

New Research Chair Puts People First

Researchers like Deborah Stienstra, associate professor of Political Science, are looking for ways to improve quality of life for people with disabilities. Newly appointed to the Royal Bank Research Chair in Disability Studies, Stienstra says that this kind of research is critical because it has tangible results. "Working closely with people who have disabilities is the only way to set meaningful goals," she says. "We've already had very solid proposals, and we have only just begun." Stienstra adds that the University of Winnipeg and the Canadian Centre on Disability Studies have worked together on research projects in the past. "Further strengthening this relationship will lead to some very exciting developments."

Stienstra brings extensive research experience to her new appointment with the Centre. One of her main interests is the assessment of policy on disability and persons with disabilities. "But policy analysis must lead to action," she affirms. A recent publication entitled "Taking Action on United Nations Standard Rules on Disability" challenges the reader to "use this handbook as a first step to explore more about how the Canadian government is keeping its commitments (the Canadian government agreed in 1993 that they would implement the United Nations Standard Rules for the Equalization of Opportunities for Persons With Disabilities).

Mike Sinclair, Account Manager with the Royal Bank, says they recognized long ago that community involvement means working to make a difference in people's lives. "Research is such an important part of our future, and the Royal Bank understands the need for researchers like Dr. Stienstra to explore issues that affect so many people."



Deborah Stienstra says that she welcomes participation from other faculty members who are interested in research on disability studies.

Stienstra's goals as Research Chair at the Centre include creating a 'think tank' on research priorities with leaders in the disability community and assessing access to primary health care for persons with disabilities. "We will be developing strategies to assist consumer organizations in more effectively carrying out their activ-

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A Measure of Excellence

The 2000 *Maclean's* rankings are out, and the University of Winnipeg continues to be "Best in the West" (west of the "Golden Horseshoe"), placing 7th overall. The following listing indicates how the University of Winnipeg placed in the Primarily Undergraduate category (with '99 ranking in brackets):

Student Body

Average Entering Grade 8th (6th)
Proportion With 75% or higher 14th (9th)
Proportion Who Graduate 20th (19th)
Out of Province (1st Year) 17th (17th)
Student Awards 6th (5th)

Classes

Class Sizes (1st and 2nd year) 12th (13th)
Class Sizes (3rd and 4th year) 5th (4th)
Classes Taught by Tenured Faculty 1st (3rd)

Faculty

Faculty with PhDs 14th (14th)
Awards per Full-time Faculty 3rd (2nd)
Social Sciences and Humanities Grants 3rd (2nd)
Medical/Science Grants 3rd (9th)

Finances

Operating Budget 13th (6th)
Scholarships and Bursaries 17th (14th) (percentage of budget)
Student Services 4th (2nd) (percentage of budget)

Library

Holding per Student 20th (18th)
Acquisitions 14th (17th)
Expenses 4th (6th)

Reputation

Alumni Support 8th (10th)
Reputational Survey 11th (14th)

New Chair

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ities," she explains. "We're also initiating research that looks at the experiences of people with disabilities who work for employers out of their homes through funding from the Workers' Compensation Board of Manitoba." Working in conjunction with New Directions, the Canadian Mental Health Association, and Deer Lodge, the Centre is investigating ways that expressive arts, including drama and the visual arts, can be used to add meaning to people's lives.

Henry Enns, Executive Director at the Centre, says that research is an important part of the Centre's work. "By developing an information network based on research, we will be able to address policy issues while creating public awareness," he says. "The Research Chair is one way that we are making possible the full and equal participation of people with disabilities in all aspects of society." Encouraging local, national, and international research projects is also part of Stienstra's mandate as Chair.

Living Simply



Mark Burch teaches Voluntary Simplicity at Menno Simons College.

The voluntary simplicity movement has become stereotyped for being solely concerned with a thrifty life-style, but simple living has more implications than just cleaning closets and selling off a second car. In *Stepping Lightly: Simplicity for People and The Planet*, Mark Burch considers not only the deeper rewards of voluntary simplicity

for individuals, but the practice of simple living as a thoughtful approach to solving modern social and environmental problems.

