any other complications," she says.

Daodu asked the researcher if she could come to Nigeria and help; he obliged. The hospital featured in the film happened to be the one where Daodu was born. She was just four when her mom left the country,

which was then under a dictatorship, with her and her sister. (They lived in Jamaica and England before settling for good in Winnipeg, where Daodu's uncle could be their sponsor. Her father joined them years later.)

The state of care at the Nigerian hospital shocked Daodu. In the first week, she witnessed the deaths of six children from conditions that could have easily been treated in North America: pneumonia, tetanus and malaria. "I had no idea what widespread, systematic poverty looked like on the ground," she says.

Minimum wage there is a paltry 100 dollars a month yet patients are required to buy their own medical supplies. Daodu dipped into her own wallet to stock up on syringes, gloves and needles.

If a child needed a transfusion it was up to the parents to coax family and friends to donate blood. If there was a power outage, test results were simply unavailable.

Doctors there have the knowledge, Daodu explains, but no resources. She was there to investigate oxygen treatments for kids with pneumonia, specifically machines that convert ambient air into oxygen, a less expensive alternative to oxygen tanks. It took her a month and a half to get a backup generator in the room so they would work in a power outage, a routine occurrence.

Her frustration grew when she realized a separate, private ward within the same hospital was well-stocked for patients who could afford it.

The experience reinforced Daodu's desire to help improve health-care systems in developing countries. She wants to work on international surgical education projects in impoverished regions to ensure

first responders are properly trained in basic, life-saving procedures like inserting chest tubes. The World Health Organization identified surgical care among the globe's top five pressing health-care needs. The reality is: simple surgeries are getting missed and the consequences can be personally devastating. A patient with something as minor as a hernia—left surgically untreated—might go decades unable to work and be shunned by his community, Daodu notes.

She also wants to offer her surgical skills in disaster zones. This fall, she is headed to Haiti, a country still shattered by 2010's 7.0 magnitude earthquake. "As a surgeon, you really have an ability to make an impact," she says.

Daodu knows it takes leadership to act on these kinds of opportunities. She defines a good leader as someone who is "willing to take in and adapt to the changes that are presented along the way, without giving up." It's a philosophy that's guided her throughout her life and, she's happy to say, some of the kids from her old neighbourhood too.

While studying in University Centre one day, Daodu bumped into a former participant of her West Broadway homework buddies group. Daodu had lost touch with the girl when she stopped coming to the centre as a teen so was thrilled to see she made it to university. The student had faced, and clearly overcome, a lot of the same challenges Daodu did.

"It was pretty exciting to see that she had continued on and was doing well," Daodu says. "It was awesome." ■

BY KATIE CHALMERS-BROOKS



Extended Life

Could research help turn our final chapter into one of our best?

BY SARAH RICHARDS AND JEREMY BROOKS [BA/98]

A word of advice to bad boys and girls hell-bent on the live fast, die young lifestyle: you might want to pace yourselves. Biomedical gerontologist Aubrey de Grey (whose 2005 TedTalk, *A Roadmap to End Aging*, has more than 2.5 million views) believes that aging is a curable disease and that mankind's first 1,000-year-old has already been born. Instead of using medicine to slow aging, he wants to use it to regenerate cells damaged over a lifetime—and nip the aging process in the bud.

If de Grey's radical idea of a millennial turned millennium-man or woman seems too hard to fathom, consider the fact that in Canada during the past century, life expectancy for many women and men has increased by a combined average of 20 years.

Genetics play important roles in this spike in longevity. So too do science and medicine which push

the envelope to discover new age-extending, life-enhancing means every day. It is here that we find U of M researchers, whose creative hypotheses about aging are debunking myths and eliminating the stigma around growing old. Their work will help us create the path towards a more elderly inclusive society—here's how.

Suitable for all ages: a better approach to community infrastructure

The small rural community of Gladstone, Man., once struggled to survive an exodus of its young people. But one day ... they may be back. After all, this town of 1,000 is now considered a senior citizen's dream. Gladstone is one of roughly 100 communities participating in the highly successful Age-Friendly Manitoba initiative, a partnership launched in 2008 between the U of M's Centre on Aging and the provincial government. Established in 1982, the Centre on Aging is an internationally respected research hub. Its faculty affiliates (69 at present count) do research on the physical and social well-being of seniors, as well as their mental health. Prior to embarking on the program, Gladstone was in peril.

"Community leaders were concerned that younger people had left the community already and there wasn't a great feeling of a future in it," says Jim Hamilton, the centre's associate director.

By making the town more age-friendly for its residents, a new energy was born. Town officials worked with seniors, businesses, the provincial government and the centre to create a plan: they added housing for seniors, accessible commercial passenger van transportation, ramped curbs and doors wide enough for wheelchairs. These improvements, among others, helped spur a town turnaround and even a reported increase in real estate values.

"They've actually saved the community, economically and socially," says Hamilton, who gives workshops on Manitoba's Age-Friendly experience in Canada and abroad. "We've had great success with the Age-Friendly work, so we're one of the global leaders from the university perspective."

In 2011, there were nearly five million Canadians aged 65 or older. Statistics Canada is predicting that by 2031, 23 per cent of Canadians could be senior citizens, compared to 15 per cent four years ago. If ever there was a time to prepare communities for this shifting demographic, it's now.

"We have 80 per cent of Manitoba's population living in communities working towards becoming more age-friendly," says Hamilton.

Hamilton says that when a community adds amenities for older adults, everyone benefits—whether it's a toddler being able to open a heavy door with the push of a button or a student being able to see how many seconds she has left on a pedestrian signal in order to safely cross the street.

