

INITIATIVES

2016 Innovation Place ILO Award of Innovation

Winners Announced

- **Khan Wahid**, associate professor in the College of Engineering, who has improved the technology for taking pictures inside the human gut has won the *2016 Innovation Place Industry Liaison Office (ILO) Award of Innovation*. Wahid has made significant innovations in video and image processing and biomedical imaging systems, specifically wireless endoscopy capsules. The “camera pills” are roughly the size and shape of an oversized vitamin capsule and are swallowed by patients suspected of having some form of gastrointestinal disorder or disease. The patented image compression technology allows much more efficient capture and processing of images. This decreases the workload of the capsule’s computer chip, allowing more and better images. Wahid is now testing the technology in animals with collaborators at the Western College of Veterinary Medicine, both as a test bed for human use and to potentially fill the need for veterinarians.
- **Bob Bors**, assistant professor in the Plant Sciences department in the College of Agriculture and Bioresources, was named *runner-up for this years’ award*. As head of the Fruit Breeding program, Dr. Bors developed the “*world’s largest collection of haskap germplasm*”. He was the first to demonstrate the berries and bushes could be bred for mechanical harvesting and the newest varieties currently produce berries three times larger than what Dr. Bors started with. Haskaps are a valuable nutraceutical product due to their high levels of antioxidants, vitamins and flavonoid and can be used to make wine without sugar due to the berry’s natural sweetness.

The Award of Innovation celebrates U of S researchers who have brought new and commercially viable technology to the ILO for development into marketable products. It is open to all U of S employees and students. The winner receives \$5,000 and a photo on the “Award of Innovation” wall at the ILO.

2016 Images of Research Winners Announced

The U of S launched its second annual Images of Research competition this spring to showcase the diverse research taking place on campus and beyond. U of S students, staff, faculty and alumni were invited to submit visual depictions and brief descriptions of their research, scholarly or artistic work. Nearly 100 submissions were received this year, ranging from traditional photographs to abstract images generated by devices such as the Canadian Light Source synchrotron. Multidisciplinary judging panels selected winning entries in five categories along with one grand prize image. Two viewers’ choice prizes were chosen by members of the public. More than 5,000 viewers from over 40 countries visited the online image gallery and took part in the public vote. To view all of the winning 2016 Images of Research, visit: <http://goo.gl/p2n3Ji>

REPUTATIONAL SUCCESSES

Heavin and Keet Received

Charles D. Gonthier Research Fellowship

On May 6, the Canadian Institute for the Administration of Justice (CIAJ) announced that **Heather Heavin**, Associate Dean, Research and Graduate Studies and **Michaela Keet**, Associate Professor at the College of Law, were the co-recipients of the 2016 Charles D. Gonthier Research Fellowship for their research project entitled "*Risk Analysis: A Methodological Approach to Early Case Assessment in Litigation and Settlement.*" For more information, visit: <http://goo.gl/L99IH8>

Buhler Received Law Foundation Fellowship

Sarah Buhler received a Law Foundation Fellowship in the amount of \$10,000 for a project on "*Clinical Legal Education and Access to Justice for Marginalized Tenants.*"

FUNDING SUCCESSES

CIHR Planning and Dissemination

Colleen Dell (Department of Sociology) has received \$9,918 for the project "*Treating Addiction with Animal Assisted Interventions.*"

CIHR SPOR Networks in Chronic Disease

Krista Baerg (Department of Pediatrics) is a Co-Investigator on the *Chronic Pain Network*, which is led Dr. David Buckley from McMaster University. The overall project will receive \$12,450,000 over five years. Dr. Baerg will receive matching funding from SHRF (\$125,000), Children's Hospital Foundation of Saskatchewan (\$50,000) and the College of Medicine (\$75,000).