Burch is the author of *Simplicity: Notes, Stories, and Exercises for Developing Unimaginable Wealth*. He has practiced simple living since the 1960s and is a freelance writer, speaker, and workshop leader. At the U of W he teaches Voluntary Simplicity at Menno Simons College.

Burch begins *Stepping Lightly* by asking the question: how can people best live so as to 'be' love, to 'be' non-violence, and to 'be' in harmony with themselves, other people and the Earth? With an engaging and eloquent style, Burch offers an answer to this question by first exploring the

A Change in Process

The process for selecting winners of the University of Winnipeg's annual awards for excellence has been streamlined to encourage nominations and to ensure recipients are notified early enough to be able to participate in the presentation. The awards are made at the Spring and Fall Convocations.

The deadline for nominations for all awards will now be the second Monday after the Reading Week break (February 26 in 2001). Nomination forms for the Clarence Atchison Award for Community Service, the Robin H. Farquhar Award for Excellence in Self-Governance, the Marsha Hanen Award for Excellence in Creating Community Awareness, the Clifford Robson Award for Excellence in Teaching, and the Erica and Arnold Rogers Award for Excellence in Research will be available through the University Secretariat.

Further details on the awards, including eligibility, will be circulated in January.

meaning of "voluntary simplicity"—which turns out to be much richer and more complex than is at first apparent, and then evolving the concept of simple living beyond personal enrichment to a powerful tool for making a better world.

Burch believes that global consumerism is destroying human communities and the natural environment. He persuasively argues that the individual practice of voluntary simplicity is an essential part of the solution to the overall problem of sustaining human communities and the planet into the distant future.

Readers from a variety of perspectives, whether already engaged in simple living or searching for a deeply committed approach to actively promoting a sustainable society, economy, and planet, will find here a wealth of intelligent and compassionate arguments for living lightly for both the soul and for the Earth.

Information on the proposed pension plan changes is posted regularly on the University's web site. Check the Human Resources page.

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Editor: Paula Denbow
Coordinator of Publications
(204) 786-9172
p.denbow@uwinnipeg.ca

Comments, suggestions and submissions are welcome. (All material is subject to editing.) The deadline for the next issue is Jan. 5.

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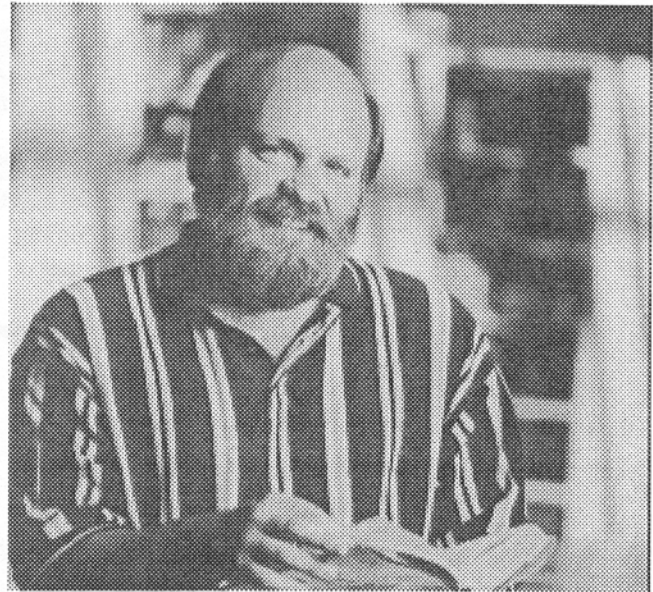
New Home for the Writers Collective

The Writers Collective has a new home, thanks to an exciting arrangement with the University of Winnipeg. The Collective's new location at the University of Winnipeg campus on the 5th floor in the Library Archives space is the first step in building an effective and productive partnership.

"We are thrilled to be welcomed by the U of W," says Collective President Lori Broadfoot. "We'll be providing a broad range of programs and services to professional and developing writers, students—anyone interested in writing. What better place to be than a library? It's so writer-friendly."

