

## **The Council on Post-Secondary Education**

### **New Programs (2007-08)**

#### **Brandon University**

- ***Bachelor of Music – Program Expansion (\$162,234 over three years; \$122,200 in 2007/08)***

In response to increasing enrollments and ongoing demand, the Council approved funding for three faculty positions in Jazz Studies/Performance, Jazz Studies/Music Education, and Performance – Clarinet in Brandon University's Bachelor of Music Degree Program. In view of the demand for school music teachers in the province, especially throughout rural Manitoba where many graduates choose to work, it is expected that those enrolled in the music programs will benefit from the availability of full-time studio instruction in jazz and clarinet. Expansion of the program will build upon the School of Music's established track record and contribute to the musical and cultural vibrancy of the province.

- ***Bachelor of Arts (Four Year) – Four Year Minor in Drama***

The Council approved Brandon University's request to extend its Drama program to a fourth year thereby giving credit to students who continue to work on drama productions past their third year. Since drama is a teachable subject, students with the Four-Year Bachelor of Arts with a minor in drama will be well equipped to pursue an after degree Bachelor of Education program.

#### **University of Manitoba**

- ***Bachelor of Health Sciences and Bachelor of Health Studies – (\$110,000 over two years; \$64,200 in 2007/08)***

The Council approved two four-year interdisciplinary degree programs – the Bachelor of Health Sciences and Bachelor of Health Studies – combining social science courses with science courses to create a broad, comprehensive understanding among people working in health-related settings of the factors that affect health, the needs of clients and the delivery of health services. Both programs, administered by the Faculty of Human Ecology, provide a foundation for students who wish to enter professional programs and also offer another route for those to gain access to specialized programs for both health and social science fields. The programs also serve as a basis for careers in health care teams and community health management. Graduates are expected to work in a wide variety of agencies and businesses that plan or deliver health related services and products.

- ***Bachelor of Science in Geological Sciences (General) – no funds required***

This three-year General program in Geological Sciences, located within the Clayton H. Riddell, Faculty of Environment, Earth, and Resources, provides students with a basic understanding of the geological sciences discipline in combination with a degree of depth in a second subject area. While not intended for students who seek a career in the geosciences, the program will be of interest to those who wish to pursue the after-degree Bachelor of Education program, or other programs that require an undergraduate degree for admission. The program will also suit students attempting to qualify for a professional faculty, or those seeking a level of formal education for career advancement. The program fills a gap in the availability of a three-year general program for students who wish to have a concentration in the geological sciences without the need to complete the Major or Honours four-year program.

- ***Bachelor of Jazz Studies – no funds required***

This new four-year degree program in the Faculty of Music is designed to provide a broad and comprehensive study of jazz performance, composition and arranging and provides a strong pedagogical training in the field of jazz. Students in the program are required to pursue courses in Jazz Theory, Jazz History, Jazz Composition and Arranging as well as perform individually and in groups. As the first university in western Canada to offer this degree, the program is expected to attract graduating high school students who aspire to careers in the field of jazz, practicing professionals seeking further training, and students studying jazz outside the province. Graduates will be well suited to enter the field of jazz as a performer, composer, arranger, educator or any combination of these.

### **University of Winnipeg**

- ***Masters of Arts in Aboriginal Governance – (\$213,500 in total; \$191,400 in 2007/08)***

As the second of its kind in Canada, and the only one in the province, the Masters of Arts in Aboriginal Governance degree program provides students with a solid background in theory and practice regarding the distinctive political and legal environments of Aboriginal governance. Designed to provide a multi-disciplinary perspective grounded in understanding Aboriginal people's principles, values and philosophies, the program provides skills and training in promoting cross-cultural dialogue between Indigenous and non-Indigenous people. Learning an Indigenous language and involvement of Elders in course delivery are core parts of the program.

The program addresses a demonstrated need for skilled Aboriginal government leaders, managers, and public service officials in Aboriginal governments and organizations in Manitoba. Graduates are expected to find employment in Aboriginal governments, or with a variety of Aboriginal organizations and with federal, provincial and city governments working in areas such as law, politics, policy-making, management and office management. Graduates will also be well positioned to find employment in community-based organizations serving Aboriginal people in urban centres.