Resources and Sustainable Development in the Arctic (ReSDA)

Greg Poelzer (International Centre for Northern Governance and Development) received \$10,000 for the project "*Creating Sovereign Wealth Funds for Aboriginal and Northern Local Communities.*"

Mitacs Accelerate

Eleven U of S researchers have recently secured research funding through Mitacs Accelerate:

- ❖ **S.L. (Lee) Barbour** (Department of Civil and Geological Engineering) received \$15,000.00 for "*Real time Monitoring of Water content in Reclaimed Mine Waste using Cone Penetration - Time Domain Reflectometry*" with additional support being provided by O'Kane Consultants.
- ❖ **Denise Beaulieu** (Department of Animal and Poultry Science) received \$106,666.64 for the project "*Examination of Key Nutrition, Health, Environmental, and Welfare Issues in Swine to Improve Sustainability and Societal Acceptance of Pork Production*" with additional support being provided by the Saskatchewan Pork Development Board.
- ❖ **Jennifer Brown** (Department of Animal and Poultry Science) received \$53,333.32 for the project "*Examination of Key Nutrition, Health, Environmental, and Welfare Issues in Swine to Improve Sustainability and Societal Acceptance of Pork Production*" with additional support being provided by the Saskatchewan Pork Development Board.

- ❖ **Ian Burgess** (Department of Chemistry) received \$15,000.00 for *“Mitigation of Concrete Corrosion in Potash Mine and Milling”* with additional support being provided by the International Minerals Innovation Institute.
- ❖ **Won Jae Chang** (Department of Civil and Geological Engineering) received \$15,000.00 for *“Enhancing the Abiotic and Biotic Oxidation of Manganese for Cold Groundwater Biofiltration”* with additional support being provided by Delco Automation Inc.
- ❖ **Kenneth Coates** (International Centre for Northern Governance and Development) received \$160,000.00 for *“By the North with the North: Community Building in Northern Saskatchewan”* with additional support being provided by Cameco Corporation.
- ❖ **Ajay Dalai** (Department of Chemical and Biological Engineering) received \$15,000.00 for *“Gasification of Novel Moisture-Resistant Fuel Pellets to Synthesis Gas and Comparison of their Performance to those with Commercial Power”* with additional support being provided by BiofuelTech Inc.
- ❖ **Richard Gray** (Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics) received \$15,000.00 for *“An Analysis of Flax Breeding Programs in Western Canada”* with additional support being provided by the Saskatchewan Flax Development Commission.
- ❖ **Andrew Grosvenor** (Department of Chemistry) received \$15,000.00 for *“Mitigation of Concrete Corrosion in Potash Mine and Milling”* with additional support being provided by the International Minerals Innovation Institute.
- ❖ **Scott Noble** (Department of Mechanical Engineering) received \$30,000.00 for *“Minimum Velocity, Pressure-Balanced Flow Control in a Multi-Primary System”* with additional support being provided by CNH Canada Ltd.
- ❖ **Bernardo Predicala** (Department of Chemical and Biological Engineering) received \$13,333.33 for the project *“Examination of Key Nutrition, Health, Environmental, and Welfare*

Issues in Swine to Improve Sustainability and Societal Acceptance of Pork Production” with additional support being provided by the Saskatchewan Pork Development Board.

Contract Funding Secured

Fourteen U of S researchers have recently secured research funding through contracts with partners:

- ❖ **Gregg Adams** (Department of Veterinary Biomedical Sciences) has received a total of \$172,252 from the Alberta Livestock and Meat Agency Ltd and Alberta Milk for the project *“Aromatase Inhibitors: A New Approach for Improving Reproductive Performance in Dairy Cattle.”*
- ❖ **Sabine Banniza** (Crop Development Centre) has received \$308,360 from the Saskatchewan Pulse Crop Development Board for the project *“Marker-assisted Selection for Aphanomyces Resistance in Pea for Rapid Development of Adapted Pea Varieties with Improved Aphanomyces Resistance.”*
- ❖ **Aaron Beattie** (Crop Development Centre) has received a total of \$364,167 from the Western Grains Research Foundation and the Saskatchewan Barley Development Commission for the project *“FHB Screening of CDC Barley Selections, 2016-2020.”* The project is co-funded by the Saskatchewan Ministry of Agriculture under the ADF program.
- ❖ **Kirstin Bett** (Department of Plant Sciences) has received \$1,379,417 for the project *“Application of genomics to Innovation in the Lentil Economy (AGILE).”* The funds are originally provided by the Western Grains Research Foundation and transferred to Dr. Bett’s project through Genome Prairie.
- ❖ **Susan Detmer** (Department of Veterinary Pathology) has received \$105,000 from the Alberta Livestock and Meat Agency Ltd for the project *“Surveillance and Characterization of Influenza A Viruses from Western Canadian Swine.”*

