Beijing Institute of Technology Dual Degree Program

On May 24, 2013 Hu Haiyan, President of Beijing Institute of Technology (BIT) and Ilene Busch-Vishniac, President of the University of Saskatchewan, signed the Academic Agreement between Beijing Institute of Technology, China and University of Saskatchewan, Canada creating Dual Undergraduate Degree Programs in Economics.

Under our new agreement, undergraduate students at BIT who have completed their first two years of studies in Economics in the School of Humanities and Social Sciences are eligible to complete their 3rd and 4th years at the U of S.

BIT will recognize an equivalent number of credit units obtained in the third and fourth years of study at the U of S and will allow them to be transferred to BIT.

The U of S will recognize an equivalent number of credit units obtained in specified courses taken in the first and second years at BIT and allow them to be transferred to the undergraduate Economics or Business Economics degree programs in our College of Arts and Science.

If a student meets the degree requirements of both universities, the student will receive bachelor degrees from both universities.

The Department of Economics is looking forward to welcoming students from BIT beginning in September 2014.

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On April 12, 2013 the first Peter C. Dooley Legacy Award was presented. The Dooley Award is intended to recognize and celebrate champions of collegial self-governance and to ensure that the role Peter Dooley played as such a champion in making the USFA what it is today is not forgotten.

The Man and the Legacy

Peter Dooley was Chair of the USFA when it became a certified trade union in the 1970’s and he was intimately involved in writing our first Collective Agreement. His simple, yet revolutionary, view that the collegium is the primary decision-maker at a university is a central premise of the document.

This vision was not Peter’s alone. It was also the vision of others who signed the first Collective Agreement. These individuals created something that has been passed to us. We are stewards of this vision and, whether we realize it or not, much of what we do at the university every day is a result of that vision. The way we participate in decisions about hiring, about tenure, about promotion; these are all parts of the vision to engage faculty in key decisions at this University.

The Collective Agreement is an agreement between members of the USFA and the Board of Governors. It’s a living document that is regularly reviewed and revised.

Questions about collegial decision-making?
Please contact the USFA office: usfa@usaskfaculty.ca
Or 966.5609

The Collective Agreement is available at:
www.usaskfaculty.ca
www.usask.ca/hrd.employees
agreements.php

Over the years there have been many people who have been signatories on our Collective Agreement, on behalf of the USFA and the Board. These people, by signing those agreements continue to endorse the vision of Peter Dooley and agree that collegial decision-making is central and appropriate for our workplace. These people recognize that the collegium has the collective knowledge to make the best decisions and should be the major decision maker at the university.

At many universities around the country, major decisions are not made by faculty but rather by a small group of Administrators. As soon as that happens, individual members of the faculty feel less vested in the consequences of decisions and they are less engaged in process. Without input into key decisions, there is a tendency towards apathy and that is not in anyone’s best interest. An apathetic and disengaged collegium is not in the best interest of members of the USFA nor is it in the best interests of the Board of Governors of this university.

There are over 1100 members of the USFA. The collective knowledge of this group is unmatched in this province or elsewhere in the country. A truly insightful administration should engage those people in debate, active vigorous debate, to solve problems. A truly insightful administration should tap into the collective knowledge of over 1100 people to make key decisions to move this university forward.

Peter Dooley’s vision to include in our Collective Agreement and thereby make it a right to have members of the collegium engaged in key decision making was revolutionary in the 1970’s.....and it has served us well.

The Award

The USFA Member Development Committee is charged with oversight for the Peter C. Dooley Legacy Award. The Committee was directed by the USFA Executive to come up with Terms of Reference for the Award, to annually call for nominations and to decide on the recipient.

Peter left us with a great legacy and when we think of making this award we will, as was the case last year, consider what nominees have done to champion collegial decision-making and collegial self-governance and ask, “What is their legacy and is it deserving of the honor of this award?”

In 2013 there were two recipients of the Peter C. Dooley Award. One of the recipients made a cumulative contribution, and continues to contribute, to collegial decision-making. Don Hamilton has championed collegial governance for decades. He is an almost permanent fixture at University Council and stood with Peter to sign our first Collective Agreement.

But, as we recognize in the Dooley Award Terms of Reference, it doesn’t take a lifetime to become a champion or create a legacy. A legacy of collegial governance can be created by making a single major contribution that changes how people think. The other recipient of the Peter C. Dooley Legacy Award was a group of U of S faculty, Drs. Tom Wilson, Vern Bennett, Marcel D’eon and Claire Card. These four people engaged our community and put nearly 300 people in a room to discuss serious problems in the College of Medicine. An event that heralded the first time the General Academic Assembly has met quorum in decades, possibly the first time ever.