Careful community planning that involves everyone will be increasingly important. Decisions involving services like health care will have to be made, and all of them will involve money.

"If we're establishing policies for quality of life, housing, health care and a whole lot of other stuff, we need to understand whether what we now know or believe about aging is changing," says professor emeritus Daniel Sitar [BSc(Pharm)/66, MSc/68, PhD/72], a clinical pharmacologist focusing on drug therapy for older patients. "If it is, we need to understand how the new understanding of aging in the current generation will impact the appropriateness of policy development and the economic impact on the country."

The mid-life crisis at 75: imagining a radically extended lifespan

Would life be nifty at 150? Sociologists and biogerontologists wonder what kinds of moral and ethical issues will arise if more people one day live much longer lives.

Laura Funk, an assistant professor of sociology specializing in aging and family caregiving, says people may be more concerned about protecting the environment, their own health and even their retirement savings if they believed their lifespan might increase dramatically. Even the idea of marriage being a life-long covenant could change, she says. "Perhaps it might be seen as something that has to be renewed as a contract every few decades or something," says Funk.

But would living for 150 years be available to everyone if it involves expensive technological advances? Would only the wealthy be able to afford it? And would people even want to live that long if given the chance? "People have suggested a loss of purpose or a loss of sense of meaning in life if we live to 150 years," says Funk. "It hinges on the idea that some people believe life loses meaning without death or without some kind of timely awareness of our own mortality."

Reality check: adapting to the challenges of living longer

University of Manitoba psychology professor Judy Chipperfield [BA(Hons)/83, MA/86, PhD/89] isn't looking for the Fountain of Youth. She's actually looking for something quite a bit more complex, if not as mysterious. She wants to understand how people can best adapt to the trials of aging. Because although aging may be changing—isn't 70 the new 50?—she says people are always going to have to revisit, revise and rethink how they approach life as they get older.

“There’s challenges that come with aging,” says Chipperfield. “And if I can help them cope with these challenges, I think we could improve people’s well-being.”

In the past century, major improvements in public health have dramatically increased our life expectancy. In Canada,

**“Why do we want to avoid looking and being perceived as old?”
I think clearly part of reason is that
I think we’re learning we can.”**

— JUDY CHIPPERFIELD

women who were expected to live until 61 in the early 1920s were by 2005 expected to live until 83. Men went from 59 years to 78 years over the same time frame. (Aboriginal Canadians still suffer from shorter lifespans compared to the national average.) Science has yet to produce us a fountain of youth, but it has developed countless measures (from facelifts to pharmaceuticals) to keep us looking eternally young.

Mind over matter: helping seniors better manage mental health as they age

“Why do we want to avoid looking and being perceived as old?” ponders Chipperfield. “I think clearly part of reason is that I think we’re learning we can.” Factors affecting this include heredity and genetics, even one’s environment and level of education, but Chipperfield’s work focuses on perception of control—the level to which people believe they themselves can bring about a desired outcome.

Could the secret to aging well come down to whether or not you feel like you’re in the driver’s seat? Chipperfield has found that people who say they feel in control spend fewer days in the hospital and have fewer physician visits and lab tests.

“They also live longer,” says Chipperfield. “So it’s a pretty powerful factor that predicts better health and longevity.”

Alumna Margaret Sparkes [BA/14] has never seen age as a barrier to doing what she wants. Last June, she graduated at age 78 and became one of 70 U of M alumni who have earned a degree—undergraduate, masters, even PhD—after the age of 70.

Chipperfield studies how individuals who don’t believe they’re in control of their life’s direction can effectively change their mindsets. She’s not the only researcher at the U of M who sees a better life for older adults as a matter of the mind.

Professor of psychology Corey Mackenzie says rates of mental health services use are especially low among older adults. In order to begin changing that, Mackenzie and Kerstin Roger, an associate professor of family social sciences and community health sciences, are participating in a \$3-million grant from Movember Canada with the goal of improving mental health for men.

They’re focusing on men’s sheds, grassroots groups that originated in Australia and play off the traditional idea of men gathering at a backyard shed to work on a project together. The goal is to provide a place where men can talk, be productive and stay involved—and in turn, help maintain their mental health. “We’re really interested in looking at ways men can access services and at ways to help them cope with mental health issues that might be more accessible,” says Mackenzie. “This is just that kind of thing.”

The first men’s shed in Canada meets regularly at the Woodhaven Community Club in Winnipeg. It’s aimed at older men and widowers, many of whom may feel isolated because they’ve finished with their careers or lost a spouse.

Mackenzie and Roger are hoping to expand the number of men’s sheds across Canada by developing a national website and a toolkit for men interested in starting a shed.

“Men’s sheds are not marketed as mental health interventions, but they do have clear mental health benefits,” says Mackenzie. “There’s this term that’s come up in men’s sheds literature called ‘health by stealth.’ It’s really just a way to get social support, and we know how important that is to mental health and well-being.”

Time will tell: a major study of aging as it happens

Verena Menec [BA(Hons)/89, MA/91, PhD/95] too has been probing issues of mental health as they relate to aging. Menec plays a key role in a massive, national, data-gathering project that’s studying aging—as it happens—over the span of two decades. The Canadian Longitudinal Study on Aging (CLSA) kicked off in 2011 and will help inform how policies and programs can be best developed to serve older Canadians.

The idea behind the CLSA is to collect as much information as possible on the health of 50,000 Canadians over a 20-year period. Participants aged 45 to 85 years old are sharing information on everything from social connections to retirement issues. Information on their cognitive abilities and even bone density is being collected. More than 4,500 Manitobans are participating in the study.