### **Other Strategic Programs Approved**

- ***Disability Services – (\$340,000 in ongoing funding)***

In view of the increasing numbers of students with disabilities attending post-secondary institutions and the increasing costs in the provision of services for students with disabilities, the Council approved the equivalent of one staff year position (\$85,000) dedicated to providing disability services at each of the four largest institutions:

- Brandon University
- The University of Manitoba
- The University of Winnipeg
- Red River College

The Council also approved the same funding allocation to Assiniboine Community College, Collège universitaire de Saint Boniface, and University College of the North for 2008/09.

### **Brandon University**

- ***Enhanced Academic Support Services for Off-Campus and Non-traditional Learners***

The Council approved Brandon University's request to extend enhanced services to off-campus and non-traditional students whose access to library, learning, and general advising services is limited by time, place and life circumstances. The enhanced academic support services will support student academic success, increase student retention, and make services and resources available electronically.

## **University of Manitoba**

- ***Diploma in Dental Hygiene (Program Expansion)***

In view of the rising demand for dental hygienists in Manitoba, the Council approved an expansion to the dental hygiene program increasing enrolment by 50%, thereby increasing the number of students enrolled from 26 to 40. In addition to an immediate shortfall of large numbers of dental hygienists, an urgent need exists for dental hygienists specialized in the treatment and prevention of periodontal disease. Additional graduates will help satisfy the needs of underserved population groups such as the elderly, First Nations populations, and those in long term care facilities that are currently not receiving dental care.

## **University of Winnipeg**

Due to limited funds, the Council approved in principle the following Masters programs at the University of Winnipeg.

- ***Masters of Science in Bioscience, Technology and Public Policy***

The two-year Masters of Science in Bioscience, Technology and Public Policy is a graduate degree program designed to train students in the advanced methods of science and ethics, science and public policy, and science within the broader context of global relations. Students are expected to learn critical skills of scientific literacy to enable them to communicate effectively with the general public and decision makers. The four educational objectives of the program are to 1) provide students with an applied education in methods of science, 2) educate students in methods of scientific literacy, 3) educate students on the relationship between science and community, and 4) educate students in methods of communicating science to policymakers and the general public.

Graduates will be expected to work in the emerging biotechnology and biomedical sectors, as well as in the federal and private sectors connected with research institutes, universities, regional health authorities, agro-technology and food industries, health science and environmental science sectors of the economy, public administration and in professional scientific and technical services. Significant opportunities for research and development in partnerships with the university sector, government and industry are also expected.

- ***Masters of Science in Applied Computer Science and Society***

The Masters of Science in Applied Computer Science and Society is a two-year graduate degree program with a focus on technical and ethical/human/social aspects of computing. The program includes four core clusters: Information

Representation, Search and Management, Intelligent Systems, and System Development and Social Issues. It will provide greater access, recruitment and retention of Manitoba undergraduates, and will be at the forefront of research in applied computer science.

With the program's strong focus on technical and soft skills, graduates will find employment opportunities in the Information and Communication Technologies sector. Courses related to the Internet, web technology, and global software project management will prepare students intellectually to meet the challenges in this sector. Graduates will be well-positioned for jobs in some of the fastest growing computer-related industries such as software publishing, Internet publishing and broadcasting, and Internet service providers, web search portals and data processing services.

- ***Masters of Arts in English with a Focus on Cultural Studies***

The Masters of Arts in English with a Focus on Cultural Studies degree program provides post-graduate training in interdisciplinary and contextual understanding of culture, focused in knowledge of English-language literature and texts. Five areas of programming include cultural theory; cultures of childhood, gender, sexualities, and culture; local, national, and global cultures; and manuscript, print and digital cultures. All areas are interrelated and are interdependent aspects of an understanding of literature and culture.

