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Research into Sexual Harassment in Sport to Cover Wide Spectrum

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Sandra Kirby is researching the incidence of sexual harassment in sport.

When CTV's *The Fifth Estate* aired "Crossing the Line" in November, 1993, it created a firestorm throughout the sport community. The award-winning television program detailed the occurrence of sexual harassment in sports, and provided athletes with an opportunity to offer firsthand accounts of sexual harassment.

"We couldn't have asked for a better venue to kickstart our research into the issue," says Sandra Kirby, who helped develop "Crossing the Line" and appeared on the program as an expert in the field. "The issue is now very topical across the country."

Kirby, an associate professor of sociology at The University of Winnipeg, has since initiated an in-depth study into the incidence of sexual harassment in sport. Along with Lorraine Greaves, coordinator of the Institute for Research into Violence Against Women and Girls at the University of Western Ontario, Kirby has received a \$21,600 grant from Sport Canada to carry out the research. It will be the first study of its kind in Canada.

The first phase of the project will examine high-performance athletes over the age of majority. For the next eight months, Kirby and Greaves will travel to national championships in various sports to conduct workshops on sexual harassment and to survey athletes. Subsequent phases will involve university, college and high school athletes and community athletes not affiliated with educational institutions or national team programs. Retired players will be studied last because they are "no longer in danger."

Kirby believes that sexual harassment in sport will be at least as common as it is in the rest of society. In fact, she anticipates it may be higher, due to the intimate nature of the coach-athlete relationship.

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Research ...

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"I don't think most coaches realize the kind of power they have over athletes. But I do think coaches know what is appropriate behaviour and when they cross the line," Kirby asserts.

Kirby and Greaves will focus not only on the coach-athlete relationship but also the athlete-athlete relationship, as well as the potential for abuse by and among officials, administrators and judges.

"We would like to provide an educational forum and gather data in a safe enough way that athletes—male or female—will be able to talk about their experiences," Kirby says. Because she and Greaves expect to encounter some disclosure, they intend to have the necessary counselling support on hand.

According to Kirby, sexual harassment is defined as any unwanted attention involving one's sex or sexuality, including any comment or conduct of a sexual nature which detrimentally affects the environment or leads to adverse consequences. "We'll also be looking at the whole notion of a poisoned environment—the innuendo, the inappropriate pictures on the walls, the jokes."

Currently, the sport community at all levels is working to formulate effective policies that deal with sexual harassment. Kirby hopes the data she and Greaves compile will help to protect those who have been harassed, and will enable others involved in sport to offer quality, safe sport opportunities.

FAST FACTS

- Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada (NSERC) grants totalling \$301,220 were awarded to faculty at The University of Winnipeg in 1994. The success rate for faculty applications submitted in the 1994 competition was a very respectable 89.5 per cent.
- The University confers approximately 1,000 degrees every year, with about half of them in science, technology and business subjects. A large proportion of the total number—some 29 per cent—are in business-related areas such as administrative studies, business computing and economics.
- Over 60 per cent of our regular degree students are studying parttime, many of them for financial reasons.
- The University of Winnipeg's 26,139 alumni live in 41 countries.

Campus Notebook

• Sante A. Viselli, Department of French, organized the fifth National Conference of the Association of Italian-Canadian Writers, held in Winnipeg Sept. 28-Oct. 1. He acknowledges the French Department and the Dean of Arts and Science for their support. Viselli also presented a paper entitled "Comment peut-on être Européen? Le cas de Montesquieu" to the Canadian Society for XVIIIth Century Studies in Saskatoon on Oct. 16. In addition, he has recently published "Sénac de Meilhan: révolution, masque et utopie -quelques réflexions à l'aube de l'Europe unie," *Dalhousie French Studies*, vol. 28, Fall 1994: pp. 43-54.

• Student Services' **Richard Ottenbreit** recently presented three seminars on "Efficient and Effective Learning" to the Winnipeg Regional Council of the Institute of Canadian Bankers. A special research issue of *in edition* is published three times per year (December, February and May) by University Relations, The University of Winnipeg, 4W16-515 Portage Ave., Winnipeg, Manitoba, R3B 2E9.

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in edition is printed on recycled paper. After you have finished with this issue, pass it along to a friend.

A Collaborative Approach

Katherine Schultz, the new associate vice-president of research and graduate studies, is encouraging researchers at The University of Winnipeg to cross disciplines and work together in new ways.

"University researchers are, by nature, independent thinkers who enjoy working on individual projects. But the trend, especially among the major national granting agencies, is towards supporting more collaborative research efforts," explains Schultz, a psychology professor who was appointed to the associate vice-president position this past summer.

The new administrator emphasizes: "Forming joint projects that involve more than one discipline or organization is a very different way of doing things inside academia, but we must adjust to the change."

To capture our share of the dwindling research dollar, Schultz believes that "bridges" must be built quickly, and she hopes to foster more links among our faculty members and with government, business and other academic institutions.

