

# in edition

The UNIVERSITY of WINNIPEG

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## Affordable Housing: Not an Oxymoron Anymore

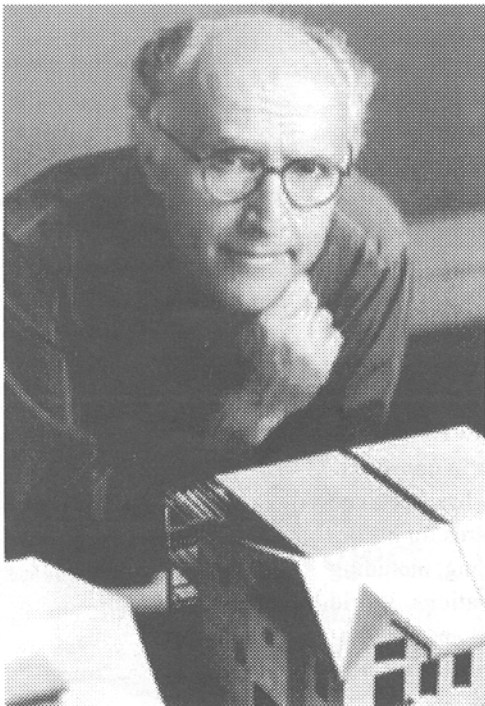
Located in the heart of Winnipeg, the University of Winnipeg is in an ideal position to lead discussions about urban renewal. Avi Friedman, architect and associate professor of architecture at the McGill School of Architecture, was invited to campus by the members of the Housing Committee to look at the area surrounding the University. As part of the downtown neighbourhood, it is the University's responsibility to act on the housing issue and to inspire interest within the rest of the community.

Friedman points out that an investment now will benefit the University for years to come. "The University is perfectly situated to become a vibrant area that attracts young people," he explains. "So often newly developed areas are not able to grow and prosper because the nucleus either fails or closes. But the University is a sustainable mechanism to draw people for an indefinite amount of time. And with a community of scholars right on campus, the University can easily position itself at the centre of the housing debate.

"There is a need for student housing and a need to address inner city issues," Friedman says. "The urban fabric is in jeopardy, and as part of a community, it is in the

University's best interest to help repair it. There are fantastic opportunities. We must therefore conquer the fear of doing something and realize the price of not acting is much greater than the cost of moving forward.

"Changes are occurring in academia that require fresh and imaginative thinking. In the past, university housing meant large, institutional buildings. Now we're looking at restoring older houses and building new structures in empty lots." To illustrate this point, Friedman refers to a residence at Macdonald Campus of McGill. "A new dean at that campus was trying to work with a group of students who wanted to live in an ecological residence. She showed me a building that was truly an eye-sore, and asked what could be done," he



While in Winnipeg, Friedman lectured to Chris Leo's political science class.

See HOUSING continued on page 2

### Wrap it up... for a good cause!



From May 8 to May 12, alumni volunteers will be at St. Vital Centre in Winnipeg to wrap up your Mother's Day gifts.

Proceeds from this service will go towards the purchase of new adaptive equipment for visually-impaired students at the University of Winnipeg.

Have your gifts wrapped while you shop!

### So wrap it up nicely for Mom... and support a good cause!

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## Recognizing Commitment

Faculty and staff have long demonstrated extraordinary commitment, proving through the years that the greatest strength of the University of Winnipeg has always been people. To better recognize that reality, changes to the annual retirement and long-service reception have been brought about through discussions between Administration, Darcy Duggan, Events Coordinator, and representatives of UWFA, AESES, and IUOE.

This spring two separate events will be held to honour those who are retiring and those who have dedicated 15 years or more to the University.

On Tuesday, May 9, from 3:00 to 4:30 p.m., the annual Retirement Reception will be held in Riddell Hall. As usual, the entire University community is invited to bid farewell to retiring colleagues.

Faculty and staff who are celebrating their silver anniversary of employment at the University will become members of the 25 Year Club. A special 25 Year Club reception will be held this year to recognize all who have reached this career landmark. Members will receive a certificate of membership and a gift. In addition, those who have reached 10, 15, 35, or 40 years will be recognized at this event which will be for invited guests. In future, those who are celebrating a 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary will also be feted at a dinner.

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## Funds for Forest Ecology

Manitoba Hydro is supporting Forest Ecology students at the University of Winnipeg. Funds for the Alice Chambers Forest Enhancement Scholarship were donated



to the University by Manitoba Hydro through the Manitoba Hydro Forest Enhancement Program. This new scholarship recognizes the life-long commitment of the late Alice Chambers to environmental stewardship and education. It will be awarded annually to a student in the Forest Ecology stream of the four-year Bachelor of Science program in Environmental Studies.

*Manitoba Hydro representative Gerry Rose was at a special reception recognizing Hydro's generous donation.*

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## Housing

*continued from page 1*

recalls. "I asked her if she was gutsy, and she said yes. Today they have a beautiful ecological residence, because they had a leader with vision."

Friedman's work in Montreal proves that large, older structures can be converted into wonderful accommodations.