The program increases options for advanced study in Cultural Studies, thereby retaining graduate students for higher education in the province, as well as attracting those from outside Manitoba and internationally. Graduates will be prepared for jobs in education as secondary school teachers or as university professors. The program will also prepare graduates for careers in publishing, marketing and management, and for careers in communications and cultural industries.

## **System Restructuring Projects (2007-08)**

### **Brandon University**

- ***Disability Services Centre (\$65,000)***

Brandon University received funds for the purchase of specialized equipment and software to assist students with visual, hearing or learning disabilities to read, write, take notes, study and increase memory skills. Funding approval also included the purchase of furniture for the Disability Services Centre to comply with occupational health and safety standards.

### **University of Manitoba**

- ***Disability Services (\$67,600)***

The University of Manitoba received funds for space accommodations for test/exam invigilation, note-taking accommodations, adaptive technology, computer equipment including new hardware, software, office equipment, and staff professional development.

### **University of Winnipeg**

- ***Disability Services (\$55,800)***

The University of Winnipeg received funds to provide enhancements to computer facilities in the Disability Resource Centre and adaptive equipment and technology, as well as to targeted aspects of campus accessibility.

### **Assiniboine Community College**

- ***Assistive Technology Project – (\$90,600)***

Funds were approved for the Assistive Technology Project with an emphasis on supports for students with Attention Deficit Disorder and a range of Learning Disabilities. The three areas to be covered by the project are 1) purchases of assistive technology, both hardware and software, 2) purchases of training in assistive technology and related learning strategies to develop expertise so that future students and staff may be trained as needed, and 3) administrative support to create alternate formats for students using assistive technology and to secure exam services for students with disabilities.

### **Red River College**

- ***Enhanced Student Support Pilot Program (ESSP) – (\$42,000)***

Red River College received funds for staff, support/academic services, peer tutoring, diagnostic testing and external support services in relation to the Enhanced Student Support Pilot Program (ESSP). The ESSP is an early intervention program for at-risk incoming students, i.e., those with lower academic standing, designed to increase retention and graduation rates without reducing access. This two-phased research project will provide information as to whether automatic academic interventions with students with low entering grades can make a difference in their completion, graduation and success rates. It will also lead to development of new targeted strategies for the offering of enhanced academic support services on a permanent basis.

## **Other Council Funded Projects (2007/08)**

### **Brandon University**

- ***Campus Manitoba – (\$10,000, one-time only)***

The Council approved a one-time increase of \$10,000 to the Campus Manitoba base-line science subsidy of \$45,000 for a total funding amount of \$55,000 in 2007/08. The funding increase will enable Campus Manitoba to provide all students enrolled in science courses to utilize laboratory facilities located in rural communities.

### **University of Manitoba**

- ***Inner City Social Work ACCESS Program Expansion – (\$54,500 in ongoing funding)***

In order to meet the need for more Aboriginal Child Welfare workers, the Council approved funding to make permanent a double intake of the Inner City Social Work Program. The intake will increase from 20 to 40 students with expansion focused on the Aboriginal community.

- ***Interprofessional Education for Collaborative Patient Centred Practice – (\$34,000 one-time only)***

The Council approved one-time only bridge funding to maintain initiatives started under the Interprofessional Education for Collaborative Patient Centred Practice Program (IECPCP). The UM participates in the IECPCP Program as a means to promote an interdisciplinary approach to professional education in health-related fields, leading to improved learning outcomes and increased collaborative relationships between health care professionals both pre- and post-licensure. The IECPCP focuses on improving the quality of patient care through sharing information, and maximizing the strengths of each professional when working in a clinical environment. Research shows that the IECPCP has resulted in increased access to and efficiency of health care, improved outcomes for people with chronic diseases, improved patient safety, less tension and conflict among caregivers, lower staff turnover, job satisfaction, better use of clinical resources and cost savings.

A consortium of stakeholder groups from health and education plan to pursue a five-year initiative to advance Manitoba's commitment to the IECPCP, to develop, implement and evaluate learning opportunities for pre- and post-licensure health professional students, and to actively solicit stable funding to support IECPCP in Manitoba.