

INITIATIVES

Livestock and Forage Centre Fully Funded

The colleges of **Agriculture and Bioresources** and **Veterinary Medicine** have secured funding for cutting-edge research facilities focused on beef cattle and forage research. Funding for the \$25M **Livestock and Forage Centre of Excellence** comes from the federal government, the provincial government, the Saskatchewan Cattlemen's Association, and the U of S. The centre will consist of two locations, the Beef Cattle Research and Teaching Unit, and the Forage and Cow-calf Research and Teaching Unit. For more information, visit:

<http://goo.gl/rdrKhv>.

Grant Repository Now Available to Faculty

In July, the OVPR launched the **NSERC Discovery Grants Repository**. This NSID-protected site provides U of S faculty members with sample successful NSERC Discovery Grants and CVs voluntarily uploaded by colleagues. Expansion to additional funding programs is in development. The repository is available at:

http://share.usask.ca/go/ovpr/grants_repository.

SUPPORT Unit Business Plan Submitted

The business plan for the **Saskatchewan Centre for Patient Oriented Research (SCPOR) SUPPORT Unit** was submitted to CIHR at the beginning of July. While the plan undergoes international review, the Joint Health Research Office is working with provincial stakeholders to ensure the SCPOR SUPPORT Unit is prepared for operation upon endorsement from CIHR. This work includes establishing the SCPOR Host Council and Oversight Committee, assisting with the recruitment of the SCPOR Executive Director, and planning a SCPOR Research Methodologist Workshop. The business plan is available at: <http://goo.gl/mYzvJW>.

Fulton Named to Cooperative Governance Chair

Murray Fulton (Public Policy) has been appointed to the Co-operative Retailing System Chair in Co-Operative Governance. The \$300,000 chair is funded by Federated Co-operatives Limited and will support Fulton's research into effective governance mechanisms over the next five years. For more information, visit: <http://goo.gl/STP2xf>.

FUNDING SUCCESSES

U of S Awarded \$37.2M for Food Security

The U of S was one of five universities across the country to be successful in the inaugural **Canada First Research Excellence Fund** competition. The university will receive \$37.2M over seven years to develop a world-leading hub for plant imaging and phenotyping with the aim of developing sustainable new crop varieties for global food security. For more information, visit: <http://goo.gl/sHkQXD>.

CFI Supports \$3.3M Synchrotron Upgrade

Miroslaw Cygler (Biochemistry) was awarded \$3.3M from the Canada Foundation for Innovation (CFI) for "Toward Cutting Edge Science: Establishing Advanced Micro-beam Capability for Macromolecular Crystallography at the CLS." CFI awarded an additional \$165,000 to cover administrative costs associated with the management of this multi-institutional project. For more information, visit: <http://goo.gl/QSzpjK>.

\$6M in NSERC Discovery Grants

U of S researchers submitted 80 applications to the **NSERC Discovery** Individual Competition, 44 of which were successful. These researchers will bring a total of more than \$6M to the U of S over the next five years. To view the full list of recipients, visit: <http://goo.gl/AtYxBl>.

CIHR Operating Grants Awarded

Two U of S researchers were successful in CIHR's Spring 2015 Transitional Operating Grant competition, securing a total of more than \$1.2M:

- ❖ **Juan Ianowski** (Physiology) was awarded \$111,885 per year for three years for the project "*Abnormal fluid and mucus secretion in response to inhaled bacteria contributes to cystic fibrosis airways disease pathogenesis.*"
- ❖ **Valerie Verge** (Anatomy and Cell Biology) was awarded \$170,565 per year for five years for the project "*Regenerative neuronal reprogramming: elucidating and enhancing intrinsic neural repair programs.*"

\$1M Secured Through Research Contracts

Two U of S researchers have secured a combined \$1M through contracts with partners:

- ❖ **Tom Warkentin** and the Crop Development Centre (Agriculture & Bioresources) have received an additional year of funding from the Saskatchewan Pulse Crop Development Board for the "*Pea Genetic Improvement Program (PGIP).*" The university's share is expected to provide approximately \$735,000 toward pea genetics research. This program has provided the U of S with \$2,153,000 over the last three years.
- ❖ **Susantha Gomis** (Veterinary Pathology) has received \$400,000 from Western Economic Diversification "*To Develop and Commercialize a Novel Device and Process Which Would Enable Chicken Producers to Administer an Aerosol-Form Stimulator to Chickens as an Alternative to Antibiotics.*"

CFI Funding for WCVM and Engineering Faculty

Four U of S researchers have been awarded a total of \$393,000 from the Canada Foundation for Innovation's (CFI) John R. Evans Leaders Fund. For more information, visit: <http://goo.gl/LDL210>. The successful applicants were:

- ❖ **Janet Hill** (Veterinary Microbiology) was awarded \$64,197 for "*Broader and Deeper: next-generation sequencing for high resolution profiling of microbial communities.*"
- ❖ **Julia Montgomery** (Large Animal Clinical Sciences) was awarded \$71,806 for "*Mobile Equine Field Laboratory for Sample Collection and Processing.*"
- ❖ **Wonjae Chang** (Civil & Geological Engineering) was awarded \$83,580 for "*Geoenvironmental Engineering Laboratory for Contaminated Site Remediation Research.*"
- ❖ **David Klymyshyn** (Electrical & Computer Engineering) was awarded \$173,592 for "*Measurement System for Microwave Devices and Antennas.*"

Ten Successful SHRF Establishment Grants

The U of S was awarded ten Establishment Grants from the Saskatchewan Health Research Foundation. The successful principal investigators were: **Jill Bally** and **Noelle Rohatinsky** (Nursing); **Marta Erlandson**, **Leah Ferguson**, and **Corey Tomczak** (Kinesiology); and, **Humphrey Fonge**, **Farzad Moien-Afshari**, **Sarah Oosman**, **Maruti Uppalapati**, and **Franco Vizeacoumar** (Medicine). For more information, visit: <http://goo.gl/0UZs6Q>.

SHRF Awards Postdoctoral Fellowships

Nine U of S researchers were successful on their applications to the Saskatchewan Health Research Foundation's Postdoctoral Research Fellowship Competition. The recipients were: **Siddarth Dev**, **Whitney Duff**, **Kavishankar Gawli**, **Chantal Kawalilak**, **Shuangshuang Li**, **Laura McBreairty**, **Christopher Rudulier**, **Tayyab Shah**, **Shari Smith**. For more information, visit: <http://goo.gl/gFRBIR>.

International Food Security Research Funded

U of S Researchers were recently awarded funding from the Canadian International Food Security Research Fund managed by the International Development Research Centre (IDRC) and Foreign Affairs, Trade and Development Canada (DFATD):

- ❖ **Carol Henry** (Pharmacy and Nutrition) and **Bruce Coulman** (Agriculture and Bioresources) were awarded \$1.76M for the project "*Scaling-up Pulse Innovations for Food and Nutrition Security in Southern Ethiopia.*" Their work is part of a larger \$3.9M project being undertaken with the lead partner Hawassa University in Ethiopia. U of S co-investigators are Susan Whiting, Gord Zello, Bob Tyler, Sina Adl, Steve Shirliffe, Bill Brown, and Patience Elabor-Idemudia.
- ❖ **Derek Peak** and co-investigator **David Natcher** (Agriculture and Bioresources) were awarded \$530,500 for their involvement in a \$4.5M project "*Scaling up Fertilizer Micro-dosing and Indigenous Vegetables Production and Utilisation in West Africa*" with lead partners University of Manitoba; Osun State and Obafemi Awolowo universities in Nigeria; and Université de Parakou in Bénin.

International Nursing Research

Lorna Butler, Heather Exner-Pirot, Jill Bally, and **Carol Ann Bullin** (Nursing) are co-investigators on the ~\$270,000 project "*Developing a Northern Nursing Workforce.*" The project is led by the Arctic University of Norway (NO-UiT) and funding comes from the High North Long-Term Project Cooperation category supported by the Norwegian Centre for International Cooperation in Education (SIU).