One of the first steps, she says, is to better inform faculty about what research funding is available and any changes to policies and guidelines. She would like to expand the internal research newsletter and make it available on e-mail, and she encourages faculty to use the database of funding sources available through the Vice-President (Academic) Office. Outside of academia, Schultz feels that the University needs to gain allies by promoting its research and scholarship function. "I'd like the public to know more about the high quality research being done here and to improve people's research literacy." who are adjunct professors, who supervise graduate students or serve on advisory committees at other universities.

Schultz brings an extensive knowledge of The University of Winnipeg to her new position. She has been associated with the Univer-



Katherine Schultz: "I'd like the public to know more about the high quality research being done here and to improve people's research literacy."

The "graduate studies" half of Schultz's new title encompasses the existing graduate programs in theology, history, public administration, and religious studies. But Schultz would also like to provide additional support to faculty members

sity since the late 1970s and has served on the Board of Regents, the Senate and numerous committees, both at the departmental and University-wide level. She is the animal care officer and a member of the Senate Committee on Experimental Ethics.

Closing the Gap

Psychology Professor Katherine Schultz studies the differences between men and women in spatial performance the kind of mental-imaging skills you need to read a map or design a house.

Her work so far suggests that the small difference that exists between the sexes in spatial performance does not have a strong biological basis. In fact, preliminary studies indicate that, starting in childhood, males and females simply learn different problem-solving styles.

Schultz says that with specific kinds of training for girls and women, it is possible to close this particular gender gap. She adds: "Research in this area could eventually help open more occupational doors for women into traditionally male-dominated fields like engineering and architecture."

Schultz is also involved in a collaborative research project with Lesley Sisler, associate dean of collegiate, Judith Huebner, associate dean of arts and science, Pauline Greenhill, professor of women's studies, and Dawn Rittberg, professor of biology. The team is looking at the persistence and success of women in science programs in both the Collegiate and the University. Their study is being funded by a three-year aid to small universities grant.

Economics Seminar Focuses on Campus Recycling

If you encounter a student peering intensely into your Paper Grower bin this winter, don't be alarmed—it's only one of Bob Fenton's students.

Fenton, a professor of economics, is teaching a directed research seminar course, focused on paper recycling, to five students. "Issues in Canadian Natural Resource Policy," a fourth-year honours economics course, provides practical

experience for students in research methods and procedures.

"My goal is to try and put the students in a situation where they can apply some of the economic theory they've learned to a simulated work situation," explains Fenton.

To this end, Fenton has devised an employment scenario in which the "WISER (Winnipeg Student Environmental Research) Group"—the students—has been retained by the imaginary "Winnipeg Recycling Coalition" to study the supply, demand and cost issues surrounding wastepaper recycling. Assessing the viability of recycling the University's coloured wastepaper and corrugated material will be among the students' objectives.

To gather data, the students will conduct interviews with several organizations. They must operate under the guidelines of the University's Code of Ethics for Research with Human Subjects, which requires them to seek permission from subjects they wish to involve in their research. The University has agreed to cooperate in the project, as have nine other orga-

nizations: Boise Cascade Canada in Kenora, the Pine Falls Paper Co., BFI Waste Systems, Red Box Recycling, *Winnipeg Sun*, City of Winnipeg, the Manitoba Department of Environment, Versatech Industries, and the Paper and Paperboard Environmental Council, an industry group in Toronto.

Fenton stresses that the project in no way threatens Versatech's current recycling program at the University. In fact, his students have toured the Versatech facilities to enhance their understanding of the recycling operation, from collection to processing.

"The students are aware of the importance of this program to Versatech, and the importance of the Versatech employees to the University staff," asserts Fenton, who was instrumental in establishing the University's recycling program eight years ago.

> Involving so many organizations serves to integrate the course into the community, and to display the strength of a University of Winnipeg education and the calibre of our students to the external community.

> In addition to learning research techniques, the course provides experience in computer software applications, primarily with Wordperfect, Quattro Pro, and the internet. Fenton, who has two computers in his office for the students to use, feels that the practical computer experience greatly enhances the students' ability to find employment after graduation.

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The students are intrigued by the opportunity to gain practical skills and put what they have learned to work. All feel the experience—and the contacts they make in the business community—will benefit them when seeking employment.

Students Mike Krywy and John Harper are charged with assessing the recycling program on campus and comparing it to programs at other organizations. They hope to determine a costeffective strategy for expanding the wastepaper recycling

program, thereby reducing the University's impact on the environment.

"I think the issue is very important," says Krywy. He adds, "My other courses have been theoretical, but this one is really applied to what's going on today in the world. It gives us a chance to see economic theories at work."

Please note: Students examining Paper Grower bins on campus will carry special identification, which they will



be assessing the University's wastepaper

recycling program.



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Heartbreaker!

It was supposed to be a record breaker. It was, instead, a heartbreaker.

The Wesmen women's basketball team met the Manitoba Bisons on Dec. 2 in what the Wesmen hoped would be their 89th straight victory. A Wesmen win would set a new North American record for consecutive wins by a university basketball team. The previous week, the Wesmen tied the record when they defeated the Bisons 89 - 57.

