

# Degrees

volume 18, no. 2 | fall 2006

The University of Regina Magazine



## Jewels in the Crown

2006 Alumni Crowning  
Achievement Award recipient  
Elaine McNeil



UNIVERSITY OF  
REGINA









A beautiful day and a free concert brought an estimated 7,000 students, faculty and staff to the Dr. Lloyd Barber Academic Green for some good old fashion fun on Sept. 7. The second annual WOW Concert featured headliners Yellowcard along with Coulee, Emery, Reeve, Oliver, Lillix and TOFU. The concert was the culmination of a full slate of welcome week activities that included barbecues, fundraisers, student orientations and lectures. The

event was cosponsored by Student Affairs and The University of Regina Students' Union. Welcome week activities are designed to engage students early in their university experience. The result? Higher retention rates and students who feel a part of the University community. Photo by Trevor Hopkin, AV Services.



The only thing that doesn't change is change. Change is good. Change is inevitable—except from a vending machine.

As you have probably noticed by now, the University of Regina alumni magazine has changed. *The Third Degree* has served us well for 10 years but, well, to everything turn, turn, turn.

So how did we get from *The Third Degree* to *Degrees*?

We talked. Then we listened. Then we put thoughts to action.

First, we enlisted the help of about 500 readers who told us in an online survey what they liked and what they didn't like about the magazine. Then we took what we learned from the survey and set out to create a crisp, clean magazine with type that jumps off the page and big, full-colour photos that shine. We believe we have created a magazine that can compete for attention on any newsstand. It is contemporary and quality driven.

You are holding the results in your hands.

Just like its predecessor, you can count on *Degrees* to bring you timely, relevant information about what's happening at the University of Regina. We will continue to introduce you to the people who make the U of R what it is today. We'll also be giving you a wider perspective—one that sheds light on the U of R's influence on the world as well as the world's impact on the University of Regina.

Most of all we will continue telling stories—stories about alumni and students, faculty and administrators, retirees and researchers. We will bring you tales about the outstanding array of people associated with the University of Regina who have incredible passion for the things they do every day.

I hope you enjoy the first issue of *Degrees*. Let us know how we are doing. We welcome your comments. Whether you have story ideas or want to give us feedback on our new design.

You can find our contact information on the facing page. I look forward to hearing from you.

Greg Campbell  
Editor

Thank you for the latest issue of *The Third Degree*. I found the international perspective to be especially valuable.

The U of R serves not only our local community, but also a broader global community, as evidenced by the experiences of journalism grads Blake Lambert and Derek Stoffel, as well as by professor Ward's thoughtful analysis of the Canadian mission in Afghanistan.

Thanks again for "Thinking globally and acting locally."

Yours truly,  
Fred Clipsham

I am writing to express my disappointment with your inappropriate usage of the cradleboard image in your article on motherhood and academia.

If there had been a First Nations woman profiled in your story, I could see the link but since none of the mothers were of visible First Nations ethnicity, it looks to me like just another example of misappropriation of cultural images.

I sincerely hope that you had the sense to at least check in with your campus neighbours at FNUC to seek counsel from one of their resident elders regarding the usage of one of the most sacred cultural symbols. If not, I suggest that perhaps you make this a practice in the future...you might offend less people that way.

Regards,  
Shelley Fayant

Hello Ms. Fayant,

Thank you for your comments regarding the last issue of *The Third Degree*. A magazine cannot exist without its readers and I appreciate the time you spend reading the magazine and the critical thinking you bring to its contents. It's only through this kind of dialogue that we can make strides to improve the magazine.

The artist, Marcia Ann Chickeness, and I worked over a period of about two weeks discussing the use of the image of the cradleboard and the description that appears in the layout. Marcia credits her work to the prayers and support from Elders and appreciates her artwork being used in a story of motherhood.

My objective for using the image of the cradleboard was to bring additional perspectives to the story about the beauty of motherhood and of life. I am convinced that using the image of the cradleboard and the legend of its creation adds layers of meaning that make the story more universal and therefore a better story.

Thanks again for your feedback.  
Sincerely,  
Greg Campbell  
Editor,  
*Degrees*

# Degrees

**Editor**  
Greg Campbell '85, '95

**Communications Director**  
Paul Corns

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**Contributors**  
Gregory Abraszko  
Greg Campbell '85, '95  
Todd Korol  
B. D. Miller '89, '95  
Deborah Sproat  
Kim Stallknecht

All photos by AV Services unless otherwise noted.  
Original design by Bradbury Branding and Design.  
Layout by The Noblet Design Group.

*Degrees* is published twice a year by External Relations at the University of Regina. The magazine is mailed to alumni and friends of the University. Ideas and opinions published in *Degrees* do not necessarily reflect those of the editor, the Alumni Association, or the University of Regina. Letters and editorial contributions are welcome. Advertising inquiries are invited.

## To reach us:

**Editorial/Advertising/Letters**  
The Third Degree, External Relations  
210 North Residence, University of Regina  
3737 Wascana Parkway  
Regina, SK, S4S 0A2  
Ph: (306)585-4402 Fax: (306)585-4997  
Email: Greg.Campbell@uregina.ca

**Address Change/Alumni Relations**  
210 North Residence, University of Regina  
3737 Wascana Parkway  
Regina, SK, S4S 0A2  
Ph: (306)585-4112 Fax: (306)585-4997  
Email: URAlumni@uregina.ca  
Toll-free: 1-877-779-4273 (GRAD)  
(in Canada and U.S.)

**University of Regina Home Page**  
[www.uregina.ca](http://www.uregina.ca)

Publication Mail Agreement Number 40065347  
Return undeliverable magazines to:  
External Relations  
210 North Residence, University of Regina  
3737 Wascana Parkway  
Regina, SK, S4S 0A2

ISSN 0843-7092

University of Regina Magazine

**Fall 2006**  
volume 18, no. 2

**On the cover:** Alumni Crowning Achievement Award Lifetime Achievement recipient Elaine McNeil. **Photo** by Don Hall, AV Services



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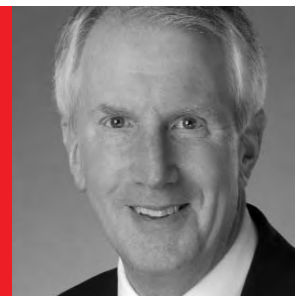
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## President's Note



Once again our campus is filled with the optimism, promise, and creative energy of a new academic year. Here are just a few of the highlights of the past few months: We welcomed new students and their parents to an orientation day, announced the appointment of two new Canada Research Chair holders, and held a "WOW" celebration on the Dr. Lloyd Barber Academic Green where 7,000 students enjoyed a wide variety of entertainment.