“It’s the biggest, most in-depth study on aging in Canada and possibly worldwide,” says Menec, a community health sciences professor and Canada Research Chair in Healthy Aging. “The longitudinal nature is going to be absolutely amazing with the sample size.”

Menec is the province's CLSA co-principal investigator along with Philip St. John [BSc(Med)/90, MD/90], who heads the section of geriatrics in the department of internal medicine. Menec is already requesting data from the study's first phase looking at social isolation and loneliness.

"We're one of the first to actually access the data," she says. "We want to see if there are different people with different risk factors who would then ultimately need different types of interventions."

It's one of many questions Menec hopes to answer with CLSA data, even if she still struggles to explain the ultimate question: why we strive so hard to fight aging when we know it's a natural process. There are many theories, she says, and they go beyond the obvious that aging is related to death in a death-denying society. "Part of the reason we have negative views of aging is because we value the idea of someone being productive and participating in society," says Menec. "If someone can no longer do that, they're devalued. It has to do with decline and aging being associated with decline rather than an increase in wisdom."

A meaningful goodbye: treating dying patients as people too

An assistant professor at the U of M's College of Nursing, Genevieve Thompson [BN/97, MN/03 PhD/07] has spent the past decade studying palliative care. She has also been helping her father care for her 71-year-old mother, who was diagnosed with Alzheimer's in 2008. The experience has brought perspective to her work.

While researching one recent study involving the palliative care of dementia patients, she heard numerous stories from concerned nurses and health-care aides about families not visiting their loved ones in care facilities. She says there are days when she herself does not feel strong enough to visit her mother. (A survey conducted by the MetLife Foundation in 2011 found that adult Americans feared Alzheimer's disease second only to cancer.) "It's really hard to see the person you've admired so much and looked up to no longer be who they are," says Thompson. "And there's days when you can face that and days when you are so angry and sad that you just can't."

As Thompson's mother and other baby boomers enter their senior years, access to palliative care has become increasingly important, perhaps now more than ever after the Supreme Court legalized in February a patient's right to a physician-assisted death. Thompson admits she is concerned about the repercussions of this decision. She says tackling the issue of when a person can choose to die seems premature considering there is still much work to be done in improving a patient's final days through palliative care. Only 16 to 30 per cent of Canadians have access to palliative care, depending on where they live.

"I don't even feel that people have access to all the tools or that physicians feel comfortable prescribing pain medications," she explains. "Yet we're saying well, I don't feel comfortable alleviating your pain, yet I can alleviate your life."

In recent years, Thompson has watched the patient-centred care model begin to alter how long-term care facilities operate.

She says patient-centred care emphasizes personalizing people's long-term care experience by encouraging health-care providers to learn about their patients and what gives them meaning and purpose, however many days they may have left to live.

"For (patients) to feel like they're still contributing is huge in supporting a person's dignity," says Thompson.

Tied in to this philosophy is viewing a patient's family as members of the care community—and not as a threat—and ensuring that workers of the care facility feel valued and purposeful.

"We need to be prepared, we need to be talking about it. We can't be afraid of death and dying."

— GENEVIEVE THOMPSON

"A health-care provider's attitudes and behaviours can shape how people experience dignity," says Thompson. "If I come into a room and I'm all negative and only focused on the task at hand, I really miss an opportunity to make that person feel like a person." Thompson is hoping the federal government, when exploring a patient's right to die, will undertake rigorous consultations as it writes a new law to replace the current unconstitutional one. This will undoubtedly be complex, considering so many of our challenges in providing a good death come from our discomfort with discussing it.

"I still think there's that prevailing notion that somehow death is, well, bad, for lack of a better word," says Thompson. "Rather than being well, 'Let's make this the best possible time and experience that we can for your family and how do we do that?' We need to be prepared, we need to be talking about it. We can't be afraid of death and dying." ♥

GIVING BACK

THE GIFT OF KNOWLEDGE

Alumnus establishes bursary fund for Indigenous students studying science

BY ADAM CAMPBELL



Great Aunt Sally would have been pleased. It's an idea alumnus Tony Williams [BSc(Hons)/77] could scarcely have imagined back in 1971 as a U of M dropout working a dead-end job and hanging with a wild bunch from his Fort Garry neighbourhood. But because of his late aunt's generosity Williams, now 62 and head of a successful Vancouver-based actuarial firm, went from giving up on life to giving back: both as a professional and as a philanthropist.

"I wouldn't be in the position I am without my education," says Williams, who recently made a \$100,000 gift to the U of M to establish a bursary for Indigenous students in the Faculty of Science.

Though his first foray into university was unsuccessful, Williams knew he had the smarts to try again; he just needed some help. Circumstances at home made a return to school seem impossible.

"These were not very good times; both of my adoptive parents were alcoholics ... I was essentially living on the back porch of their house when I was around at all."

During a year or so of "re-grouping" Williams endured the loss of his great aunt, but her spirit lived on in a life-changing gift: she left him a \$1,000 inheritance with the caveat that he use it for school.

"Aunt Sally had an education herself, but had no children ... so she was always interested in my education," Williams says of Lewis, a nurse who immigrated to Winnipeg from the United Kingdom and who had studied under Florence Nightingale. "The gift allowed me to go ahead with something that I was coming to the decision that I wanted to do, which was to get back to the University of Manitoba and pursue a science degree It was really kind of a selfless act that helped me out a lot, and I never really forgot that all those years. I developed an interest in maybe helping other people if I was ever able to."

Williams re-enrolled at the U of M in 1973. He struggled to make ends meet. Even something so minor as a dental bill threatened to derail his school plans. So he applied for the U of M's emergency bursary. The \$100 award he received allowed him to continue his education.