The partnership, intended to increase accessibility and visibility of local authors' work, began with the donation of the Manitoba Authors Book Collection to the University Library. The library is, in turn, providing a space and offering a variety of services to the Collective. With a focus on outreach and education, the partnership is designed to provide new and exciting opportunities to both the writing and the University communities. "This is particularly true when it comes to students," says University librarian Mark Leggott. "The new services and partnerships will build on the creative environment the library provides."

This fall and winter a wide range of new services will be introduced, including a resource library and a consultant,



University Librarian Mark Leggott estimates that one to two-thirds of the Manitoba Authors Book Collection will be new to the Library.

available to students and the general public. Services that are available to members include workshops, writers' circles, and manuscript evaluation, as well as access to information about publishing and copyright.

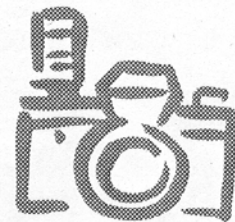
The University of Winnipeg and the Collective will be working together on a variety of projects including a writer-in-residence program on campus, a Coffee House Series, and a number of special events.

Printing With Improved Technology

The University is building on the success of the Image 2000 project and strengthening its partnership with Gold Business Machines. While the Image 2000 project focused primarily on the photocopying and network printing requirements of the University, the Printer Initiative will see the replacement of personal non-networked printers on campus. Under the terms of the lease agreement, this initiative will see the replacement of all University-owned personal laser printers, regardless of brand, model, age, print speed, or resolution, with the latest Kyocera Mita1800 and Aficio 2700 printers.

"This step forward is a quantum leap in terms of speed and resolution," says Doug Edge, Assistant Director of Client Technology Services in the Technology Solutions Centre. "We will see improved reliability, print speed, print quality, and resolution, while realizing total print cost reductions. Under the agreement, all printers will be replaced within this budget year." Gold will provide two support staff to serve the campus.

The new partnership will allow the University to retire the wide variety of rapidly aging printers, and deliver a consistent, improved level of print technology to all users.



Don't Forget

Just a reminder to visit the Duckworth Centre to have your photo taken for the photo directory. The deadline has been extended to Mon., Jan. 15, 2001.

You can drop in anytime between 12:30 and 3:30 p.m., or between 5:00 and 8:00 p.m. You don't need an appointment, but the Duckworth Centre staff recommend phoning ahead to make sure the camera is available to take your picture. The facility desk number is 9349.

Thank you for your cooperation!

COMING EVENTS

"Coming Events" is compiled by University Relations. Planning a campus event? Please let us know. Send **written** information to Paula Denbow (p.denbow@uwinnipeg.ca), University Relations, 10 working days in advance of the event. Basic details are required: what, when, where, sponsor, price of admission (if any), and the name of a contact person.

THURS., DEC. 14
• Reverend Timothy Njoya of Kenya will be visiting Winnipeg during his cross-Canada speaking tour. Menno Simons College is host to Reverend Njoya, recipient of The John Humphrey Freedom Award, presented to him by the International Centre for Human Rights and Democratic Development (based in Montreal). From the pulpit to the streets, Reverend Njoya has been calling for freedom from the political dictatorship of Kenya for almost two decades. He is also a very enthusiastic supporter of women's human rights, having established the Men for Equality with Women (MEW) lobby group. Reverend Njoya's fearlessness and outspokenness have led Ken-

yan authorities to accuse him of subversion. During pro-democracy gatherings in 1997 and 1999, Reverend Njoya was brutally beaten by police and hospitalized. Reverend Njoya will give a public talk at 7 p.m. in Room 3C01 (Centennial Hall, 3rd Floor).

SAT., DEC. 16 & SUN., DEC. 17

Festival-Global Stage presents *Beyond the Pale*, a new Klezmer/gypsy ensemble. Klezmer music, the instrumental folk music of Eastern European Jews, is at the heart of *Beyond the Pale*'s sound. The band is equally adept at traditional and contemporary interpretations of Klezmer's soul-wrenching melodies and exciting dance rhythms. The concert in Eck-

hardt-Gramatté Hall begins at 8 p.m. on Saturday and 12:30 p.m. on Sunday. \$23, \$21 (seniors), \$10 (students).