Terms of Reference for the Dooley Award can be found at http://www.usaskfaculty.ca/wp-content/uploads/2013/02/Peter-C-Dooley-Legacy-Award-Terms-of-Reference.pdf
Undergraduate Programs

Undergraduate Degrees — November 2013

Economics
3-Year Bachelor of Arts
S. Bian, J. Ho, A. Joshi, K.B. Okoh

4-Year Bachelor of Arts
K.S.A. Brien, J. B. Hamilton, B. Harvey,
B. C. Ma, K. Zhang

Business Economics
4-Year Bachelor of Arts
A. Binkhalaf, R. Ma, X. Mao

Post Degree Specialization
P.R.F. Andrews

“It had long since come to my attention that people of accomplishment rarely sat back and let things happen to them. They went out and happened to things.”

— Leonardo da Vinci
Graduate Programs

Graduate Degrees—October 2013

Master Of Arts

Nashiru ALHASSAN, Supervisor: Professor J Bruneau
Research Project: Effects of Labour Standards on Canadian Trade Performance

Luke ATAZONA, Supervisor: Professor J Bruneau
Research Project: Environmental regulations and Canadian Trade Performance

Joseph BOATENG, Supervisor: Professor J. Bruneau
Research Project: Canadian Trade and the Sofia Protocol

Man HU, Supervisor: Professor M. Chaban
Research Project: The Regime Dependent Relationship Between the Canada-US Exchange Rate and the Canadian Stock Market

Qi LIU, Supervisor: Professor J. Bruneau
Research Project: Quality of Institutions, Product Complexity and Extensive Margin of Trade

Hao TRAN, Supervisor: Professor J. Bruneau
Research Project: Business-Financed R&D verses Government-Financed R&D in OECD Countries

Qingyang WANG, Supervisor: Professor M. Chaban
Research Project: An Empirical Study on Real and Nominal Effects of Korean Monetary Shock

“Nothing builds self-esteem and self-confidence like accomplishment.”

— Thomas Carlyle
Lyndon Jacak

I completed my undergraduate studies in economics at the University of Calgary in 2011. My interactions with alumni from the program at the University of Saskatchewan as well as positive discussions with faculty members during the graduate school application process led me to choose this program over several others in Western Canada.

I cannot do the faculty at the University of Saskatchewan justice in these few paragraphs. Their guidance refined the basic economic knowledge that I accumulated as an undergraduate into a sharper more precise tool that serves me in my personal and professional life. The program is difficult; success requires rigorous studying and the development of a network of supportive peers. The small professor to student ratio helps to ensure success and benefits a deeper discussion of economic theory in class and more interaction outside of class.

The quality of the professors within the department, paired with the University’s support of interdisciplinary studies will facilitate the development of your chosen specialization within the science. Elective courses can be chosen from other graduate programs such as Agricultural Economics, Finance and Public Administration, tailoring the program to your career goals or future studies in a PhD program. My personal interest in exploring the application of computer programming to answering economic questions was made possible by hours of support and tutoring by my project supervisor Prof. Andreas Pollak.

Employment prospects after finishing the program were very bright with job offers and interviews with the federal and provincial governments as well as the Bank of Canada. Overall, whether your final goal is to advance to the PhD level or enter the job market, the time you invest in the University of Saskatchewan’s M.A. Economics program will provide a substantial return.

Beliz Acan Osman

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I was born and raised in Ankara, Turkey. My family and friends and everything I knew were there and at the time I had no intention of changing the status quo. During the 4th year of my undergraduate degree, through one of my professors, I learned about the M.A. program in Economics at the University of Saskatchewan. At first, I was not sure about pursuing my education in a country that is very far from home (5623 miles to be precise). However, after some research about the program, talking with the faculty members, and going over the curriculum, I was impressed with the quality of the program and it was not a difficult decision anymore.

My 2 years' experience in the program was challenging, rich and fun. Faculty members are incredibly helpful and their doors are always open to students for both academic and career advice. They make you feel at ease and always encourage you to do better and succeed. There are a wide variety of classes offered in the program. In addition to economics theory classes, a variety of elective classes are available, which allows students to customize their learning and shape their career paths accordingly. I have specialized in health and labor economics. After my graduation I worked at the Research Data Center for a year and later on started working on my current job as a Researcher at the Health Quality Council. In my job, I frequently utilize the skills from data analysis to research methods that I have gained throughout my M.A. degree. I learned to approach the problems with the perspective I gained throughout my studies and from the discussions with peers and faculty members. My writing and public speaking skills significantly improved with the help of the assignments and presentation opportunities in the classes.