- ❖ **Susantha Gomis** (Department of Veterinary Pathology) has received \$230,000 from the Alberta Livestock and Meat Agency Ltd. for the project *“Control of Variant BDV Infections in the Broiler Chicken Industry in Canada.”*
- ❖ **Warren Helgason** (Department of Civil and Geological Engineering) has received \$114,250 for the project *“Evaporation Field Study for Prairie Provinces Water Board.”* The funding is provided by the Saskatchewan Water Security Agency on behalf of the Prairie Provinces Water Board.
- ❖ **Matt Lindsay** (Department of Geological Sciences) has received \$283,663 from Syncrude Canada for the project *“Geochemical Potential of Site Materials.”*
- ❖ **Andrew Potter** (Vaccine and Infectious Disease Organization) has received \$325,000 from Genome Prairie for the project *“Reverse Vaccinology Approach for the Prevention of Mycobacterial Disease in Cattle.”*
- ❖ **Curtis Pozniak** (Crop Development Centre) has received \$1,707,992 for the project *“Canadian Triticum Applied Genomics (CTAG2).”* The funds are originally provided by the Western Grains Research Foundation and transferred to Dr. Pozniak’s project through Genome Prairie.
- ❖ **Elimir Simko** (Department of Veterinary Pathology) has received a total of \$220,800 from the Western Grains Research Foundation and the Saskatchewan Canola Development Commission for the project *“Toxicopathological Determination of Safe Dose Ranges of Neonicotinoids for Honey Bee Colonies.”*
- ❖ **Bert Vandenberg** (Crop Development Centre) has received \$359,375 from the Western Grains Research Foundation for the project *“Faba Beans for the Future – N-telligent Farming.”* The project is co-funded by the Saskatchewan Ministry of Agriculture under the ADF program.
- ❖ **Tom Warkentin** (Crop Development Centre) has received \$175,880 from the Western Grains Research Foundation for the project *“Marker-Assisted Introgression of Useful New Diversity into the Pea Genome for Rapid Cultivar Improvement.”* The project is co-funded by the Saskatchewan Ministry of Agriculture under the ADF program.
- ❖ **Peiqiang Yu** (Animal and Poultry Science) has received \$245,690 from the Saskatchewan Pulse Crop Development Board for the project *“Salvage values of damaged faba forage and faba bean in ruminant livestock systems.”*

PARTNERSHIPS

International Delegations Supported

Inbound:

- ❖ **Confucius Institute Headquarters (CIH) – Hanban, China** delegation visited U of S on May 1 – 2. The delegates included Mr. Yongli Wang, Deputy Chief Executive, CIH and Executive Deputy Director General, Hanban; Ms. Shifang Ren, Deputy Director of the Division of American and Oceanian Confucius Institutes, CIH; Mr. Songming Qu, Senior Program Officer of the Division of American and Oceanian Confucius Institutes, CIH; and Ms. Xiaobin Li, Program Officer of the Division of American and Oceanian Confucius Institutes, CIH.

The group was hosted to a welcome dinner reception by Dr. Karen Chad, Vice-President Research. They visited the U of S Confucius Institute and met with the Board of Directors and Management Committee, followed by a meeting with U of S President Peter Stoicheff.