We showed off our campus to 78 high school guidance counsellors, held an Employer's Fair where more than 4,000 of our students impressed employers from 98 different companies, hosted the Premier and the Saskatchewan cabinet on a tour of campus, and held a University-wide Town Hall meeting at which we announced our intention to develop new graduate and professional programming. At the same event, we outlined our commitment to what we call our Quality Undergraduate Student Experience initiative.

An important component of this initiative, one that will

be a central reality in the lives and careers of our students, is the globalization of education at the U of R.

The University of Regina is at the forefront of Canadian universities in making possible an international experience for students. While visiting World War I sites with my family in Ypres, Belgium this summer, I was surprised to hear my name called out. A group of U of R students from our Justice Studies program, were on exchange at the University of Leuven.

At the Town Hall meeting that I mentioned above, I announced that we would provide every University of Regina student with up to \$1,000 to be used towards travel undertaken as part of a study abroad exchange. We know that this will give our students the experience of a lifetime. We also recognize that when our students graduate, they will be ready to take on the world like so many of the alumni that came before.

Stories of the international impact of our alumni, students, faculty and staff will be a regular feature of

*Degrees*. This inaugural issue, for example, features a wide-angle perspective of internationalization efforts at the University by Alain Boutet, the director of the Office of International Cooperation and Development. You can also read about the global humanitarian work of Alumni Crowning Achievement Award recipients Elaine McNeil and Rick Turchenek and the far-reaching research of former biology department head George Ledingham.

I trust as you read through *Degrees* that you will share my pride about the contributions of those associated with the University of Regina make to our world every day.

Robert E. Hawkins

top right: Greystone Managed Investments Inc. CEO Rob Vanderhooft announces a \$100,000 gift to the Building Dreams and Futures campaign at a Sept. 22 news conference.

top left: Brenda Righetti

bottom right: Thomas Hadjistavropoulos

bottom left: Michael Tymchak



## Comings And Goings

University Secretary **Brenda Righetti** has decided to leave the University effective Dec. 31. For the past six years she has served as senior executive assistant to former president David Barnard and, more recently, as University Secretary. Her enthusiasm, charm, and tireless advocacy on behalf of the University will be missed.

**David Schantz** has been appointed dean of the Faculty of Social Work. Schantz comes to the U of R from the University of Montana, where he was a faculty member in the School of Social Work. His specialization is community-based services for severely emotionally disturbed children and program evaluation. He has worked extensively in evaluating adult mental health programming as well as community-based programming for the corrections system. Schantz is also experienced in developing, managing, and providing direct services within the mental health system.

**Nelson Wagner** has been appointed associate vice-president (facilities and planning). Before coming to the U of R, Wagner was executive director, facilities branch for the Saskatchewan Departments of Learning and Advanced Education and Employment. He has more than 25 years of progressive facilities management experience, including capital and maintenance planning, budgeting and project management.

**Carol Hixson** has been named the new University librarian. Hixson comes to the U of R from the University of Oregon where, for the last six years, she was head of Metadata and Digital Library Services. During the last decade Hixson has also worked at the Young Research Library at UCLA and the Indiana University Libraries. She has also participated in (and chaired) various task forces and committees of the American Library Association and has a national reputation as an expert in cataloguing and training cataloguers.

**Michael Tymchak** has been appointed acting dean of the Faculty of Education. Tymchak has served the U of R for the past 18 years. He was dean of education from 1992 to 2000, after which he served as a research consultant for the University's development of interdisciplinary initiatives. He is also the director of the Saskatchewan Instructional Development and Research Unit (SIDRU), and professor of educational foundations in the Faculty of Education.

## Briefly

A donation from **Greystone Managed Investments Inc.** to the U of R will help future teachers and human services professionals work together to meet the needs of children and youth in schools. The \$100,000 gift to the Building Dreams and Futures campaign will create the Greystone Centre for Interprofessional Collaboration in Education, a virtual centre in the Faculty of Education that will serve as a foundation for projects across a variety of disciplines, including education, social work, justice studies and nursing.

University of Saskatchewan President **Peter MacKinnon** received an honorary doctorate of laws degree at the U of R's fall convocation ceremonies. MacKinnon has served as president of the University of Saskatchewan since 1999 and previously as the school's dean of law and acting vice-president (academic). He received his education at the University of Saskatchewan, Queen's University and Dalhousie University and articulated in Kingston before being admitted to the Ontario Bar in 1975 and to the Law Society of Saskatchewan in 1979. Since then he has had a distinguished career including teaching criminal law and evidence, publishing 25 articles and commentaries in law journals nationally and internationally and co-editing three books.

Psychology professor **Thomas Hadjistavropoulos** has been appointed the first RBC senior research fellow. The appointment is funded through a \$350,000 donation from the Royal Bank Foundation to the University's Building Dreams



Jacqui Shumiatcher



Robert Ferguson

and Futures campaign. RBC Foundation Group created the fellowship program on aging and health to attract and retain exceptional gerontological researchers to the University of Regina. Hadjistavropoulos is the director of the University's Centre on Aging and Health.

#### The University of Regina's International Test Centre for Carbon Dioxide Capture (ITC)

has earned a prestigious national award for ongoing research that is helping make Canada a world leader in greenhouse gas reduction technology.

Each year, the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council recognizes outstanding research partnerships between Canadian university researchers and technologies companies by presenting a number of Synergy Awards for Innovation. On Oct. 16, ITC received one of only seven NSERC Synergy Awards presented this year.

ITC's research involves developing technologies for reducing greenhouse gas emissions, focusing on effective CO<sub>2</sub> capture techniques and finding new

industrial uses for CO<sub>2</sub> gas. Research such as this will enable industries to continue using economical and reliable fossil fuel resources for power generation, while greatly reducing the release of greenhouse gases into the atmosphere. At the same time, ITC's work will help nations respond to their international environmental commitments on climate change.

An innovative scholarship program established by **Shell Canada** will provide computer science students with scholarships as well as the possibility of employment with the company. Shell's \$150,000 donation to the University's Building Dreams and Futures campaign will create three new scholarships for computer science students: the Shell Canada Aboriginal Scholarship in Computer Science and two Shell Canada Scholarships in Computer Science.

**Jacqui Shumiatcher**, honorary degree recipient from the University of Regina and well-known patron of the arts, has donated \$225,000 to the

Building Dreams and Futures campaign at the U of R to establish the Dr. Morris C. Shumiatcher Graduate Fellowship in English. The fellowship pays tribute to the life of Morris Shumiatcher and recognizes the long-time Regina lawyer, intellectual, philanthropist and writer. The fellowship provides funding support to University of Regina master of arts and PhD candidates in English, with preference given to those who have participated in University debate competitions.