"It doesn't sound like a lot of money, but it sure meant a lot to me then, as I had no financial support from my parents," says Williams, who keeps the bursary letter framed in his home office in Vancouver.

With renewed focus, Williams turned his attention from physics to actuarial mathematics. In 1975 he married fellow

U of M student Hazel McCane. She was working in agriculture for the province at the time and was able to help finance the rest of his degree program. Williams graduated from the university with honours in 1977, became fully qualified as an actuary in 1985, and spent the next two decades working at various consulting firms in Winnipeg and Calgary. In 2008, Williams, along with two other partners working with him at the global HR consulting firm Watson Wyatt, left the company to found PBI Actuarial Consultants Ltd. through a buyout of part of Watson Wyatt's business.

Since then, PBI has expanded to more than 70 people with offices in Vancouver, Montreal and Toronto. While PBI's growth is underscored by impressive numbers (its clients hold more than \$20 billion in combined assets) Williams takes particular pride in one area of the business—his Aboriginal clients.

For example, in 2000 Williams was retained as an expert witness by lawyers for the Samson Cree Nation during its lawsuit against the federal government alleging mismanagement of revenues from the Alberta community's oil and gas lands. The trial—one of the longest Aboriginal lawsuits in Canadian history—ended in 2004 with the unprecedented ruling that the government return \$360 million. That money was used to set up a trust fund for the First Nation. Serving Aboriginal groups and First Nations' land claim settlement funds have since become a staple of PBI's business.

"They may not have that expertise themselves, so they're relying on experts," says Williams of his Aboriginal clients. "They may have been taken advantage of in past financial matters, so gaining their trust is very important. I would say serving Aboriginal clients are some of the most memorable client experiences that I've had."

Throughout his life, Williams has followed his great aunt's example of creating education opportunities for others. He has even included the U of M in his will. The decision to support Indigenous student success stems from Williams's on-the-job experiences with Indigenous people as well as reflections from his childhood.

"It goes back to my days growing up in Winnipeg. I always felt that with Aboriginals, there was a certain level of discrimination that I didn't understand or agree with," he says. "The [Aboriginal] people I've met are very smart, hardworking people; everyone needs more help ... but it all starts with a good education." ♥

UNIQUELY TALENTED

CELEBRATING STUDENT LEADERS AT THE U OF M

The doting dad, the science wunderkind and the master of slang—this trio of unique individuals found success at the U of M and were among 75 students celebrated at the recent Emerging Leaders Award Dinner. The award recognizes student leaders based on their contributions to social, cultural and economic well-being on or off campus. Here, they reflect on life, learning, growing up, and finding their passion at the U of M.

COMPILED BY HEATHER SAXTON





ELLA THOMSON

AREA OF STUDY:

Second year, Faculty of Engineering

LEADERSHIP INITIATIVES:

U of M Engineering Society; Engineers Without Borders (U of M chapter); Women in Science and Engineering girls science club; UMEarth student group

ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

Started research work at age 13, began working at St. Boniface Hospital Research Centre in Grade 12

Describe your research.

My research focuses on neurodegenerative disorders, such as Alzheimer's. I have been working on studying the role of mitochondrial dysfunction in Alzheimer's disease.

You were accepted to Stanford University and the U of M. How did you make your decision?

The U of M provides wonderful opportunities for student research, for example through the undergraduate student research awards, and the poster competition, which I have participated in for two years. I also have many research connections in Manitoba, which I wanted to continue to build on. Although it wasn't the deciding factor, there are also excellent scholarship opportunities at the university; I received the Schulich Scholarship, and the Leaders of Tomorrow Scholarship.

What role has your family played in where you are today?

When I was young, my dad and I spent hours in the kitchen having fun doing science experiments. My parents exposed me to many different opportunities. When we used to travel, we would visit science and technology museums.

This started my interest in science at a very young age. In some ways it seemed natural to pursue a degree in this field.

What are you doing when you're not studying or volunteering?

In my free time I enjoy historical fiction books. I also play tennis and squash, and enjoy spending time with friends.

What novel have you most recently read?

My favourite author is Philippa Gregory. The book I've most recently read was *The King's Curse*.

Why do you feel it's important for young girls to be involved in science and engineering?

It's the way of the future. Science encourages critical thinking. This is why I work as a coordinator for the Women in Science and Engineering girls club. Each week I plan activities and field trips for girls in Grades 3 to 8 in order to participate in experiments and show them various fields that are available in science and engineering. Through my personal experience, I see how science and engineering have opened many doors for me. It is great to see other girls interested and involved.



DARBY CUMMING [BA/II]

AREA OF STUDY:

Teaching English as a Second Language certificate program

LEADERSHIP INITIATIVES:

Workshop leader, Student Leadership Development Program; intern, International Centre for Students; founder, Volunteer Language Exchange Program—a volunteer group that teaches Canadian culture and language to international students

How have your experiences brought you to today?

When I was in Grade 9, I was chosen to go on a trip to Washington [D.C.], to visit the Holocaust Museum. This started my interest in human rights and cultural understanding. When I was young my parents would take my brother and me on camping trips every summer throughout Canada and the United States. One summer they took us to Europe where we travelled around for a month. I think this is where I picked up my interest in cultural differences and the importance of being a culturally open and worldly person.

What challenges have you faced?