"In Winnipeg I've seen jewels of structures, and if they can be renovated, we succeed in preserving fantastic historical buildings while providing students with housing," he says. Enhancing the core area and making a tangible contribution to the community are additional advantages. "Urban renewal direct-

ly affects enrolment, because, in this case, if the area around the University is taken care of and continually improved, people will want to spend more time here."

The first step is to agree on what must be done, then the University has to find the right people to carry out the plan. "The key is to think big—and make it happen."

The Grow Home, Friedman's brainchild, is an affordable townhouse first constructed as a demonstration unit on the downtown campus of McGill University in Montreal in 1990. It was subsequently adopted with great enthusiasm by the homebuild-

ing industry and was recognized with the prestigious World Habitat Award. Substantial cost savings are obtained as a result of the narrow dimensions of The Grow Home (4.3 m to 6.1 m). In addition, one of the floors is left unpartitioned for further adaptation when the need arises. The Grow Home costs about \$40,000 to construct.

Friedman has received numerous awards for his design and teaching, including the United Nations World Habitat Award and the Progressive Architecture Research Award.

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Comments, suggestions and submissions are welcome. (All material is subject to editing.) The deadline for the next issue is April 21, 2000.

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

## The First-Year Edge

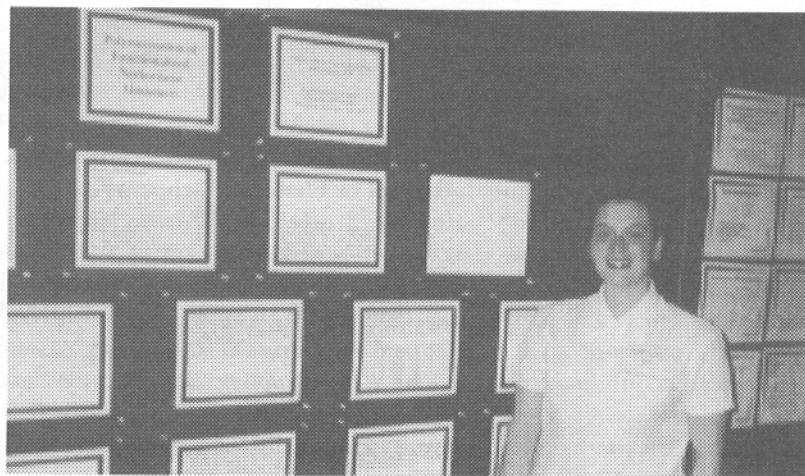
Smaller classes, excellent professors, and special attention to orientation, advising and skill development give new U of W students a first-year edge. But could we do even more? The Enrolment Strategy Committee was formed to examine the activities of the University and their impact on recruitment and retention. "There is a need to bring together the efforts of the entire institution," says Judith Huebner, academic assistant to the president. "As a cohesive group we can look at areas that might not be as obvious as others; a fresh perspective coupled with interaction among the different segments of the campus community will allow new ideas to arise."

The committee serves as a forum for thinking broadly. With a strong focus on recruitment, the First-Year Edge program was put in place to show prospective students that a degree from the University of Winnipeg is something special. A First-Year Edge brochure has been mailed out to 3,000 high school students who have already made contact with the University. In addition, an information evening has been planned to reach students who did not receive the mail-out. This special event, on Tues., April 18, will give both students and their parents a chance to talk with faculty, staff and students about admissions, awards, academic advising, new programs and much more. "These efforts are part of a short-term plan geared at improving recruitment. In the long-term the committee plans to focus more on retention," Huebner notes.

The committee will be setting goals and forming task groups to address a number of issues and implement long-term projects.

**The unveiling of the plans for the Duckworth Expansion Project is scheduled for Mon., April 24. It will take place from 3:30-5:00 p.m. in the Duckworth Overpass.**

## Kudos to Chemistry Grads



*Leslie May: a natural with functionalized polymers.*

Leslie May and Andrea Edel are recipients of the Best Graduate Poster in 1999. They presented a poster entitled "Polymerization of Functionalized Norbornene Monomers" at the 82<sup>nd</sup> Canadian Society of Chemists (CSC) Chemistry Conference in Toronto, Ontario. During the past academic year, May has conducted research on the preparation of novel monomers and polymers and their properties, and the poster presentation highlighted that research. The award is \$250 in prize money and is sponsored by MSED/Bayer Rubber Inc.

A spring 1999 graduate, May also made an oral presentation about the importance of research at the undergraduate level, highlighting the many research opportunities at the University of Winnipeg. May says the undergraduate program at the University gave her extensive hands-on training as well as an opportunity to work with students at the MA and PhD level. "It opened a lot of doors," she says. "There is a lot of exciting research done here, and undergraduate students work independently on challenging projects. Students benefit from the University's commitment to education and training." May's presentation garnered the Best Student Oral Presentation on a Chemical Education topic.

May's fourth-year course project, entitled "Preparation of Monomers for Ring-Opening Polymerization," dealt with preparing cyclic monomers that can undergo ring-opening polymerization to form linear polymers. She presented the project at the 12<sup>th</sup> Annual Western Canadian Undergraduate Chemistry Conference in Calgary, Alberta, and took home the award for the Best Organic Oral Presentation.