The University of Regina is investing almost \$150,000 in **new undergraduate scholarships** to address a broad spectrum of student needs. The scholarships will be awarded to 136 students over the next year and will ensure a comprehensive offering of support for the University's diverse student body. Recipients will include international students, single parents, home-based learners and students with developmental disabilities. In 2005-06, the University of Regina awarded 2,179

undergraduate scholarships, totalling almost \$2.9 million.

#### We Remember

Long time friend and patron of the University, **Robert Ferguson** passed away on Sept. 19. Ferguson advanced the profile and role of post secondary education in Saskatchewan, serving on the Senate of the University of Saskatchewan and with the Board of Governors of the University of Regina. His awards include an honorary doctor of laws from the U of R, the Order of Canada and the Saskatchewan Order of Merit. As a founding member of the University of Regina Alumni Association, Ferguson felt very strongly about the alumni cause and the work that has carried on since he stepped away from his volunteer roles. Ferguson and his wife Norma created three University of Regina scholarships and the Alumni Crowning Achievement Award for Outstanding Service is named for the couple.

**For more U of R news visit our website at:**  
[www.uregina.ca/news](http://www.uregina.ca/news)



**A**ward-winning playwright, screenwriter, filmmaker and director Colleen Murphy is the University of Regina's first playwright in residence.

**D** What is it about the creative process that enchants you?

*I like living inside my head—often the characters there are more alive than flesh and blood people. I think that for me writing is both a vacation from life and a fierce addiction to it.*

**D** Which of your creative roles do you get the most satisfaction from and why?

*Writing plays because the limitations of dramatic form excite me. The British playwright Edward Bond says, "The human mind is a dramatic structure in itself and our society is absolutely saturated with drama." Creating characters that are inseparable from the structure of the play is the supreme challenge for a playwright I also like making films but have become less interested in narrative film and more interested the pure composition of images.*

**D** If there is one thing I could teach aspiring writers it would be...

*To urge them to write with courage and not be afraid of emotion. Again, I quote Bond, "If you engage people on a vital, important level, they will respond."*

**D** The pen is mightier than the sword because...

*A pen is shaper than any blade and cuts deeper. It can make you laugh until you beg for mercy or make you cry like a baby—all this without losing a pint of blood. A sword on the other hand only threatens, wounds, or kills. It changes people's minds by fear and fear is an unconvincing incentive – whereas words can change people's minds because words appeal to the imagination and to discourse, and discourse leads to the possibility of a future. The sword ends all discourse.*

**D** My first impression about Saskatchewan was...

*How much space the sky takes up and how vivid the silence is. Another impression is how strangers say good morning, or just smile as they passed on the sidewalk.*

**D** The thing about me that would surprise people is...

*That my dream was to be an Olympic downhill ski racer, or a racing car driver.*

**D** My favourite thing to do to relax is...

*Read.*

Murphy is writing three new works for the stage: The Ravine, Deliver Me, and Birthday Boy. She is also writing a collection of short pieces titled Monologues for a Paraplegic Heart, and a libretto for Edmonton born composer Aaron Gervais, entitled The Enslavement and Liberation of Oksana G. She will be at the University until June 2007.



photos by Don Hall  
AV Services

# Jewels in the Crown

This year's Alumni  
Crowning  
Achievement  
Award recipients





**Elaine McNeil BEd'81, MEd'91  
Lifetime Achievement Award**

Elaine McNeil has distinguished herself through her commitment to education, her professional dedication and her compassion for people from around the world. She has worked tirelessly to raise the profile of international development and has been instrumental in creating cooperative relationships between Canadian institutions and developing countries.

Elaine is also committed to providing HIV/AIDS education and has developed awareness initiatives and delivered workshops locally and internationally. She is a founding member of SIAST's Wascana Campus Green Group, and has spearheaded environmental education activities locally, nationally and internationally.

She has received a Global Citizen Award, Woman of Distinction Award and Saskatchewan Centennial Medal. "I believe that we all have to give back to the community in which we find ourselves, whether it is the university community, our local neighbourhood, or our global community."



photo by Kim Stalknecht

**Daphne Bramham BA'75**  
**Distinguished Alumni Award for Professional Achievement**

Daphne Bramham has dedicated her entire professional career to journalistic integrity and excellence.

In her 17 years at *The Vancouver Sun*, Daphne has worked her way from the city hall beat, to Asia-Pacific reporter covering two elections in India and the handover of Hong Kong to China before being appointed associate editor in charge of *The Sun's* editorial page, a distinguished post that

carries responsibility for the editorial position of the newspaper.

A *Sun* columnist since 2000, she has been awarded the Jack Webster Award for Commentator of the Year, Asia-Pacific Foundation Journalism Fellowship, Genesis' Awards Commendation from The Ark Trust, a Journalism Animal Advocate of the Year award, a Beyond Borders National Media Award and a National Newspaper Award for

Column Writing, Canada's equivalent to the Pulitzer Prize.

"I continue to believe that we all have a role to play in making the world a better place," she says, "whether that means improving the lives of people in your neighbourhood, by working to make the lives of the poor in your city better or by exposing people to the suffering of others around the world."





**Richard Turchenek BEd'72, BA'74, PGD(EdAdmin)'96, CPS'or  
Distinguished Alumni Award for Humanitarian and Community Service**

Richard Turchenek continues to make enormous contributions to society through his dedicated commitment to volunteerism and public service.

Richard is in his second term as chair of the Regina Roman Catholic Separate School Division. He has contributed to a number of community organizations including serving as board chair for the Regina Catholic Family Services where he was also a founding

member of the charities foundation. In 2005, he was appointed by Saskatchewan's Lieutenant Governor in Council to the Saskatchewan Association of Speech-Language Pathologists and Audiologists. Richard was a founding member and chair of Growing Communities and Nations-Saskatchewan Organization Inc., an organization that sends educational and medical supplies to children to around the

world. He also served on the board of the International Children's Appeal, a charity that supports orphanages in Romania.

"The two most important aspects that I have taken away from my experience at the U of R have been building personal relationships and a quest for lifelong learning. I have met phenomenal people through the U of R. These lifelong friendships are a direct result of my involvement with the University."



photo by Todd Korol

**Stuart Quinn BAdmin'81 (left) and David Quinn BAdmin'87  
Dr. Robert and Norma Ferguson Award for Outstanding Service**

If there's an event in Calgary associated with the University of Regina, it's a good bet that Stuart and David Quinn had a hand in organizing the occasion.

For the past 25 years, the Quinn brothers have served the University of Regina with distinction and class. Tireless promoters of the U of R, the Quinns have helped make the Calgary branch a model of success and

have helped raise important funds for the University of Regina.

