

August 2007

**Department of Agribusiness and Agricultural Economics  
Alumni Newsletter**

Dear Alumni and Friends,

**History Book**

The Faculty of Agricultural and Food Sciences has published a 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary History Book documenting the Faculty's significant events and notable people over the last 100 years. The 232-page softcover book is filled with great recollections of the life and times of students, alumni, faculty, research and the broader world during that period. It has loads of black and white photos, as well as 16 pages of color photos. **The closing pages of the book includes over 10,000 names of faculty and graduates.**

*"Times of their lives - milestones, memories and mischief"* is the title, and the book is priced at \$39.95, plus GST, with shipping and handling \$8.50. Note that S & H does not apply if you are able to collect the book from the Dean's Office, 256 Agriculture Building.

Copies may be ordered now from the Faculty by filling in the order form on the website <http://umanitoba.ca/faculties/afs/agcentennial/>. Enquiries may be made to phone 204-474-9435, or email: [agcentennial@umanitoba.ca](mailto:agcentennial@umanitoba.ca)

**AgCentennial 2006 Final Update**

The AgCentennial 2006 official banquet was held in conjunction with the School of Agriculture's **graduation banquet and ceremony on Friday, 4<sup>th</sup> May 2007**, to coincide with the convocation of the **100th graduating class of Diploma students.**

The bronze plaque commemorating the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the official opening of the Manitoba Agricultural College which was unveiled November 2006, by Dr. Michael Trevan, Dean, and Dr. Emöke Szathmáry, University President, will be permanently affixed in the Agriculture Building on the wall near the main front entrance.

**Recent seminars arranged from our Department:**

**Ryan Cardwell**, Assistant Professor, Department of Agribusiness and Agricultural Economics, "*Food Aid and the WTO: The Effects of Trade Rules on Food Aid Shipments*", February 21, 2007.

**Colin Carter**, Professor at University of California-Davis, "*Are US corn farmers a bunch of hosers? Canadian-US corn trade disputes*", March 2, 2007.

**Clem Ward**, Professor and Extension Economist at Oklahoma State University, “*U.S. Beef: Outlook and Long Term Implications of Ethanol*”, June 18, 2007.

**Hartley Furtan**, Professor at the University of Saskatchewan, “*Rent Seeking and the Common Agricultural Policy: Do Some Member Countries Free Ride?*” August 8, 2007.

**Recent M.Sc. graduates and research topics:**

Di Xiang - “*Chinese Consumer Preference for Genetically Modified Foods: a Structural Equation Modeling*” (Comprehensive option research paper, advisor - Renee Kim)

Eve Froehlich, “*An Investigation into the Willingness-to-Pay for Branded Fresh Beef Products in Canada*” (Thesis advisor - Jared Carlberg)

Joe Janzen - “*The Impact of Additional Safety Net Programming on the Value of Production Insurance*” (Thesis advisor - Jared Carlberg)

**Winnipeg Commodity Exchange**

Some years ago, the Winnipeg Commodity Exchange established a **Centennial Fund** to commemorate the Exchange's 100th anniversary activities. It was administered by the Board of Directors of the Exchange with the objectives of supporting and encouraging grain futures and grain marketing studies at major Canadian universities, and promoting analysis of commodity markets and major issues in Canadian grain marketing. Several M.Sc. students in our Department received the Fellowship which provided a substantial award.

In 2006, the WCE wound up the Centennial Fund, the balance of funds transferred to the University of Manitoba for the establishment of an endowment to provide an annual competitive award to an incoming M.Sc. student in the Department of Agribusiness and Agricultural Economics graduate program.

The **Winnipeg Commodity Exchange Graduate Fellowship** commemorates the key economic role played by the WCE in the commerce of Winnipeg and Canada, particularly the grains and oilseeds sector of Western Canada. The annual award provided from the funds transferred (which also attracted a matching grant from the Province of Manitoba) will enable the recipient to carry out research at the Master's level focusing on futures markets, risk management or commodity marketing in Canada.

The recipient will be given the title of **Winnipeg Commodity Exchange Fellow**. The first student honoured was **Karen Hodgson**, who entered the M.Sc. program in September 2006.

## **Graduate Studies:**

A Career Development Program for International Agribusiness and Agricultural Economics graduate students was started this year with the mentorship of Dr. Milton Boyd. The program was initiated to develop potential employment skills of international students by improving communication and/or writing skills, resume writing, presentations, understanding work place environments, building professionalism, etc. through regular meetings with employers and speakers invited to give employment and career seminars and advice to students. The CDPI also provides a forum to exchange information on career development.

## **Farewell to Dr. James Rude**

James Rude, who was with the Department for over five years, resigned effective June 30, 2007 to take up a position as Associate Professor with the Department of Rural Economy, University of Alberta, in Edmonton.

As well as teaching agricultural and food policy and introductory marketing at the undergraduate level, and graduate advanced marketing classes, he has mentored graduate students, is a member of the Canadian Agricultural Trade Policy Research Network, and has also developed an extensive research and publishing program.

James has been appointed an Adjunct Professor with the Department for a two year period, to June 30, 2009.

The Department wishes James well in his further career in Edmonton.

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An invitation is again extended to Alumni and Friends to contact us. Your comments are welcome; also, you may include any important announcements and we will consider them for publication in this online newsletter.

Please email your comments or news to: [John\\_Schoffner@umanitoba.ca](mailto:John_Schoffner@umanitoba.ca)

***Judy Powell, Editor***  
***Department Alumni Newsletter***