- **Trans-Atlantic Science Student Exchange Program (TASSEP), Europe** delegation visited U of S on May 4. Delegates included Dr. Hans Uffe Sperling-Petersen from Aarhus University in Denmark, outgoing TASSEP leader, and Dr. Anne-Lise Poquet Dhimane from the Université Pierre et Marie Curie in France, incoming TASSEP leader. The U of S has an exchange agreement with TASSEP. The delegates met with representatives from the International Students and Study Abroad Centre, the International Office, and the College of Arts and Science.
- **University of York, UK** delegation visited U of S on May 6. The delegates included Hilary Layton, Director Internationalization; Professor Ian Graham, Head Biology; Professor Sue Hartley, Director of York Environment and Sustainability Institute; and Professor Alistair Boxall, Environment Department. The group met with various representatives from the Global Institute for Food Security (GIFS) and Dr. Graham gave a presentation on “molecular breeding of medicinal crops and discoveries along the way”.
- **University of Lagos, Nigeria** delegation visited the U of S from May 11 – 13. The delegates included President (Vice-Chancellor) Rahmon Ade Bello; Professor Akindede Babatunde Oyeboode, Chairman, Office of International Relations, Prospects and Partnerships, and Professor of Law; Professor Solomon Oladele Akinboye, Dean, School of Postgraduate Studies, and Professor of Political Sciences; Professor Samuel Iyiola Oni, Dean, Faculty of Social Sciences, and Professor of Geography; and Professor Olufunlayo Olaotan Bammeke, Acting Head, Department of Sociology. The group toured the Canadian Light Source (CLS), and had a formal luncheon with senior U of S administration. A special ceremony was held for the signing of a new MOU.
- **University of Greifswald, Germany** delegate visited U of S on May 26 – 27. The delegate was Katharina Schmitt, Director of the International Office. Ms. Schmitt met with representatives from

the International Office (IO) and the International Students and Study Abroad Centre (ISSAC) to discuss the current exchange agreement.

Ms. Schmitt presented and information session to students about the University of Greifswald. Meetings were also held with representatives from the College of Arts and Science, St. Thomas More Modern Language Department, and Saskatchewan Population Health and Evaluation Research Unit (SPHERU).

- **Ghent University, Belgium** delegate visited U of S on May 31. The delegate was Ms. Ann Van Hauwaert, International Office/International Training Center, and Faculty of Bioscience Engineering. Ms. Van Hauwaert toured campus and the CLS, then met with representatives from GIFS, ISSAC, IO and the College of Graduate Studies and Research, to discuss future collaborations.

International Agreements Signed

Training Agreement:

Ghana Ministry of Food and Agriculture, Ghana
– Training of Extension Agents

Student Exchange Agreements:

University of Lapland, Finland – Undergraduate student exchange – College of Law

Universidad Nacional de Colombia – Undergraduate student exchange – university wide

Baden-Wuerttemberg Cooperative State

University, Germany – Undergraduate student exchange – Edwards School of Business

Cooperation Agreements:

K.S. Rangasamy College of Technology, India – two MOU agreements were signed with K.S.R., one with the U of S alone and one with the U of S, POS Bio-Sciences, and the Saskatchewan Food Industry Development Centre

Universidad del Valle, Colombia

Universidade de São Paulo, Brazi

Flagship Partnership Agreements – a strategic partnership that will build on the strengths of the Parties and contribute to the realization of their respective institutional priorities and goals:

Huazhong Agricultural University, China
Xi'an Jiaotong University, China

International Research Success

- **Janet Okoko** (College of Education, Department of Educational Administration), is leading an international collaborative team including researchers in Kenya as well as Laurie Hellsten, Amin Mousavi, and Dawn Wallin from the College of Education. Dr. Okoko was awarded \$120,000 from the World University Service of Canada for the project *“Operations Research of Gender Responsive Pedagogy: Kenya Equity in Education Project.”* The Kenya Equity in Education Project is supported by UKAID through the Girls Education Challenge Fund, Kenya.
- **Lee Wilson** (College of Arts and Science, Department of Chemistry) received \$5,000 through Mitacs Globalink Research Award program for Master of Science student Michael Kojo Danquah for the project *“Cyclodextrin-based ordered polymeric frameworks and investigation of their gas uptake properties and applications”* under the co-supervision of Bo Wang at Beijing Institute of Technology, China.