Over the years, the Quinns have put their stamp on such Calgary events as the Roughriders/Stampeders pre-game party, U of R Family Day, the President's Reception, Alumni Theatre Night, Alumni Breakfast Club and U of R Cougars Hockey reception. "I think it is important that we continue to

support and encourage the University to grow and enhance their programs," says David. "I think it is important to remember our roots and what the University did for us in helping us mature and get established." "I am honored and humbled to receive this award," adds Stuart. "I am also very proud to be receiving this award with my brother."





**Erin Weir BA'02**  
**Outstanding Young Alumni Award**

Although only 24 years old, Erin Weir has already accumulated a list of accomplishments that would look impressive on the résumé of someone twice his age. Erin earned his bachelor of arts with great distinction in 2002 with an overall average of 90.5 per cent. He maintained a 4.0 grade point average in his master's in history coursework at the U of C and earned the highest academic standing in his master of

public administration program at Queen's University. Following his convocation, he won the NDP nomination in the federal riding of Wascana and ran a vigorous campaign against federal Finance Minister Ralph Goodale. In 2005, he was one of 14 candidates selected from 650 applicants to the Government of Canada's Accelerated Economist Training Program.

"Having attended three universities, I feel an obligation to Canada's public post-secondary system more than to any one institution. Having enjoyed the immense benefits of university studies, I feel compelled to take political action to ensure that affordable, high-quality post-secondary education is available to others."

# The New Breed Comes of Age

**Four faculty members  
profiled as up-and-comers  
more than a decade ago in  
*The Third Degree* have  
lived up to their promise**

In 1993, they were described as being part of the University of Regina's new breed—"young faculty fresh out of graduate school (who) are giving the campus a new look."

Thirteen years later, Katherine Bergman, Jeffrey Pfeifer, Sheila Petty and Ken Rasmussen have all established themselves as prominent players in the U of R's ongoing development. Collectively, their efforts—in the classroom, as researchers, and later, as administrators and as the champions of new programming initiatives—have helped the University distinguish itself both nationally and internationally.

Bergman came to the U of R in 1992 with a PhD in geology from McMaster University in Hamilton. After two years as assistant dean of the Faculty of Science, beginning in 1998, she was appointed acting dean in January 2000. She became dean the following year, and recently started her second five-year term.



Clockwise from top left:  
Jeffrey Pfeifer, Sheila Petty,  
Ken Rasmussen and Katherine Bergman.



# DEGREE

University of Regina Alumni Magazine  
Volume 5, Number 1  
Spring 1993



Thirteen years ago, in the spring 1993 issue of *The Third Degree*, readers first met the “Fab Four” faculty members.

The focus of Bergman's first seven years as dean was hiring new faculty and upgrading the infrastructure, ensuring that science students at the U of R are able to work and learn using modern equipment and facilities. “When I came in, it was a walk down memory lane. A lot of our stuff still had the ‘U of S’ on it. But we’ve since invested a lot of money into our building and upgraded the infrastructure.”

Bergman also hired more than half of the current faculty complement. She says the new faculty members “are research active, and the money we’ve invested is paying off, because they’re seeing grant increases—some of them as much as 40 per cent.”

Now that Bergman has gotten the faculty members, research programs, and infrastructure in place, she says it’s time to develop and improve graduate programming in the Faculty of Science. “That’s going to be my focus for the next five years. I’ve filled most of the vacant positions, but now I face the challenge of retaining all of these people. And that’s partly where the graduate programming comes in.”

Like Bergman, Jeffrey Pfeifer came to the U of R in 1992, after earning his PhD in social psychology from the University of Nebraska. He went on to become a professor at the U of R in two departments—psychology and justice studies. He served for six years as the director of the Canadian Institute for Peace, Justice and Security, from July 1999 to June 2005. His current position is chair in Police Studies—a seven-year research chair sponsored by the Law Foundation of Saskatchewan to look at policing issues.

Pfeifer’s career highlights at the U of R include being awarded both the alumni award for excellence in teaching and the alumni award for excellence in public service. Over the years, his research has been cited by a number of courts, including the Supreme Court of Canada, and has been tabled in the Saskatchewan Legislature and in the state parliament of Western Australia. He also helped create, develop, and is currently the editor of the *Canadian Journal of Police and Security Services*, a peer review quarterly launched in 2003.

“From a publishing point of view, being recognized by parliaments, being cited by the courts, and having a journal



# "There are many other people on campus who've achieved a **great** deal of success who arrived at about that same time."

that you edit that's bridging the worlds of policing and academics, those are three things that I really smile about," Pfeifer says. His early research at the U of R focused on the decisions and biases of juries, "but now it's the decisions of police officers, the decisions of victims, of offenders, of people in prisons, of prison officers. It's always about the decisions."

Speaking of which, Pfeifer can't picture himself ever deciding to leave the U of R. "The university has so much going for it in the area I'm interested in, which is policing. And being in a place like Saskatchewan where everybody in the policing community and the justice community is just so accessible, that would be hard to leave. For somebody such as myself who's involved in applied research, that is worth gold."

When Pfeifer arrived on campus in 1992, Sheila Petty was already in her first year as chair of the former film and video department, after joining the U of R in 1988 with a PhD in film and literature from the Sorbonne. She would go on to serve a total of nine-and-a-half years as department head. She was appointed dean of the Faculty of Fine Arts in July 2004.

Petty says one of her biggest accomplishments so far in her two years as dean is the fine arts professional placement program, which provides students with internships in the cultural industries. "Students can take anywhere from three to 15 credit hours of their program (as internships). We're quite excited about that because it's a way of giving our students some work experience. Two of our students have already been placed this fall at the Globe Theatre."

Petty has also been actively exploring the possible creation of a U of R film academy in Dubai that would have openings for as many as 60 students starting in 2007. The initiative reflects Petty's desire to focus on internationalization as dean, providing mobility opportunities for both students and faculty and "opening the world" to them.


"I like to build things, and I especially like to build bridges and relationships between faculties, among different groups of people, and create interdisciplinary initiatives," Petty says.

"I've got three more years (as dean) and I intend to do a lot of building in those three years."

Ken Rasmussen joined the U of R in 1987 with a PhD in public administration from the University of Toronto. In May 2005, he became director of the U of R's Graduate School of Public Policy. He previously served for five years as associate dean in the Faculty of Business Administration, where he was in charge of research and graduate programming. During his time as associate dean, Rasmussen developed the program which he now runs.

Rasmussen says it's an exciting time to be part of the U of R community. "The University is developing a lot of interesting and creative programs. It's becoming a much more national institution. It's already got a solid reputation in Saskatchewan and in the prairies, but it's becoming more recognized nationally, and we've developed strong reputations in a variety of areas."