SAT., JAN. 6

Virtuosi Concerts presents pianist Lucille Chung. A top prize winner in many international piano competitions, she was recently awarded The Canada Council Virginia Parker Prize (1999) and the Governor General's Outstanding Achievement Award (1993). The concert begins at 8 p.m. in Eckhardt-Gramatté Hall. Tickets are \$23, \$21 for seniors and \$14 for students. Call 786-9000 to reserve seats.

MON., JAN. 8 & WED., JAN. 10

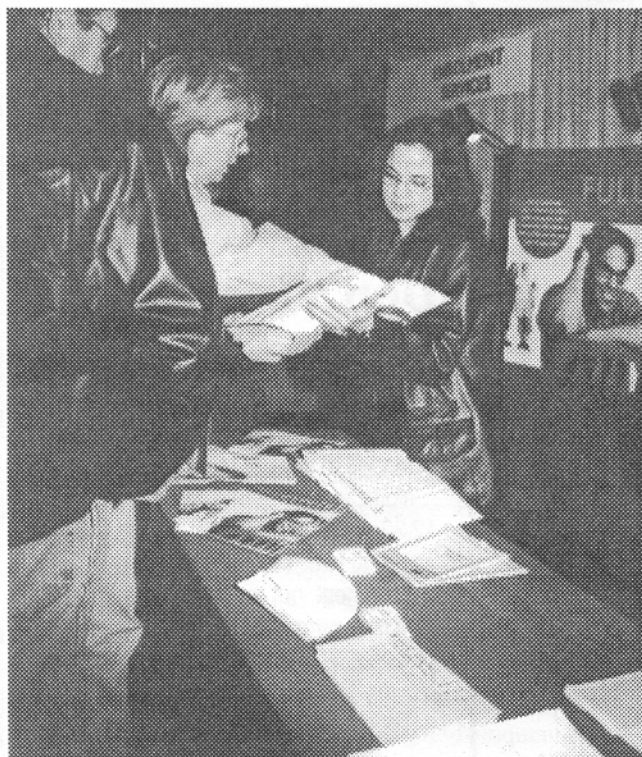
The **Agassiz Chamber Players** present The Agassiz Piano Trio. Sara Laimon (piano), Paul Marleyn (cello), and David Stewart (violin) will present works by Mozart, Debussy, Ginastera and Shostakovich. The Monday concert will begin at 12:30 p.m. in Eva Clare Hall at the University of Manitoba, and the Wednes-

day concert will begin at 8 p.m. in Eckhardt-Gramatté Hall. A pre-concert talk will be given by Kurt Markstrom of the University of Manitoba. Tickets are \$15, \$13 for seniors and \$5 for students. Call 786-9000 to reserve your seats.

THURS., JAN. 18

THROUGH SAT., FEB. 10

The new year at the Gallery will begin with **Cyborgs**, a solo exhibition by KC Adams. With the intention of merging two contrasting realities—nature and technology—Adams' sculptures and installations are inspired both by her fascination with today's high-tech environment and by her Metis heritage. The cyborg is a hybrid, crossing borders between the natural world and the humanly constructed world. Adams considers her cybernetic creations a conduit to exploring romantic perceptions applied to these two polarities. The artist will give a talk on Fri., Jan. 19 at 12:30 p.m. Call Jennifer Gibson at 9253 for more information.



Chantal Hutchinson, from Enrolment Services, greeted guests and answered parents' questions at Opportunity 2000. Approximately 350 parents and students came out to meet faculty and staff and to find out why the U of W gives first-year students the 'edge.'

SKYWALK CONCERTS & LECTURES

The Skywalk Concert and Lectures are held on Wednesdays and Thursdays from 12:15 to 12:45 p.m. at the Winnipeg Centennial Library's 2nd Floor Auditorium.