



## PRESIDENT'S PERSPECTIVE

KICK-OFF! FALL 2013

An exciting new era for intercollegiate sports at the University of Manitoba began on August 30 when our Bison men's football team kicked off its first season at Investors Group Field.

Our football team, under the leadership of Coach Brian Dobie, is now playing, training and learning in the best facility for intercollegiate football in Canada and one of the best stadiums in North America.

By all accounts, the thousands of fans who cheered the Bisons on to victory over the University of Alberta Golden Bears were impressed by the game day experience, which has improved the atmosphere for players, students, alumni, faculty, staff, family, friends and other fans. This past Saturday I attended the game that resulted in a heartbreaking loss to the Saskatchewan Huskies — and the excitement level in the stadium was incredibly high.

All of our student athletes deserve our enthusiastic support whether they play football or are part of a community of 300 student athletes who, along with 100 coaches, trainers and managers, are involved in eight intercollegiate sports.

They are exceptional people with bright futures ahead of them. They are incredibly skilled at balancing training time with academic demands. As many as one third of them are CIS academic all-stars, meaning they have an average of 3.5 or better.

They also take on important leadership roles in our university. This year, third-year linebacker Al Turnbull was elected as president of the University of Manitoba Students' Union and will serve as an important student voice in the governance of our university.

Former Bisons such as Thomas Hall have displayed a passion for helping others. Through Project Echo, Thomas raised money for Winnipeg libraries, sponsored a home for orphaned children in Namibia and delivered Christmas hampers to Winnipeg families. He received the CIS Russ Jackson Award in 2009 because of his activities on and off the field.

Through our Bisons Against Bullying program, our athletes serve as positive role models and conduct bullying prevention seminars at Manitoba schools. More than 100 schools have been visited since 2005.

I am pleased that Coach Dobie and his team now have facilities that are worthy of their passion and commitment that is part of our larger vision to transform the spaces on our campuses.

The stadium project fits into our larger vision to transform the spaces on our campuses.

Since 2008-09, we have invested \$614 million in spaces for learning, research, living and recreation. These projects help recruit students, attract and retain faculty and staff, improve our learning and working environment and help us better serve the broader community.

There are many more exciting projects to come.

The new 100,000 square foot Active Living Centre to be opened in 2015 will provide us a new home for active, sustainable, healthy living. It will house a high-performance training facility for elite athletes, a state-of-the-art indoor running track, a 12-meter climbing wall, an Applied Research Centre, a gathering area for students, strength and conditioning facilities and three group workout studios.

Phase Two of the Taché Arts Project will see the historic former residence transformed into a new home for culture and creativity on campus.

As is the case with Investors Group Field, the Active Living Centre and the Taché Arts Project will attract visitors to our Fort Garry Campus who otherwise may never have had cause to visit the University of Manitoba.

These projects are the result of the vision and hard work of our faculty and staff and are possible because of the generosity of our alumni, donors, partners and friends. They are also a significant factor in making the University of Manitoba an exciting place of learning, discovery and engagement.



Orientation 2013: The Fort Garry campus was abuzz with student-volunteers and new and returning students.

## Record-breaking enrolment marks new year

Student enrolment for the first day of classes at the U of M has broken another record. First day enrolment is 29,321, an increase of 1.8 per cent over last year's first day of classes record enrolment of 28,795.

"The continued increase in first day enrolment numbers is an indication that the University of Manitoba is the post-secondary institution of choice for students wanting to build better futures for themselves and their communities," says David Barnard, President and Vice-Chancellor.

Full-time enrolment increased from 23,994 students to 24,541 students, while part-time enrolment dipped slightly, from 4,801 to 4,780. Undergraduate enrolment increased by 1.1 per cent, from 24,948 students in fall term 2012 to 25,225 students in fall term 2013.

Graduate enrolment increased very significantly, by 5.1 per cent, from 3,302 students to 3,469 students this year. This bodes well for Manitoba, since graduate students are an important part of the intellectual engine of our province, working with faculty to drive innovation and challenge our assumptions about the critical issues facing society. The majority of graduate students at the U of M remain in Manitoba following graduation, making this one of the province's best retention programs for scientists, doctors, jurists, artists, entrepreneurs and critical thinkers.

"I am very pleased to see such a significant rise in graduate enrolment. This increases the 'workforce' of researchers and critical thinkers at the University of Manitoba, and moves the university closer to achieving its strategic enrolment management planning objectives, said John (Jay) Doering, dean, Faculty of Graduate Studies.

International enrolment increased 17.1 per cent, from 3,203 students in fall term 2012 to 3,750 students in fall term 2013. Both undergraduate and graduate international enrolment showed strong

increases, increasing 18.5 per cent and 13.6 per cent respectively. International students now make up 11.2 per cent of undergraduate students and 24.8 per cent of graduate students. International students enrolled in undergraduate and graduate programs make significant contributions to the diversity of the U of M and broaden the learning environment for all students.

Credit hours have increased 0.5 per cent, from 286,804 in fall term 2012 to 288,232 in fall term 2013. Distance and Online Education credit hours were part of the increase, climbing 6.6 per cent from 21,423 credit hours to 22,828 credit hours.

The largest increase in enrolment this fall is in the Faculty of Agricultural and Food Sciences, which saw a remarkable 23.7 per cent increase in fall 2013 first day enrolment from that of fall 2012. Arts enrolment is up 11 per cent and Science is up 13.4 per cent.

Mark Whitmore, dean, Faculty of Science says, "I am delighted that the number of Faculty of Science majors has increased dramatically in recent years, including a jump of approximately 23 per cent in the past two years alone. In fact, over the past decade, the number of full-time majors in the faculty has risen a staggering 69 per cent, and Science now has the largest contingent of full-time majors at the University of Manitoba."

He adds, "Our graduate student numbers are also rising steadily. I take enormous pride in our hard-working faculty and staff, and in our great students who choose to avail themselves of the excellent programs and opportunities we provide them."

The 29,321 students enrolled at the U of M this fall represent about three quarters of Manitoba's full-time-equivalent university students, and about half of the province's post-secondary students overall.

## The Bulletin

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### EVENTS

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