After completing the fourth-year project, May worked with chemistry professor Alaa Abd-El-Aziz on a project entitled "Polymerization of Functionalized Norbornene Monomers." She studied properties of the functionalized polymers, such as their molecular weights and their decomposition points. May captured the Best Overall Oral Presentation Award when she presented this project at the 13<sup>th</sup> Annual Western Canadian Undergraduate Chemistry in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan.

May and Edel are both doing graduate research with Abd-El-Aziz in the area of polymer chemistry and are strongly interested in organometallic and organic chemistry, catalysts, new functional monomers and controlled polymerization. Both have published three research papers and have given seven conference presentations.

# COMING EVENTS

"Coming Events" is compiled by University Relations. Planning a campus event? Please let us know. Send **written** information to Paula Denbow(paula.denbow@uwinnip

TUES., APRIL 18

• **First-Year Edge Information Evening**—This is an event designed to give prospective students and their parents information about admissions and awards, special needs, academic advising, career counseling and highlights of new programs and options. The event runs from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. in Riddell Hall Cafeteria. For more information, call 786-9174.

SAT., APRIL 22

• **Virtuosi Concerts** presents the Laplante/Stewart/Tesarczyk Piano Trio—André Laplante has become recognized as one of the world's great romantic piano virtuosos. He returns to our stage with MCO concertmaster David Stewart and WSO principal cellist Arek Tesarczyk to perform piano trios by Debussy and Faure. The concert begins at 8 p.m. in Eckhardt-Gramatté Hall. Tickets are \$22, \$20 for seniors and \$13 for students, and can be purchased by calling 786-9000.

MON., APRIL 24

THROUGH FRI., APRIL 28

• **Themes in Theology: Science & Religion**—This course will be an exploration of a series of current issues in the relationship between science and religion. The text will be *Reconstructing Nature: The Engagement of Science & Religion*, by John H. Brooke and Geoffrey Cantor. Course registration includes free registration for the Sat. conference, co-sponsored by Concord College and the John Templeton Foundation, through the Centre for Theology and the Natural Sciences in Berkeley, California. The course will be taught by Peter Denton, a lecturer in Theology, Religious Studies, Philosophy and History at the University of Winnipeg, and a member of the interim ministry team at Deer Lodge United Church. Those wishing to take this course for continuing education purposes or for Certificate in Theology credit may register and pay \$150.00. Otherwise, degree course fees apply.

TUES., APRIL 25

THROUGH THURS.,  
APRIL 27

• **Northern Plains**

**Convective Workshop**—

This is a joint venture of Environment Canada, the Prairie Storm Prediction Centre, the Canadian Meteorological and Oceanographic Society and the University of Winnipeg. It will be held in Eckhardt-Gramatté Hall. For details visit [www.pnr-rpn.ec.gc.ca/air/npcw-acpn/ai00s00.en.html](http://www.pnr-rpn.ec.gc.ca/air/npcw-acpn/ai00s00.en.html).

FRI., APRIL 28 & SAT.,  
APRIL 29

• **The Newcombe Lectures**

—Geoffrey Cantor, an internationally known scholar in the area of science and religion from the University of Leeds, will be speaking at 7:30 p.m. in Eckhardt-Gramatté Hall on Friday, and in Theatre A at 7:30 p.m. on Sat. On Friday he will speak on "Science and Religion: Is there any role for the Historian?" while Saturday's lecture is "'There is no philosophy in my religion': Reflections on Physics and Reli-

gion." These lectures are open to the public.

SAT., APRIL 29

• **Mondetta Jazz Stage** presents the Ron Paley Big Band—The Mondetta Jazz season finale is a real blockbuster. The Ron Paley Big Band is known throughout Canada for its concert performances and radio and television work. They play jazz, jazz-rock, and a repertoire ranging from swing-era hits to contemporary original compositions. Tickets are \$15, \$13 for seniors and \$5 for students. Call 786-9000 for tickets.

THURS., MAY 4

• The German-Canadian Students Lecture Series presents **Immigration Policy on Trial: The Controversy over Nazi War Criminals in Canada** by Howard Margolian. The lecture begins at 5 p.m. in the Faculty and Staff Club. For details call Deb Bradley at 9858.

TUES., MAY 9

• Everyone is invited to the **Retirement Reception**. It will take place from 3:00 to 4:30 p.m. in Riddell Hall Cafeteria.

THURS., MAY 25

THROUGH SAT., MAY 27

• **Classics Conference**—For information, please contact Iain McDougall at 9343.

THURS., JUNE 8

THROUGH SAT., JUNE 10

**Singing the Faith, a Theology Conference**—For information, please contact Ray Whitehead at 9247.

## Thanks!

Thank you to all the University of Winnipeg staff, faculty and Board members who completed the Institutional Priorities Survey. Almost 250 employees (~50%) did so. A great response!!! Just to let you know, over 1,500 students completed the Student Satisfaction and UW Housing surveys. We will be sharing highlights of the results of these surveys with you in a future *in edition*. Thanks again to all who participated.