

## INITIATIVES

### Undergraduate Research Website Launched

In October, the **Undergraduate Research Initiative** launched its website as part of the university's mission to expand undergraduate involvement in research, scholarly and artistic works. The website provides interested faculty, students and staff with ways to get involved, resources, event listings, and student stories. Visit the site at: <http://research.usask.ca/undergraduate>.

### Grant Information Sessions for Researchers

The following two information sessions were held in September to provide detailed information about funding opportunities for U of S researchers:

- ❖ *Business Innovation Access Program* funded by National Research Council - Industrial Research Assistance Program. This session was attended by 25 faculty members, postdoctoral fellows and graduate students.
- ❖ *NSERC Partnership Programs* followed by a panel discussion led by experienced U of S peer reviewers. Twenty researchers attended the session.

### Team Science

Two experts on the "*Science of Team Science*" from the **National Institutes of Health** visited the U of S in October. These consultants assist researchers and institutions across North America in building and sustaining Team Science initiatives. Health research clusters from the U of S Academic Health Science Centre and the One Health Team Science Initiative benefited from informative sessions on effectively building their team science groups.

### Surveying the Administrative Needs of Faculty

The **University Research System (UnivRS)** Project Team is circulating an online survey to faculty throughout November. The survey will instruct the UnivRS team on the nature, size and impact of administrative tasks faced by faculty members during their research projects. The goal is to offer software solutions to lessen those administrative tasks. The survey is administered by the Social Sciences Research Laboratory (SSRL). For more information about UnivRS, visit <http://goo.gl/eztQli>.

## PARTNERSHIPS

### Delegation of 27 Nations Visits U of S

Ambassadors from 27 different countries visited the U of S on October 21<sup>st</sup>, in one of the largest delegations of high-level foreign officials to ever visit the university. Representatives of countries from Zimbabwe to Spain were toured around U of S research facilities such as the CLS, VIDO/InterVac, and the Rayner Dairy Research and Teaching Facility before holding discussions hosted by President Barnhart. The visit was part of the Economic Mission to Saskatchewan, a provincial and federal government initiative organized to fuel investment in the province.

### Additional International Visits

The following international visits also occurred in October:

- ❖ October 1: the Consul General and Deputy Consul General of Japan visited the U of S, meeting with President Barnhart, and faculty and staff engaged in projects with Japan.
- ❖ October 17: the Israeli Ambassador to Canada met with President Barnhart.
- ❖ October 17: a delegation from the Indian Institute of Technology Roorkee visited campus and the Department of Chemical Engineering. A Memorandum of Understanding was drafted regarding newly proposed collaborations.



### First Nations and Métis Health Partnership

The joint health office and Gary Eagle of the **First Nations and Métis Health Service** presented their recent collaborative work to the First Nations and Métis Health Council on October 10<sup>th</sup>. The presentation included: work with chart audit data in St. Paul's and Royal University hospitals, First Nations and Métis Use of the Emergency Department, and First Nations and Métis Health Navigation Services.

### U of S joins Veteran Health Research Centre

The university has become a member of the **Canadian Institute for Military & Veteran Health Research** and **Steve Milosavljevic** (Physical Therapy) is the U of S representative.

## FUNDING SUCCESSES

### \$3M for Food Security Research

Two **U of S researchers** were successful in receiving a **Global Institute for Food Security (GIFS) Research Grant**:

- ❖ **Michael Nickerson** (Food and Bioproduct Sciences) was awarded \$2 million for the project "*Development of Innovative therapeutic food products for Treating Malnutrition and Responding to Emergencies within High Risk Communities*" with ten U of S co-investigators and participants from POS Bio-Sciences, the Saskatchewan Food Industry Development Centre, and the University of Manitoba.
- ❖ **Isobel Parkin** (Plant Sciences & Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada) was awarded \$1,395,900 for the project "*Developing Camelina Sativa as a Modern Crop Platform*" with U of S co-investigators: **Dwayne Hegedus, Steve Robinson, Edmund Mupondwa, Stuart Smyth** and other external participants.

### 14 Northern Internships Funded

U of S researchers were successful in receiving \$186,666 to support 14 U of S student internships as part of the project "*By the North with the North: Community Building in Northern Saskatchewan*" with partner organization Cameco Corporation. The funds were awarded to **Ken Coates** (ICNDG) with the other supervisors being **Greg Poelzer** (Political Studies), **Lorna Butler** (Nursing) and **Robert Patrick** (Geography and Planning).