Aside from the academics, I gained valuable friendships at the Economics department that I still cherish today. Collection of all the wonderful experiences provided me to build a future in Saskatoon, once the "far city", "hard decision" which has become "my home" and the "best decision".

Yao Yao

MA U of S (2008)
Manager, Market Research
Potash Corp

The Master program of Economics at U of S is interesting, challenging, demanding, rewarding, always learning and growing. Looking back those memorable days I am truly thankful for the personal growth I was able to achieve – it was just like a privileged journey of hard work, opportunities, and success. It provides you with so many opportunities to challenge yourself and explore different topics of the world business and economy. It gives you the confidence to expand your horizons.

What I enjoyed the most in this program were the people that I have interacted - I mean the very knowledgeable and desirable professors and the talented students. All one can ask is that they are allowed to reach their full potential and I believe the department of Economics will try the best to make sure that happens for every of their students."
Faculty News

Some Recent Research


Recent Travels

Joel Bruneau visited the Norwegian Arctic with MA students from Northern Governance program.

Visiting Scholar

- Li Junlin, School of Economics, Wuhan Textile University, September 2013—February 2014, Research Subject: Macro Tax Burden, Public Spending, and Economic Growth.
Seminars and Public Lectures

Recent Seminars


October 30, Johanna Goertz, University of Guelph, “Inefficient Committees: Small Elections with Three Alternatives”

November 5, M. Scott Taylor, University of Calgary, “Back to the Future of Green Powered Economics”

November 22, Nicole Fortin, University of British Columbia, “Leaving Boys Behind: Gender Disparities in High Academic Achievement”

Timlin Lecture in Economics, November 5, 2013

Professor M. Scott Taylor, Canada Research Chair in International, Energy and Environmental Economics, Department of Economics, The University of Calgary, presented the Timlin Lecture in Economics “Can Green Power Save Us From Climate Change”. The lecture, followed by question period and public reception, was topical and well attended.

Grad Student Orientation

September 6, 2013. We kick started the new academic year with our grad students & faculty get-together on the board of the beautiful Prairie Lilly cruising the South Saskatchewan River. The weather was cooperating. We enjoyed sun, good company, and several laughs. That was a great time! The next event is ice fishing in February! :) Stay tuned.
ALTMAN, Morris, Ph.D., (McGill)
BECK, R. Glen, Ph.D., (Alberta) (Emeritus)
BISHOPP, William, Ph.D., (Colorado) (Adjunct)
BOVING, Alfons, J.D., (U. of S.), M.A. (Western Ontario)
   (Co-ordinator of the Economics Internship Program)
BRUNEAU, Joel, Ph.D., (British Columbia)
CHABAN, Maxym, Ph.D., (Victoria), Graduate Program Chair
COGGINS, Shelley, M.A., (Queen’s) (STM)
CUSHMAN, David, Ph.D., (Vanderbilt) (Emeritus)
DOELL, Wendy, M.A. (U of S), M.B.A. (U. of S)
ECHEVARRIA, Cristina, Ph.D., (Minnesota)
FOLEY, Kelly, Ph.D., (UBC)
GILCHRIST, Donald, Ph.D., (Queen’s) (Department Head)
HOWE, Eric, Ph.D., (Maryland)
HUQ, Mobinul, Ph.D., (Western Ontario)
   (Undergraduate Chair)
KLIJMINA, Anna, Ph.D., (Manitoba) (STM)
LAL, Krishan, Dr. disc. pol., (W'haven-Göttingen) (Emeritus)
LUCAS, Robert F., Ph.D., (Brown)
MOSHIRI, Saaed, Ph.D., (Manitoba) (STM)
OLLEY, Robert E., Ph.D. (Queen’s) (Emeritus)
POLLAK, Andreas, Ph.D., (Freiburg)
ST. LOUIS, Larry, Ph.D., (Oregon)
SARI, Nazmi, Ph.D., (Boston), Graduate Admission Chair
ZHAO, Jingang, Ph.D., (Yale)

For a more complete list of publications, please see our department website: http://artsandscience.usask.ca/economics/research/facultyresearch.php

“Those who know, do. Those that understand, teach.”

— Aristotle