The Dec. 2 game drew an overflow crowd and was carried on CJOB-radio and television's TSN. It was billed as history in the making. But fate—and the Bisons—refused to cooperate. With less than five seconds to go and the game tied, the Bisons scored. The Wesmen lost by a narrow margin of 64 - 62. As one University of Winnipeg fan put it, "In those last seconds, you could hear every jaw drop." While the Wesmen's first loss in over two years prevented them from setting a new record, their phenomenal 88-game winning streak—the longest in Canadian university sports history!—established a standard of excellence that will not soon be forgotten.

University President Marsha Hanen summed up the campus community's admiration for the Wesmen women's basketball team: "The entire University is enormously proud of the accomplishments of the team. The 88-game winning streak, resulting in their sharing the all-time collegiate record, is truly an immense achievement. We have admired their hard work, their dedication, their focus, and their excellence on the basketball court, and we look forward to many more outstanding accomplishments."

A Classic Basketball Tradition

It's a holiday tradition in Winnipeg-the Wesmen Classic. Don't miss any of the action as the men's and women's basketball teams host their rivals from across the country in the largest basketball tournament in Canada.

Last year, both the Wesmen men's and women's basketball teams stole the show and won their annual Classic. Come out and cheer them on to another victory!

The Wesmen Classic men's tournament runs Dec. 27-30. The women's Classic runs Dec. 31-Jan. 2.

Men's tournament passes are \$15. Women's tournament passes are \$12. Order your tickets today: call 786-9418 (8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.) or 786-9349 (evenings and weekends).



Coach Tom Kendall and an anxious Wesmen team look on as the Bisons take the lead in the game that ended the Wesmen's phenomenal winning streak.



COMING EVENTS

"Coming Events" is compiled by University Relations. If you are planning a campus event, please let us know. Send the information (in writing) to Lois Cherney, University Relations, Room 4W15. Basic details about your event are required: what, when, where, sponsor, price of admission (if any) and the name of a contact person. Submissions must be received at least 10 working days before the event.

TUES., DEC. 20

- The History Students' Association presents an **histor**ical Medieval Feast in the Faculty and Staff Club. Feasters are welcome to wear costumes and to prepare a performance. Cocktails are at 6:30; dinner is at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$5.00 and may be purchased through Arlan Gates at 888-2482, Kevin Rodkin at 339-2513 or 786-2514, or from Linda Gladstone in the History Department, Room 3A34.

WED., DEC. 21

- **University closed** to comply with the provincial government's directive to reduce public sector salaries.

THURS., DEC. 22 TO MON., JAN. 1 - University closed for the holidays.

TUES., DEC. 27 TO FRI., DEC. 30 - **The Wesmen Classic** men's basketball at Duckworth Centre.

SAT., DEC. 31 TO MON., JAN. 2 -The Wesmen Classic women's basketball at Duckworth Centre.

MON., JAN. 2, **1995** - University re-opens.

TUES., JAN. 3 - Lectures resume in the Faculty of Arts and Science. WED., JAN. 4

- Real Men Hunt Buffalo: British Furtraders and Constructions of Genders in the Far West is the title of an open lecture to be given in Room 3M69 at 2:30 p.m. by Elizabeth Vibert, professor of history at the University of Victoria.

FRI., JAN. 6 - Men's Basketball—the

Wesmen host the Manitoba Bisons at 7:30 p.m.

MON., JAN. 9

- Deadline for applications to participate in the seventh annual programme to study French at the Université de Perpignan in the south of France. Students must be in their third year of French Studies to apply. For information, call Ken Meadwell at 786-9106.

THURS., JAN. 12

- Double Dreaming: Paintings by Janeen Kobrinsky, Poems by Per Brask opens at Gallery 1C03 from 4 - 6 p.m. Kobrinsky and Brask collaborate in this show that blends pictures with words in a celebration of spirituality and soul. The show runs until Sat., Feb. 4. Gallery hours are from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Mon.-Fri. and from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. on Sat.

FRI., JAN. 13

- Music at Noon—Chantale Boivin, viola, and Robert Gardner, marimba, vibraphone and percussion, perform "Dessert with No Calories," a smorgasbord of contemporary music by leading Canadian and international composers. Co-sponsored by Western Safety Sign Co., this event takes place in Eckhardt-Grammaté Hall, 12:30-1:20 p.m.



Celebrating V.E. Day in Winnipeg (1945) is one of the striking photographs in the Western Canada Pictorial Index (WCPI) Nostalgia Series. For the holidays, WCPI is knocking 50% off the price of this unique retail collection of greeting cards, postcards and 8 x 10 prints. The series features historical photos of western Canada, including images of farming, aviation, landmarks and occasions. WCPI's mission is to preserve the pictorial memory of Winnipeg and western Canada through the promotion and indexing of historical photographs. Drop by WCPI, Room 3G18, between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. and pick out some truly unique gifts. Prices range from \$.40 - \$4.00 (plus PST).