I was incredibly shy growing up. This kept me from doing a lot of the things I wanted to do with my life. Even in my first five years at the U of M, I didn't get involved in any activities outside of my classes. When I was 23, I decided to drop out of my pre-master's program in history, partly because the seminar style lectures were difficult for me, being anxious about speaking in public. After I dropped out, I didn't know what I wanted to do. I felt like I had so much to offer but was wasting my potential. I decided to change my life and gave myself a three-year plan that by age 26 I would be making a difference in the community.

What was that plan?

I came back to school, started going to Toastmasters for public speaking, got involved in as many extracurricular activities as I could, took the student leadership development program, and eventually got my job at the World W.I.S.E. Resource Centre, where I currently work.

What's your approach to teaching Canadian culture and language to international students?

Firstly, I like to provide opportunities for international students to get involved with Canadian culture, and offer information about sports teams, intramurals and interest clubs. Right now I am organizing a Canadian/international student ultimate Frisbee team for the summer. The second part is that I teach expressions, idioms and slang. This gives students a better chance at making connections and hopefully they'll feel more comfortable at our university.

Describe your ideal Saturday.

Teaching my class in the morning, meeting some friends for bubble tea in the afternoon and then maybe doing something fun like rock climbing at night!



VALERY AGBOR

AREA OF STUDY:

PhD candidate, biosystems engineering

LEADERSHIP INITIATIVES:

Vice-president internal, Graduate Student Association; chief returning officer, Biosystems Engineering Student Association; volunteer, Springs Church in Winnipeg

ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

BSc in microbiology, University of Buea (Cameroon); MSc in biotechnology, Lund University (Sweden)

What was your life like growing up in Cameroon?

I was born behind my grandfather's house to teenage parents in the South West province of Cameroon. My mom was from a well-to-do family but at 14 became pregnant with my oldest sister. My dad, the son of an ex-military officer, started out as mechanic having his own repair shop. My mom also owned a business selling palm oil and other goods. They also both inherited farms from their parents and farmed cash crops like cocoa and plantains. After my dad married a second wife and our family became polygamous he struggled to provide for both families and maintain a home. My mother made sure that I studied enough to either be the first or among the top three of my class. She wanted me to get the education she could not have.

What outside of your studies brought you to Canada?

Coming from a bilingual country, I love the fact that Canada is a bilingual nation in the developed world with a long standing international reputation of peace, stability and an inclusive migration policy.

Was the weather in Winnipeg a shock to you? How did you learn to adapt?

Life in Sweden, where I took my master's degree, prepared me for a colder climate. What I did not know was the extent to which it could get cold

[in Manitoba]. I brought my 'English winter coat' to face the Winnipeg winter. When I got here in February, I quickly realized that my coat was no match.

You have three children. What is your secret for maintaining balance?

Kids came into our lives when I was in grad school. Fortunately, colleagues in my research unit who had faced similar experiences encouraged me to step up to the plate of fatherhood. My wife and I had to make tough choices. She was going to stay home and take care of the kids while I focused on the challenges of grad school. We set our priorities and took it one day at a time. Now that I am almost done with my studies she is getting set to advance her career.

What makes you happy?

The sound of my kids playing; the smile on my wife's face; the victories after challenges; the smell of pizza; sports teams like the Canadian female soccer team; and a good laugh with the people we do life with.

What does being a leader mean to you?

To me being a leader is an opportunity to serve and influence others in a way that boomerangs with a sense of living a purposeful life. I am a people person, so I strive to lead people in small tasks like organizing soccer games, or big tasks like leading a student body or an organization. 🍷

THINK FAST

After years of research, and months of preparation, 12 finalists competed in the Three Minute Thesis (3MT®) competition final in February. Hundreds of guests including friends, family and fellow students were on hand to support these innovative graduate students as they competed for the first, second and people's choice awards.

During the 3MT® competition each competitor had three minutes and could use only a single slide as illustration to clearly explain the nature, goals and significance of his or her research.

Sound difficult? Absolutely. The challengers have spent years researching these topics, and must synthesize all of that knowledge into brief presentations that capture the imagination of the audience and panel of judges.

Two competitors stood out from the rest and were awarded prizes.



Rebecca Dielschneider took home first place and people's choice honours for her presentation: Lysosomes as Targets in Leukemia. Dielschneider's PhD advisor is Dr. Spencer Gibson

Diego Rodriguez Herrera earned the second place prize for his presentation: Using Radio Waves for Breast Cancer Detection. Rodriguez Herrera is presently completing his master's and his advisor is Dr. Stephen Pistorius. Flanking this year's winners are, from left, Jay Doering, dean of graduate studies and vice-provost (graduate education) and David Barnard, president and vice-chancellor



Learn more at umanitoba.ca/3mt

ACCOMPLISHMENTS



Three University of Manitoba alumni, **Robert Houle** [BA/72, DLitt/14], **Micah Lexier** [BFA/82] and **Reva Stone** [BFA(Hons)/85] recently received the prestigious Governor General Award in Visual and Media Arts. Houle has significantly shaped Indigenous art history and earned national and international acclaim. His recent work examines his own Residential School experiences, acting as a testament to the survival and strength of Indigenous people. Houle is a member of Sandy Bay First Nation, Manitoba. Toronto-based and internationally renowned, Lexier is a multimedia artist who has had more than 100 solo exhibitions, participated in over 200 group exhibitions, and produced numerous permanent public commissions. Stone's work explores how technology alters the way we interact with our surroundings and how it is changing our human nature. A vital member of Winnipeg's art community she has exhibited across Canada.

Charles W. Binks [CA/57] crested two milestones recently: he retired and he turned 80. Binks continues to be active as a commissioned minister of the Lutheran church, Missouri, Synod, and as author of a series of novels titled *Manitou—God Leads*.