### Additional Mitacs Internships Awarded

U of S researchers were recently successful in receiving a **Mitacs Accelerate Graduate Research Internship** for seven of their students:

- ❖ **Philip Chilibeck** (Kinesiology) received a \$15,000 internship for Eliran Mizelman on the project "*The Effect of Bovine Colostrum Supplementation on Fitness, Muscle Mass, Inflammation and Immune Function during Intense Training in Rugby Players*", in partnership with the Saskatoon Colostrum Co. Ltd.
- ❖ **Ralph Deters** (Computer Science) was successful in receiving a \$15,000 internship for: Richard Lomotey on the project "*Patient Decision Aid for Musculoskeletal Injuries in Mild Hemophilia*"; and for Richard Lomotey and Wen Fu on the project "*Technician Tracking Aid for Customer Task Scheduling*".
- ❖ **Nathaniel Osgood** (Computer Science) received a \$30,000 internship for Weicheng Qian on the project "*Dynamic Modeling with Empirical Data for Hydropower Decision Support*", in partnership with Manitoba Hydro.
- ❖ **Lope Tabil** (Chemical and Biological Engineering) received a \$15,000 internship for: Uduak Edet on the project "*Determination of the Mechanical Properties of Wheat Straw for Equipment Design*" in partnership with CNH Canada Ltd; and for Majid Soleimani on the project "*Densification of heat-Sensitive Protein/Fiber Biomass III*", in partnership with GNC Bioferm Inc.

### Funding to Engage Industry Partners

Four U of S researchers were awarded **Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council (NSERC) Engage Plus Grants**:

- ❖ **Ralph Deters** (Computer Science) was awarded a total of \$37,500 for the two projects "*Using Mobile Cloud-Computing to Enable User-Centric Radiation Detection II*" and "*Migrating Social business Solutions onto Tablets II*" with support from industry partners Environmental Instruments Canada Inc. and cFactor.
- ❖ **Eric Lamb** (Plant Sciences) was awarded \$11,567 for the project "*Validating a new Analytical Framework for Deriving Site-Specific Remediation Objectives for Contaminated Sites*" with matching support from industry partner Stantec.
- ❖ **Ramakrishna Gokaraju** (Electrical and Computer Engineering) was awarded \$10,000 for the project "*Fault Detection in Photovoltaic Systems and Electric Machinery*" with matching support from industry partner Littlefuse Starco.
- ❖ **Supratim Ghosh** (Food and Bioproduct Sciences) was awarded \$12,500 for the project "*Implementing Scale-Up Operation and Controlling Microbial Growth for the Development of Shelf-Stable Colostrum*" with matching support from industry partner Saskatoon Colostrum Co. Ltd.

### Postdoctoral Internship Awarded

**Alan Rosenberg** (Pediatrics) was successful in receiving a \$115,000 **Mitacs Elevate Postdoctoral Research Internship** for postdoctoral fellow Tracy Wilson-Gerwing on the project "*Synergistic Actions of Nutraceuticals on Pain and Inflammation in Experimental Arthritis*" in partnership with Bioriginal Food and Science Corp.

### Indo-Canadian Institute Awards Research Funds

Three U of S researchers were awarded funding from the **Shastri Indo-Canadian Institute**, a binational organization which works to strengthen ties between India and Canada through academic activities and exchanges:

- ❖ **Kalyani Premkumar** (Community Health & Epidemiology) was awarded a \$10,000 **Shastri Research Grant** for the project "*A Comparison and Self Directed Learning Readiness of Indian and Canadian Medical Students: A Mixed Method Study*" with co-investigator Solomon Satishkumar at the University of Madras, India.
- ❖ **Punam Pahwa** (Canadian Centre for Health and Safety in Agriculture) was awarded a \$5,000 **Shastri Partnership Seed Grant** for the project "*An International Research Initiative to Reduce Indoor Biomass Fuel Exposure and Enhance Respiratory Health in Rural India*" with collaborators at Sharda University, India.
- ❖ **Richard Gray** (Bioresource Policy, Business and Economics) is a co-investigator on the \$10,000 **Shastri Research Grant** project "*India-Canada Pulses Trade: Prospects and Challenges*" led by Elumalai Kannan of the Institute for Social and Economic Change, India.

### Support for International PhD Research

Two U of S researchers were awarded funding through the Mitacs Globalink Research Awards:

- ❖ **Ken Coates** (Public Policy) received \$5,000 for doctoral student Lokpriy Lokpriy for the project "*The Discourse of Decentralization: Understanding the Influence of Political Competition and Development Outcomes in India*" under the co-supervision of Abdul Shaban at the Tata Institute for Social Sciences in India.
- ❖ **Rose Olfert** (Public Policy) received \$5,000 for doctoral student Yuzhu Liu for the project "*The Empowerment of China's Left-behind Women*" under the co-supervision of Erling Li at Henan University in China.