Other Funding Successes

Throughout the summer the following researchers secured funding from a variety of sources:

- ❖ **Ken Coates** (Public Policy) was awarded a \$25,000 SSHRC Knowledge Synthesis Grant for the project "*Aboriginal Workplace Integration in the North.*"
- ❖ **Jill Hobbs** (Bioresource Policy, Business, and Economics) was awarded \$30,000 from the SSHRC Aid to Scholarly Journals program for the "*Canadian Journal of Agricultural Economics.*"
- ❖ **Arshud Dar** (VIDO) was awarded \$22,000 from the Chicken Farmers of Saskatchewan for the project "*Interference of Maternal Immunity and Marek's Disease Vaccine in Performance of Newly Developed Inclusion Body Hepatitis Vaccines.*"
- ❖ **Bindu Nair** (Medicine – Rheumatology) was awarded \$25,000 from the Spondyloarthritis Research Consortium of Canada for the project "*Obstructive Sleep Apnea Screening for Ankylosing Spondylitis Patients.*"
- ❖ **Stephan Milosavljevic** (Physical Therapy) was awarded \$25,000 from the Spondyloarthritis Research Consortium of Canada for the project "*A Multifaceted Approach for the Early Clinical Identification of Axial SpA: A study of first degree relatives.*"
- ❖ **Michael Szafron**, on behalf of the School of Public Health, was awarded \$44,800 for eight Master of Public Health stipends and \$3,015 in travel allowance from CIHR's Master of Public Health Program.

PARTNERSHIPS

International Delegations Visit the U of S

Throughout the summer the U of S welcomed international delegations from: the **Tamil Nadu Chamber of Commerce & Industry**, India; the **Ministry of Food and Agriculture**, Ghana; **Linyi University**, China; **Toyko Metropolitan University**, Japan; **Université de Poitiers**, France; **Wilmar International** and **Hap Seng Consolidated Berhad**, Hong Kong; the **University of Newcastle**, Australia; the **Mexican Consul-General** for Alberta and Saskatchewan; **Iwate University**, Japan; and, **Tianjin Agriculture University**, China.

U of S Group Investigates Aboriginal Initiatives

A U of S delegation including Chancellor Blaine Favel and other senior administrators visited the **University of Auckland** and the **University of Waikato** in New Zealand this summer. The visits revolved around gaining insight into how the progress of Aboriginal initiatives at the U of S might be accelerated and improved.

International Agreements Signed

The U of S signed the following agreements with international partners throughout the summer:

- ❖ Student exchange agreements were signed with: **Universidad Ecotec**, Ecuador; **Universidade de Brasilia**, Brazil; **Universidad Veracruzana**, Mexico; **Roskilde University**, Denmark.
- ❖ A faculty exchange agreement was signed with the **Universidade de Brasilia** in Brazil.
- ❖ A Memorandum of Understanding regarding collaborative activities was signed with **Linyi University** in Shandong, China following the visit of Chinese scholars currently partnering with faculty in the Division of Humanities and Fine Arts.

International Training and Field Schools Held

A number of international training and field schools took place this summer, enabled through collaboration with the U of S' partner institutions:

- ❖ In July the U of S Language Centre and the College of Engineering hosted a one month summer immersion program for students from **Pandit Deedayal Petroleum University** (PDPU) in Ahmadabad, India. The project spread awareness of Canadian educational, cultural, and social practices, while also introducing PDPU students to undergraduate programs and opportunities for graduate-level study at the U of S.
- ❖ In July, the **Universidad de las Fuerzas Armadas** (ESPE) in Quito, Ecuador sent 32 Masters of Environmental Management students for a one week field school at the U of S led by Diane Martz, Director, International Research and Partnerships.
- ❖ Five U of S faculty members participated in a summer workshop co-organized by the U of S at **Malaviya National Institute of Technology** (MNIT) in Jaipur, India in May.
- ❖ David Parkinson (English) and seven U of S faculty members led a summer institute on Global Health and Development for Young Researchers at Indian Institutions. The program advanced the partnership between the **Indian Institute of Technology Gandhinagar** (IITGN) and the U of S by supporting the growth of scholarly impact through collaborative research project design, professional mentorship, and curriculum development.