Ronald J. Burke [BA/60] has spent more than 50 years investigating the relationship between the work environment and an individual's overall well-being. During that time, Burke, professor emeritus of organizational behaviour/industrial relations at the Schulich School of Business (York University), has earned a reputation as one of Canada's most prolific researchers: he's published more than 500 journal articles and book chapters, and presented more than 500 papers at academic conferences around the world. He was the youngest professor to achieve the rank of full professor at Schulich; he is past director of their PhD program, as well as their past associate dean, research. And in 2001, he ranked first in their annual MBA teaching awards.

Bill Cox [BComm/83] was named a fellow of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in recognition of distinguished work on behalf of the profession and service to not-for-profit organizations. Cox is a partner in BDO Canada LLP and was also recently named to the Public Sector Accounting Board of Canada.



PMO PHOTO BY DEB RANSOM

Janice Filmon [BScHEc/63, LLD/11] a visionary community leader known for her prolific charitable work in the province, has been named as Manitoba's Lieutenant Governor designate by Prime Minister Stephen Harper.

James Goho [MA/73] recently had his book, *Journeys into Darkness: Critical Essays on Gothic Horror*, published by Rowman & Littlefield. The wide-ranging study examines the varied ways in which supernatural fiction addresses the deepest moral, social, and political concerns of the human experience.

Elsie Kawulich (Kubrak) [BScHEc/55] was named to the Order of Canada in 2013 for efforts to preserve and promote Ukrainian culture in Canada, and for her volunteer work in her community of Vegreville, Alta.

Robert K. Koslowsky [BSc(EE)/81] recently published his latest work, *The Upstart Startup: How Cerent Transformed Cisco*. The book illuminates the triumphs and setbacks of one of the most important startup companies of the late 1990s and its band of entrepreneurs that continue to innovate in the 21st century. For more on Koslowsky's books, visit robkoslowsky.weebly.com/blog

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

CONTINUED

Arvel Lawson [BSc(Agric)/02, MSc/05] received Monsanto's Distinguished Development Award (DDA) in 2014. The DDA is Monsanto's highest honour for sustained, outstanding technical contributions by technology development personnel. Winners of this award are key field leaders in the successful introduction and adoption of new technologies, the promotion and demonstration of agronomic solutions, and the continued defense and growth of current products. Lawson was one of 15 winners globally and the only recipient from Canada in 2014.

Catherine Macdonald [MA/83] recently published her first historical mystery novel, set in Winnipeg in 1899, and called *Put on the Armour of Light*. Macdonald currently works as principal for Prairie Connections Historical Research Consultants. Previous books to her credit include: *A City at Leisure: An Illustrated History of Parks and Recreation Services in Winnipeg 1893–1993* (winner of the 1997 Margaret McWilliams medal) and, *Making a Place: A History of Landscape Architects and Landscape Architecture in Manitoba*.

Erwin Malzer [BComm(Hons)/74, MBA/76] led the consulting practice at Pricewaterhouse Coopers Vancouver in 1999. Today, he is on the executive board of the B.C. Institute of Corporate Directors and was recently appointed board chair of the Interior Health Authority by the Government of British Columbia.

Cian T. McMahon [BA/00] recently published *The Global Dimensions of Irish Identity: Race, Nation and the Popular Press, 1840–1880*. For more information visit uncpress.unc.edu/books/12616.html

Sharon Oberlander [BA/71], a Merrill Lynch wealth management advisor based in Chicago, was recently honoured for the second year in a row by U.S. business weekly *Barron's* as one of its top 1,200 advisors state-by-state in America. Oberlander has also been named to the newspaper's list of top 100 women financial advisors for nine consecutive years.