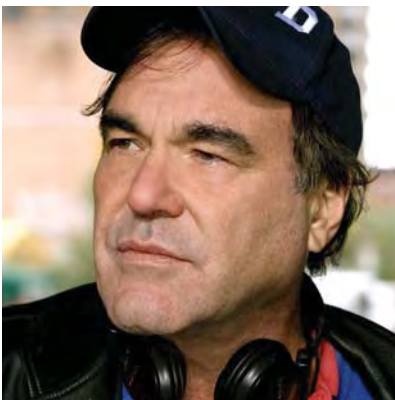
Rasmussen says Bergman, Pfeifer, Petty and himself aren't the only ones who have distinguished themselves over the years as members of the U of R's "new breed" of faculty. "There are many other people on campus who've achieved a great deal of success who arrived at about that same time. We were all part of a new generation with a strong commitment to research, and an extremely positive attitude toward the potential that the University of Regina had. People came here with a good attitude and were willing to develop and improve and see the university progress, and that was the key."

*B.D. (Brian) Miller (BJ '95, BA Hons. '89) is a Regina-based playwright, fiction, and non-fiction writer whose work has appeared in numerous national magazines and anthologies and on CBC radio. His award-winning comedy, The Scarborough Four, was recently anthologized by Playwrights Canada Press. *

# Connecting with the Community

## Inside the Social Policy Research Unit

by Deborah Sproat  
photos by AV Services



Filmmaker Oliver Stone is the first speaker of the Social Policy Research Unit's Rethinking Productivity lecture series.

**Acclaimed movie director and screenwriter Oliver Stone led off an exciting new lecture series when he visited the U of R campus Oct. 18 as part of the Rethinking Productivity series sponsored by the Social Policy Research Unit (SPR).**

SPR director Garson Hunter says part of the SPR's mandate is community involvement, and his goal with this lecture series is to engage both the University community and the broader community in thinking about the impact of emphasis on productivity. One area he identifies as important is the connection between mass entertainment and productivity.

Hunter says Stone has been one of the few willing to use mass media to challenge the public "to consider

another view from that of corporate interests," and that makes him an ideal person to open this lecture series. He says Stone challenges people to reconsider the war in Vietnam, American involvement in Central and South America, Cuba and the attitudes of stock traders and business owners.

"For this, Stone has been branded as a left wing kook, a conspiracy theory nut and a sympathizer and fellow traveler of Castro," he says.

Stone most recently directed the movie World Trade Centre and has been involved in a multitude of other movies as director, producer and screen writer, among them the dramas Alexander, Any Given Sunday and U-Turn and the documentary Looking for Fidel, as well as the earlier films Nixon,



Faculty of Social Work professor emeritus Sharon McKay (left) and Social Policy Research Unit director Garson Hunter.



JFK, Wall Street and Salvador. He won Oscars for directing *Born on the Fourth of July* and *Platoon*, and for writing *Midnight Express*.

Stone's lecture topic will focus on corporate ownership of mass entertainment media. Hunter says he hopes people come away still enjoying popular entertainment, but looking at it more critically.

The lecture series is only one example of SPR's involvement in community life. The unit's efforts to support the research of social work faculty, other academics and community-based researchers who are studying a wide variety of social policy issues mean it is involved in the community in many other ways.

One example is its ongoing support for the Prairie Child Welfare Consortium, a collaboration involving social work programs at the universities of Regina, Calgary, Manitoba and First Nations University of Canada, the governments of the three Prairie provinces and the Saskatchewan Federation of Indian Nations. The consortium brings policy makers, service providers and educators together to work for education and training, practice and service delivery and research.

Sharon McKay, professor emeritus in the Faculty of Social Work and a key figure in the consortium since its inception in 1999, says the consortium is "a really unique body in Canada because we have all these sectors

working together."

McKay said the child welfare symposiums held by the consortium have been hugely successful in drawing attention to child welfare needs and plans are in the works for a symposium in Regina in 2007. As well, the consortium is planning an institute to bring government trainers in the three Prairie provinces and the Territories together to share information and talk about collaborating on training initiatives.

Three years ago, the consortium partnered with the Centre of Excellence for Child Welfare at the University of Toronto to help fill a need for research on the Prairies. This partnership, recently renewed, has provided funds for research in all three Prairie provinces.

In Saskatchewan, for example, McKay and a co-investigator Sharon Thomas-Prokop (then at FNUC) studied the transmission of values in four aboriginal communities and found there was a "huge emphasis" on cultural events and that these created a real sense of community. They recommended that policy makers do all they can to support this and that a lot of attention be paid to cultural continuity when it's necessary to remove children from their families.

Some of the ways SPR has been able to facilitate the work of the child welfare consortium include faculty time, providing administrative support and hosting the website. **D**

**Oliver Stone is the first of a series of well-known speakers who will participate in the Social Policy Research Unit's Rethinking Productivity lecture series. The series will also feature:**

- Canadian movie director Avi Lewis will visit Nov. 9 to talk about an alternate structure of running businesses, using an example from Argentina where the workers took over and ran businesses that had been shut down. Lewis and writer Naomi Klein told this story in the documentary film *The Take*.
- Australian Dr. Helen Caldicott, the world's leading antinuclear activist, will address nuclear power generation in a lecture March 6. Hunter hopes her visit will make people think about uranium mining in Saskatchewan, adding "Maybe that's what people want but we should have a discussion about it."
- Canadian broadcaster Wendy Mesley will visit April 3 and will focus on the profit factor in health care in Canada,

Next fall, the Rethinking Productivity series will continue with consumer advocate Ralph Nader visiting Sept. 19. Other speakers for 2007-08 have yet to be confirmed. For more information, visit the SPR website at: <http://scratchpost.cc.uregina.ca/spr/>





# The plant man

photos by Trevor Hopkin and Don Hall, AV Services

More than six decades after he established the herbarium that now bears his name, the former head of the University's biology department George Ledingham still drops in as often as his 95-year-old bones will allow.

**George  
Ledingham's  
60-year project**



**Lilium philadelphicum var. andicum - Western red lily**

The inconspicuous room, ripe with the smell of mothballs, is tucked into a remote corner of the University's Lab Cafeteria. The herbarium houses more than 50,000 dried vascular plants, 10,000 bryophyte samples, and 10,000 varieties of lichens. Most of them collected by Ledingham himself. Within the fading brown cabinets that fill the room you'll find *Anemone*



*Equisetum pratense* - horsetail

*patens*, *Lilium philadelphicum* and *Trifolium repen*. Then, of course, there is the *Astragalus ledinghamii*. But Ledingham is much too humble to talk of his 1966 discovery on a rocky Iranian hillside 12 kilometres north of Shiraz, an ancient capital of Persia.





*Cypripedium calceolus* - yellow lady's slipper

In addition to the Iranian gem, Ledingham has contributed much to the accumulated knowledge of the flora of Saskatchewan. His life's work has not gone unappreciated. He is an honorary member of the Ottawa Field-Naturalists Club and has received awards from Parks Canada, Environment Canada and the Canadian Nature Federation. As well, he was the



**Astragalus ledinghamii** - milk vetch

recipient of a Canada 125 Commemorative Medal, the Saskatchewan Order of Merit, and the Harkin Conservation Award. In 1986 he received an honorary degree from the institution he so faithfully served since 1945. **D**

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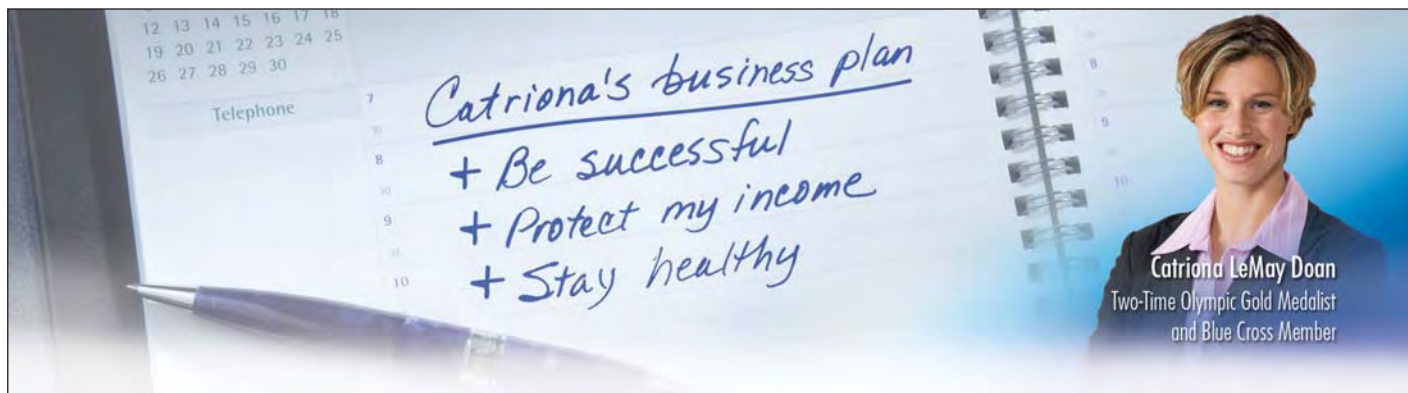
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## Alumni Association President's Message



First let me say what a pleasure it is to have my debut message in the pages of the new University of Regina magazine *Degrees*. I would like to thank the hundreds of alumni who participated in the online readership survey. You have truly helped to shape a magazine that reflects the vibrancy of the University and its alumni.

I start my term as president during exciting times for both the University and Alumni Association. There have been many developments over the past 18 months and we are indebted to those who have worked hard to make the Association a thriving part of the success of the University of Regina.

As an Association, it is our goal to continue to attract alumni by offering a range of programs and services that add value to your lives and stimulate interaction and networking opportunities between alumni, the University, and its students—our future alumni.

Over the next year, we will be continuing to build on the achievements that came

under the term of my predecessor, Lisa King. On behalf of the Board of Directors, I would like to thank Lisa for her leadership and look forward to working with her and the other members of the board in the months to come.

I, like so many U of R graduates, look back fondly at my years at the University and the important role it played in my life. It was the time we started to make our own way in the world, a time for discovering new ideas and took those first tentative steps down our career paths. It was also a time for forging the relationships that carry us through life.

No one understood better the importance the University plays in our lives than Dr. Robert Ferguson who sadly passed away on Sept. 19. Bob was a very good friend to the University of Regina and one of the founding members of the University of Regina Alumni Association. He was a strong advocate of post-secondary education and believed fervently in the role alumni play as ambassadors of the U of R.

This fall we celebrate the second annual Alumni Crowning Achievement Awards, an event that recognizes the achievements of outstanding alumni. It also marks the inaugural presentation of the Dr. Robert and Norma Ferguson Award for Outstanding Service, an award presented to individuals who exemplify service to the Association. It's so fitting that the award that will be forever linked to consummate service to the Association bears the name of Dr. Robert Ferguson.

One need look no further than the pages of *Degrees* to recognize the contributions our alumni are making to our city, our country and our world. I look forward to serving as president for the next two years and encourage you all to fully embrace your role as University of Regina alumni.

Brian Munro

## Excellence

The University of Regina Alumni Association Awards for Excellence were presented at spring convocation ceremonies in June. Receiving the awards were engineering faculty member Stephen O'Leary for excellence in research, biology professor Mark Brigham for teaching, and psychology faculty member Jeffrey Pfeifer

for excellence in public service. The awards reflect the three primary roles of the University and are jointly funded by the Alumni Association and the University.

## Board Changes

There are a few new faces on the University of Regina Alumni Association board of directors.

Joining the board is **Neil Jacoby BAdmin'74**, **Scott Nicholson BA'93, BA'96**, **Colin Woloshyn BAdmin'99**, and **Mike Burton** (University of Regina Students' Union representative).

This year's AGM was held in conjunction with an alumni gathering at the University's Institut français on June 22. The AGM was the last event presided over by past president **Lisa King BPAS'95** who gave her farewell report and introduced new president **Brian Munro BAdmin'96, BA'96**. After the AGM, wine expert Doug Reichel treated those in attendance to a sampling of some of the best wines from all over the world.

## Sponsorship

This year's Grey Cup game in Winnipeg will have a decidedly U of R alumni presence as the Association will offer up free tickets to Rendezvous Saskatchewan, one of the most popular party venues at the annual football bash. Alumni planning on taking in the festivities in November can get more information by calling (306)585-4838, toll free 1-877-779-4723 or by emailing us at [uralumni@uregina.ca](mailto:uralumni@uregina.ca).

## Reminder

It's not too early to consider nominating your fellow grads as the Alumni Crowning Achievement Award nominations open Feb. 2007. Award categories include: Lifetime Achievement Award, Distinguished Alumni Award for Professional Achievement, Distinguished Alumni Award for Humanitarian and Community Service, Dr. Robert and Norma Ferguson Award for Outstanding Service and the Outstanding Young Alumni Award.



## Grant Wenaus BMus'89

followed up his U of R music degree with a master's in solo piano at Indiana University, then a doctorate in musical arts at the University of Michigan. These days—when he isn't coaching opera singers at the Florence Voice Seminar, in Italy—you'll most likely find Wenaus teaching voice at New York University.