IN MEMORIAM

1930–39

Crawford (Ferns), Miriam G.
[BA/37, DipSW/45] Jan. 18, 2015

Perry, Jean E. [BA/37] Dec. 6, 2014

Pierce, Glen W. [BA(Hons)/33] Jan. 26, 2015

Pilgrim, Constance [BA/33] Sept. 13, 2014

Powley, Margaret [BSc/36] Dec. 29, 2014

1940–49

Barber, B. L. [BScHEC/48] Sept. 7, 2014

Bell (nee Lindsay), Ina R. [BHEC/46]
Jan. 28, 2014

Boyd (Pringle), Gretta Merle (Merle)
[CertNurs(PH)/46] Jan. 4, 2015

Buckler, Victor S. [BSc(EE)/45] Jan. 28, 2015

Campbell, Mavis E. [BSc/46] Jan. 21, 2015

Court, Muriel J. [BSc/46] Dec. 23, 2014

Desjardins, Patricia R. [BA/40, CertEd/41,
DipSW/46] Jan. 5, 2015

Force, William T. [BSc(EE)/49] Nov. 20, 2014

Harvey, Jean M. [BA/40] Nov. 26, 2014

Holt, Simma [BA/44] Jan. 23, 2015

Irvine, James J. [BSc(EE)/49] Jan. 22, 2015

Konantz (McPhee), Mary A. [BHEC/47]
Jan. 2, 2015

Levin, Dr. David R. [BSc/40] Dec. 13, 2014

MacDuff (Radcliffe), Wilna [BA/41]
Jan. 7, 2015

Malmgren, Alan S. [BSc(ME)/49] Dec. 1, 2014

McCaughey, Willis M. (Billie) [BA/45]
Dec. 7, 2014

McIntyre, Catherine Ruth [BArch/49]
Nov. 14, 2014

Mutimer, Ernest C. [BA/49] Dec. 27, 2014

Sherman, Louis R. (Bud) [BA/49] Jan. 9, 2015

Sutherland, John Graham (Jack)
[BSc(EE)/45] Dec. 16, 2014

Whitaker, Dr. Donald R. [BSc(Hons)/41]
March 21, 2014

1950–59

Adolph, Edward R. [BComm/50]
Sept. 10, 2014

Anderson (Babienko), Tania L.
[BSc(Hons)/53] Jan. 11, 2015

Butler, Conrad E. [BSW/59, MSW/62]
Jan. 17, 2015

Chemerynsky (Kuleba), Gloria M. [BA/59,
BEd/60, MEd/75] Jan. 30, 2015

Cronk, Donald E. [BA/53, BEd/58]
Dec. 23, 2014

Delcloo, Albert V. [BSc(ME)/50] Dec. 27, 2014

Glass, Dr. Helen P. [CertNurs(T&S)/58]
Feb. 14, 2015

Hanbury, Edwin Maris [BSc(ME)/53]
Jan. 4, 2015

Heaton, A. H. [BA/50] Dec. 22, 2014

Jarvis, Edgar C. [BSc/51] Nov. 30, 2014

Jersak, George C. [BSc/58, MEd/73]
Jan. 12, 2015

Johnson, Ernest G. [LLB/51] Dec. 30, 2014

Kruk (Roslycky), Olga [BPed/57, BA/58,
BEd/62] Oct. 9, 2014

Kucherawy, Jack T. [BPed/59, BEd/67]
Jan. 29, 2015

Lansdown, Dr. Edward L. [BSc/50,
BSc(Med)/57, MD/57] Dec. 5, 2014

MacBride, Mary [BEd/53, MEd/61]
Dec. 24, 2014

MacPhee, Neil G. [LLB/50] Dec. 18, 2014

Schultz, Walter A. [CA/54] Dec. 8, 2014

Sigurdson, Warren L. [DipAgric/57]
Dec. 17, 2014

Tarnava, Jack J. [BSc(ME)/51, MBA/71]
Jan. 15, 2015

Thomlinson, Robert P. [BSc(CE)/58]
Jan. 6, 2015

Tuxworth, Richard H. [BSc(Hons)/50,
MSc/52] Jan. 20, 2015

Wilson, Robert Douglas [BSA/54]
Dec. 25, 2014

The University of Manitoba offers condolences to the family and friends of the following alumni:

1960-69

Arenson, Avrum Joel [BSc(CE)/61]
Jan. 9, 2015

Baker, Dr. Charles G. [DMD/68] Nov. 8, 2014

Baker, Frank J. [BA/67, LLB/73] Dec. 29, 2014

Bridger, Dr. William A. [BSc(Hons)/62, MSc/63, PhD/66] Dec. 18, 2014

Burron, Ramon C. [BEd/63] Dec. 4, 2014

Fast, Donald Brian [BSc/65, MSc/69]
Dec. 19, 2014

Froese, Peter [BComm(Hons)/60, BA/65, CertEd/68, BEd/73] Jan. 8, 2015

Golke, Darleen Ruth [CertEd/68, PB CertEd/92] Dec. 16, 2014

Grundy, Harold A. [BSA/61, CertEd/62]
Dec. 26, 2014

Hample (Prescott), Dr. Carolyn E.
[BA(Hons)/64, MA/65, PhD/92] Jan. 11, 2015

Hannah, James G. [BA/69, BSA/71]
Dec. 19, 2014

Hill, Harry [BSc(ME)/61] Dec. 16, 2014

Hoare, Willis K. [BFA/63] Dec. 25, 2014

Kinley, Dr. Cecil E. [MSc/60] Jan. 19, 2015

Lawrence, Douglas H. W. [CertSW/63]
Jan. 20, 2015

Lee, David J. [BSc(ME)/60] Jan. 16, 2015

Lotoski, Joseph H. [BSc(EE)/67] Jan. 22, 2015

McDonald, Richard G. [BA/62, BEd/67]
Sept. 16, 2014

Mitchell, Earl [BA/62] Jan. 22, 2015

Munchinsky, George [BA/64] Sept. 18, 2014

Pavlin, Dr. Charles J. [MD/67] Nov. 15, 2014

Sagi, George S. [MSc/66] Jan. 7, 2015

Thorarinson (Lee), Sylvia
[CertNurs(T&S)/61, BN/67] Nov. 17, 2014

Young (Andrusko), Joanne S. [BA/65]
Nov. 23, 2014

Young, Charles R. [BSc/65] Sept. 14, 2014

Yuen, Joseph Yu Sun
[BSc/69, BSc(Pharm)/72]

1970-79

Dangerfield, James E. [BA/72, BComm(Hons)/75] Nov. 30, 2014

Dysart, Audrey Ann [BA/77, CertEd/78]
Jan. 14, 2015

Kowalchuk, Lawrence T. [BEd/73]
Jan. 4, 2015

Lane, Geraldine Airlie [CertEd/77, BEd/83]
Dec. 30, 2014

Man, Li [BSc(EE)/73] Jan. 6, 2015

Manness (Michaluk), Linda Lou
[Assoc Ed/70] Dec. 1, 2014

Martens (Weber), Dr. Patricia J. [BSc/72, CertEd/73, ExtEd/87, MSc/94, PhD/99]
Jan. 10, 2015