But for all of his cosmopolitan training and travels, Wenaus says he continues to draw on the lessons he learned back home in Regina.


"It was really my high school and university teachers in Regina who set me on the right track," he says. "I still teach their basic techniques to my students."


Wenaus returned to the U of R this summer to help guide the next generation of musicians at an intensive two-week class called Musical Theatre for the New Millennium.

"I really believe it's always the mentoring, encouraging teacher who can make all the difference," he says. "If you've got a great teacher, it doesn't matter where you are, the smallest town or the biggest centre."


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## 1970-1979

**George Anderson MA'74** and a group of climbers from the "Summit of Literacy" team climbed Mount Kilimanjaro in July. The team made the climb to heighten awareness of literacy issues and to raise funds for children's literacy programs in Tanzania. Anderson was the recipient of the Lifetime Achievement Award at the inaugural Alumni Crowning Achievement Awards in 2005.

## 1980-1989

**Jeff O'Brien BA'87** is the co-author of the recently published *Saskatoon: A History in Photographs*, written in celebration of the City of Saskatoon's centennial.

**Elaine Schaefer MMus'88** is the director of vocal and choral studies at College of the Siskiyous in northern California. This year she was honoured with selections to *Who's Who in America*, *Who's Who Among American Women*, *Who's Who in American Education*, and was chosen as College of the Siskiyous' first Faculty of the Year. Her choirs have toured Italy, Sweden, Finland, Estonia and Russia. In the summer of 2007 she and her choir will tour Ireland and Scotland.

**Brian Stockton BFA'89** is back in Regina after spending nine years in Toronto. His latest short film "Saskatchewan Part 3" had its world premiere at the Toronto International Film Festival in September. Stockton is currently teaching a class in the Department of Media Production and Studies.

## 1990-1999

**Sheena Koops BEd'91** has published her first novel *Voice of the Valley*. The book was launched in Fort Qu'Appelle in early October.

**Susanne Hamilton (Serli) BFA'93** is the design director and principal of a real estate development company in Calgary. The firm buys, re-develops, restores and renews inner city homes.

**Shaune Marchtaler (Irving) BFA'93, BEd'96** teaches art and woodworking at Thom Collegiate in Regina. Her husband, **Jason Marchtaler BFA'93, BEd'96**, teaches plumbing, sheet metal and art at Cochrane High School in Regina. The couple has a daughter, Claire.

**David Flett BAdmin'94** is a partner at Kanuka Thuringer LLP in Regina. His wife **Susan Flett (Kim) BAdmin'93** is director of marketing with Saskatchewan Gaming Corporation. The couple has two children, Mia and Alexander.

**Fiona Lovely BA(Adv)'97** was awarded a doctorate of chiropractic from Palmer College of Chiropractic in the spring. Lovely was on the dean's list during her studies and was the recipient of an award for excellence in clinical skills, professionalism and patient care. During her final year of studies and externship she held a position as a clinical teaching assistant in the Palmer Clinics. Lovely is in private practice in Boulder, Colorado, providing chiropractic wellness care through integration of the mind, body and spirit.

**Blake Lambert BAJ'97** reports after several months in mental, if not physical, exile, and way

too many games of Madden Football on PS2, he is heading back to sub-Saharan Africa to resume his journalism career. Lambert was kicked out of Uganda by the government in March 2006. (See story in *The Third Degree*, spring 2006). In an email to Degrees, Lambert said he planned to base himself in Accra, Ghana to cover developments across West Africa and told us he had already secured a couple of major and two minor assignments when he updated us in early August. Said Lambert in his email: "Certainly, I'm a bit nervous about trying to enter an African country with a visa in my passport, given my lack of success the last time I attempted such a feat. But here's hoping my infamy, such that it was, never crossed the continent."

**John Degenhart BMusEd'97** earned his doctor of medicine degree at the University of Saskatchewan and is currently in residency training for internal medicine in Saskatoon. Degenhart completed his master's degree in music performance at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign in 1999 then taught at the University of Oregon for two years. He was studying in the U of R's Faculty of Science prior to his admission into the medicine program at the U of S.

**Kelly MacDougall BMusEd'98** has been actively involved in music education for several years as an instructor, arranger, examiner, clinician and adjudicator. She was a national finalist in the Technics Mid-Western Music Festival several times and in 1997 represented Canada at the Technics World Music Festival in Birmingham, England. She is one of four Canadians to be recognized as a distinguished teacher

through advanced teacher examinations by Technics Canada. For the past few years she has been teaching special education and fine arts at St. Thomas Aquinas-Pathway to the Performing Arts Secondary School in Brampton, Ontario. In 2005, her production of *Lend Me a Tenor* led to an invitation to stage the production at the Annual International Conference in Lincoln, Nebraska.

## 2000-present

**Brett Kashmere BA'00** completed an MA in film studies and an MFA in studio arts at Concordia University in Montreal. He is currently an adjunct professor in the Transmedia Department at Syracuse University in New York. His most recent film, *Valery's Ankle*, explodes the spectacle of hockey violence and its representation in North American media.

**Sharon Winnicki BSc'01** graduated summa cum laude with a doctorate of optometry from Southern College of Optometry in Memphis Tennessee.

**Rachelle McGregor BSc(Hons)'01** married Shawn Beug in September 2005. The couple live in Ottawa and had their first child, Graeme James in June.

**Eric August BA'05** and **Dagmar Skamlova BA'03, MA'05** were married on October 14. The wedding took place in the bride's home city of Bratislava, Slovak Republic. Skamlova was the first UofR graduate from the Slovak Republic and is employed as researcher with the Slovak Department of National Defence. The couple will make their home in Bratislava.

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# International perspectives

Looking at the world  
through U of R glasses

by Alain Boutet  
photos by Trevor Hopkin,  
AV Services

Alain Boutet



**As Thomas Friedman, the author of the international bestseller *The World is Flat* observes: “The world is changing. The future is flat. Knowledge and resources are connecting all over the planet as never before”. This observation leads us to think that the road to internationalization is paved with challenges and opportunities.**

As with many universities in the country, the University of Regina is engaged in a process of integrating an international perspective into its threefold mission of teaching, research and service. This means an important process by which the members of the University community are made aware of the challenges and opportunities of an increasingly globalized world.

Our University community is challenged in many ways by the achievement of the process of internationalization. We can benefit from it and bring the U of R's vision to our international partners at the same time. To do so we must provide a forum for ideas and cultural diversity, while respecting various academic standpoints and being heavily

involved in significant partnerships with Asian institutions. We must also foster international cooperation, while providing students with learning experience beyond the classroom. We will have to contribute to international development through institutional capacity building and cutting-edge research. And we must train “global citizens” who are able to understand global issues.