McDonald, Diann L. [BA/74] Dec. 3, 2014

Mian, Amjad M. [BSc(EE)/76] Jan. 12, 2015

Mitchler, Daniel George [BA/70, BEd/77]
Jan. 2, 2015

Owen, Robert J. [BComm(Hons)/78, CA/79]
Jan. 18, 2015

Peacock, Blair Alexander [BSc(CE)/76]
Jan. 19, 2015

Penston, Brian D. [BComm(Hons)/74]
Jan. 2, 2015

Poniatowski, Teddy R. [BSc/73] Dec. 8, 2014

Poskanzer, Alisa F. [MSW/74] Dec. 28, 2014

Singh, Danny P. [BSc/71, MSc/74, CertEd/75, BEd/80, ExtEd/06] Jan. 1, 2015

Szumik, Olga Helen [CertEd/75, BEd/79]
Jan. 18, 2015

Tobin, Margaret E. [MSW/72] Dec. 21, 2014

1980-89

Friesen, Louella Kathryn [BEd/84]
Dec. 3, 2014

Johnson, Norman Frederick [BEd/85]
Jan. 20, 2015

Kirby, Walter Roy [BA/83] Dec. 23, 2014

Macgillivray (Orloff), Patricia Ann
[BA(Adv)/84] Jan. 4, 2015

Narozniak, Adriana Martha
[BSc/81, BComm(Hons)/85] Sept. 5, 2014

Rist, Carson Bernard [BSc(CE)/82]
Dec. 18, 2014

Schroeder, Dr. Garry Conrad Benjamin
[MD/85] Dec. 28, 2014

Speirs, Dianne Michelle [BEd/88] Jan. 6, 2015

Thawani, Mohan Anand [BSc/83] Jan. 8, 2015

1990-99

Christianson Clarke, Shawna Jean [BA/92, MPA/98] Jan. 2, 2015

Coodin, Naomi Chana [PB CertEd/97]
Jan. 29, 2015

Grenier, Claudette [BenEd/96, DipPBed/05, M en Ed/14] Jan. 11, 2015

Heise (Trowski), Diana Lynn
[BComm(Hons)/91] Jan. 17, 2015

Kachur-Reico, Colleen Marie [BEd/93, BA/01, PBDipEd/06, MEd/11] Jan. 2, 2015

Koch-Schulte (Hasker), Diane J. [BN/90]
Dec. 13, 2014

Lauder Osinski, Gini [ExtEd/94] Jan. 6, 2015

Patel, Dr. Dharmendra [MD/90] Nov. 7, 2014

Sosnowski, Dr. Zenon Michael [MSc/90]
Dec. 21, 2014

Starr, I. Grace [BSW/95] Dec. 28, 2014

Barich, Phyllis [ExtEd/10] Dec. 2014

Cairns, Leah [ExtEd/03] Jan. 7, 2015

Power, Patricia [ExtEd/03] Nov. 1, 2014

2000-Present

ELECTION OF ALUMNI REPRESENTATIVE TO THE UNIVERSITY OF MANITOBA BOARD OF GOVERNORS

2015 CANDIDATES:



Shona Connelly
[BA/81, MA/90]



Lindy Norris
[BA/07, BComm(Hons)/09]

BALLOT

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label of On Manitoba)

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John Doe
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Winnipeg, MB, R3T 6B6

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PLEASE VOTE FOR ONE ONLY:

☐ Shona Connelly ☐ Lindy Norris

Election opens:

Monday, March 23, 2015, 9 a.m. CST

Election closes (ballots due):

Wednesday, May 20, 2015, 4 p.m. CST

Ballots will be counted:

Friday, May 22, 2015, 2 p.m. CST

Ballots without proper alumni numbers
will not be accepted.

For more information,
and for complete candidate bios,
please visit
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SUPPLIED PHOTO

The Honourable Philip S. Lee [BSc/66, LL.D/11], Lieutenant Governor of Manitoba

Since August of 2009, His Honour Philip S. Lee has been Manitoba's lieutenant-governor. As a proud voice for Chinese culture for decades, His Honour has earned national and provincial recognition as a member of both the Order of Canada and the Order of Manitoba. As His Honour prepares to retire from the role as the Queen's representative for the province, we asked for some reflections on the job, and on studying and living in Manitoba.

As you prepare to leave Government House and reflect on your time as lieutenant-governor, what will be your fondest memories?

With respect to the fondest memories since I took office more than five and a half years ago, I believe the highlights were the times when I was granted an audience with Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth II at Buckingham Palace in 2010, and subsequently Her Majesty's tour of Manitoba in July, 2010, when she spent five hours at Government House. Other great moments included meeting so many wonderful people around Manitoba. My spouse, Anita, and I had the privilege of visiting many different parts of the province and getting to know our community and the people who build our community.

You came to the University of Manitoba as an international student in the 1960s. Based on your experience, what is your advice to international students looking to study at the U of M today?

I chose the University of Manitoba in 1962 to pursue my post-secondary education in the field of chemistry. In those days, the most challenging course was English literature—a mandatory

subject that all science students had to complete before one could qualify for one's first degree. While it is often a huge barrier for foreign students whose mother tongue is not English, this is a course that is absolutely necessary for any university student who plans to stay in Canada in whatever career path that they follow. A university student needs to be able to communicate both orally and in written forms to be well respected in their chosen profession.

What makes Manitoba special to you?

A large number of my friends often ask why I chose Manitoba as my home—many expected me to return to Hong Kong after my post-secondary education at the University of Manitoba. The major strength of our province is that, in general, Manitobans are very friendly to visible minorities who choose the province to be their new home. While our winter conditions are sometimes quite a challenge for visitors, it is a very nice place to live and raise a family. One should consider the strengths of Manitoba's clean air and healthy living to be a good trade off with potential earthquakes and tornadoes in other parts of North America. ♥



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UNIVERSITY OF MANITOBA

HOMECOMING

SEPTEMBER 28 - OCTOBER 4

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