To successfully achieve the process of internationalization, to take advantage of it and to position the University of Regina in sound international partnerships, our University community is working to build partnerships on our strengths, without losing sight of its academic and cultural diversity. We are establishing a rich institutional dialogue and communication with regard to international activities and opportunities. We continue to assess efficiently our capacity and our commitment to successful and sustainable partnerships. The University of Regina is converting buy-in to international initiatives through strategic planning that involves different institutional actors: students, faculty, staff and senior administrators.



The road to internationalization is challenging and exciting because it questions the dynamic and the advancement of our University community. It also gives stronger meaning to the University of Regina spirit and motto "As One Who Serves". Quietly, over the years the University of Regina has been building relationships with other educational institutions around the world, and particularly with China. That is quite evident from the more than 500 Chinese students on the U of R campus, and the strong presence of visiting scholars coming from Chinese partner institutions. It has a significant impact on our University community, which is quite culturally diverse with international students and faculty representing more than 55 countries. Such reality expresses the contribution of international partnerships to our institution. It also raises cultural awareness and motivates Canadian students to get exposure

to other cultures and languages, which surely can add value to their positioning on the job market.

The process of internationalization needs to be understood as a University community project. International partnerships help create more opportunities for members of our University community to learn through hands-on experiences. They are an added value to the quality of teaching, to the student learning experience, and they offer measurable, objective criteria to look at the quality of our academic programs. All in all, the road to internationalization has many lessons to teach us as members of a vibrant university community, and as citizens.

Boutet is the director of the University of Regina's Office of International Cooperation and Development. **D**

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To: All Members of Convocation

# Call for Nominations

## University of Regina Senate 2007 Election

The University of Regina Act provides that 14 members of Convocation may be elected to the University of Regina Senate. The Chancellor of the University and elected members of Senate serve three-year terms and are eligible for re-election to a second consecutive term. An election has been scheduled for April 9, 2007 to elect district Senate members for terms from July 1, 2007 to June 30, 2010. Nominations are called for the following:

### Chancellor

Incumbent **Art Wakabayashi**, B.A., B. Comm., M.P.A.  
Not eligible for re-election

### District 2 (Weyburn-Indian Head)

Incumbent **John Panio**, B.Ed.  
Not eligible for re-election

### District 7 (Melfort-Wynyard-Davidson)

Incumbent **Rob McKay**, B.Ed.  
Eligible for re-election

### District 8 (Dundurn-Delisle)

Incumbent **Glenn Beatty**, B. Admin.  
Not eligible for re-election

### District 12 (Saskatoon)

Incumbent **Darryl Barclay**, B. Admin.  
Not eligible for re-election

All members of Convocation are eligible to nominate candidates and to vote in the election. Nominees must be members of Convocation and must reside in the district for which they are nominated.

No persons are eligible for election as Chancellor unless they have been members of the Convocation for at least 10 years immediately prior to the last date for the filing of nomination papers. Nominations for **Chancellor** must be signed by **seven** qualified voters and **endorsed by the nominee**.

Nominations for **elected members** must be signed by **three** qualified voters and **endorsed by the nominee**.



All Nominations, accompanied by a short biography of the candidate, must be in the hands of the University Secretary by **March 1, 2007**.

Nomination forms may be obtained by contacting the University of Regina at (306) 585-4956 or at the following website: [www.uregina.ca/presoff/senate/elections.htm](http://www.uregina.ca/presoff/senate/elections.htm)

## Who Is A Member Of Convocation?

(Excerpted from Section 10 of *The University of Regina Act*)

1. All convocations shall be composed of the chancellor, the senate, all graduates of the University of Saskatchewan at Regina, and all graduates of the university and such other classes of persons as the senate may from time to time determine.
2. Any graduate of the University of Saskatchewan at Saskatoon, as defined by the University Act, 1968, or any previous University Act, may become a member of convocation at The University of Regina, by notifying the secretary in writing of the desire to do so and such person shall also continue to be a member of convocation of The University of Saskatchewan.

**Note:** With respect to Section 10(1) of the Act, Senate has provided that, commencing with the first Convocation of the University of Saskatchewan Regina Campus, Spring 1965, persons who have received a certificate or diploma from the University of Regina or the University of Saskatchewan Regina Campus, if that certificate or diploma required a previous degree for admission or included a

minimum of 64 credit hours of degree credit work, are eligible for membership in Convocation.

## Senate Districts:

### District 2 (Weyburn-Indian Head)- One Member

Commencing at the intersection of the easterly limit of range 11, west of the second meridian and the United States boundary, thence northerly along the easterly limit of the said range 11 to the Qu'Appelle River, thence westerly along the Qu'Appelle River to the easterly limit of range 22, west of the second meridian, thence southerly along the easterly limit of said range 22 to the intersection with the United States boundary, thence easterly along the United States boundary to the point of commencement.

Excepting: The area within the Regina City limits.

### District 7 (Melfort-Wynyard-Davidson) - One Member

Commencing at the intersection of the easterly limit of range 11, west of the second meridian, and the Qu'Appelle River, thence westerly along the Qu'Appelle River to the easterly limit of range 2, west of the third meridian, thence northerly along the easterly limit of range 2, west of the third meridian, to the South Saskatchewan River, thence northerly and easterly along the South Saskatchewan River and the Saskatchewan River to its intersection with the easterly limit of range 11, west of the second meridian, thence southerly along the easterly limit of range 11 to the point of commencement.

### District 8 (Dundurn-Delisle) - One Member


Commencing at the intersection of the Qu'Appelle River and the easterly limit of range 2, west of the third meridian, thence westerly along the Qu'Appelle River to its intersection with the South Saskatchewan River, thence westerly along the South Saskatchewan River to its intersection with the easterly limit of range 13, west of the third meridian, thence northerly along the easterly limit of range 13 to the North Saskatchewan River, thence easterly along the North Saskatchewan River to its intersection with the northerly limit of township 42, thence easterly along the northerly limit of township 42 to the intersection of the South Saskatchewan River, thence southerly along the South Saskatchewan River to its intersection with the easterly limit of range 2, west of the third meridian, thence southerly along the easterly limit of range 2 to the point of commencement.

Excepting: The area within Saskatoon City limits.

### District 12 (Saskatoon) - Two Members \*

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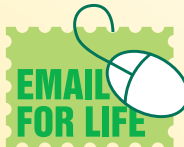
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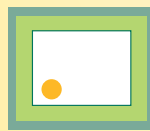
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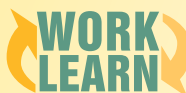
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