



Director's REPORT

to the
Management
Advisory
Board

Lou Hammond Ketilson, Director
Centre for the Study of Co-operatives

April 2012





The Centre for the Study of Co-operatives is an interdisciplinary teaching and research institution located on the University of Saskatchewan campus in Saskatoon. Contract partners in the co-operative sector include Credit Union Central of Saskatchewan, Federated Co-operatives Ltd., Concentra Financial, and The Co-operators.

The centre is also supported by the University of Saskatchewan. The university not only houses our offices but provides in-kind contributions from a number of departments and units — the School of Public Policy, the Edwards School of Business, and Sociology, among others — as well as financial assistance with operations and nonsalary expenditures.

We acknowledge with gratitude the ongoing support of all our sponsoring organizations.



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Overview and Highlights

▲ Of Special Note

We are proud to note that two Centre sponsors, Federated Co-operatives Limited and The Co-operators, have made the *Global 300 Report* of the world's top co-operatives compiled by the International Co-operative Alliance. And the Co-operatives Secretariat also named Federated, for the tenth consecutive year, as Canada's top nonfinancial co-operative.

▲ A Change in Directorship

We welcome back Lou Hammond Ketilson, who has indicated her willingness to serve again as director of the Centre. Lou has been on sabbatical for the past year, though she remained actively involved in the Centre, and resumed directorial duties 1 January 2012. We would like to thank Michael Gertler for keeping the Centre on track during his one-year term as acting director. Since Lou's return, Michael has taken up the duties of a new position at the Centre, the graduate chair.

▲ International Year of Co-operatives

Thousands of co-op and credit union members across Canada held events on Thursday, 12 January, to officially launch the United Nations International Year of Co-operatives. Thirteen regional events took place in Saskatchewan, including the provincial launch in Regina, which Michael and Audra attended. Other planned events include a province-wide co-op sector week of volunteering in May/June and a major conference sponsored by the Centre, the Saskatchewan Co-operative Association, and others titled "Co-operating to Build a Better West," which will take place in Saskatoon 1–3 November at the Hotel Radisson. Plans are well underway, with one keynote speaker already announced and others under investigation, a sponsorship package in preparation, and program development in progress.

▲ Building Community Exhibit

The reconfiguration of our large-format exhibit, *Building Community: Creating Social and Economic Well-Being*, is a major part of the Centre's contribution to celebrations for the International Year of Co-operatives. We have hired PhD student Maria Basualdo to co-ordinate the project. We have collaborated with community partners in Manitoba and Northern Ontario to reconfigure the large version into two, smaller travelling components that mirror the community development experiences in their regions. These smaller exhibits have already been launched in Manitoba and Northern Ontario and Centre personnel are in the process of developing a similar travelling format for Saskatchewan. As mentioned in the last Director's Report, the full version of the exhibit has already been on display in Melfort and there are plans to take it to Swift Current.

Manitoba's travelling exhibit was launched 11–13 January 2012 at the Provincial Legislature in Winnipeg as part of the celebrations for the International Year of Co-operatives. The exhibit is scheduled to visit several communities as well as co-operatives and annual general meetings in Manitoba during 2012.

The Northern Ontario exhibit was launched at the Sault Ste. Marie Public Library 13–16 March 2012. A workshop took place during that time and Community Economic and Social Development students from Algoma University toured the exhibit. Several communities have expressed an interest in the exhibit and Northern Ontario partners are seeking funding to assist with travel expenses to rural communities. It is expected that Algoma University will be the next site for the exhibit.

The Manitoba and Northern Ontario versions of the panels are available in both French and English. And Publications Officer Nora Russell has produced a brochure that includes all one hundred English panels accompanied by a French translation of the text.

At the national level, the large-format version of the exhibit will be on display during the Joint Congress of the Canadian Co-operative Association and the Conseil de la coopération canadien et mutualité in Montreal, 26–29 June 2012, and The Co-operators will host the exhibit in Guelph during Co-op Week in October.

▲ Social Economy Project Update

The final report for this massive project was submitted to our funder, the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada, on deadline at the end of February. Project administrator Heather Acton spent most of the past several months collecting the minutely detailed material that SSHRC reporting requires from researchers, students, and community partners. Office manager Patty Scheidl spent countless hours dealing with budgeting matters and is still in the process of finalizing the financial side of things. PI Lou Hammond Ketilson was ultimately responsible for winding the project down and completing the final report. There are still a number of project reports trickling in and many awaiting attention on Nora Russell's desk, but by-and-large, this project is done! It has defined much of the Centre's work for the past six years and left us with a large body of research and publications that should prove invaluable to researchers, co-operatives, and other community-based organizations. Overall, the project to date has resulted in 1 book, 12 book chapters, 26 refereed journal articles, 15 graduate theses, and 111 research reports.

▲ Impact of Co-operatives Research Update

Research is on-going on Measuring the Social, Environmental, and Economic Impact of Co-operatives in Canada, spear-headed by the Canadian Co-operative Association (CCA). The Centre is involved in two projects under this umbrella. Lou Hammond Ketilson and Visiting Scholar Jessica Gordon Nembhard have

partnered with Advantage and Affinity credit unions to study “The Impacts of Credit Unions on Communities in Saskatchewan and Manitoba: Measuring Member and Community Benefits and Asset Building from Credit Union Ownership.” The second draft of the survey of Affinity members is underway; there are plans to complete the pilot and administer the full survey by mid-May. The other project is examining “The Impact of Co-operative Housing on Household Income, Skills, and Social Capital.” Former Centre postdoc Catherine Leviten-Reid is partnered with Karla Skoutajan of the Co-operative Housing Federation of Canada, who has agreed to serve as the community co-chair. Catherine and Karla have developed a memorandum of understanding to guide their work on this sector over the next three years. This is a five-year, \$1 million SSHRC-funded project involving CCA, the Centre, Saint Mary’s University, the University of Victoria, and Mount Saint Vincent University, plus more than a dozen co-operative associations and credit unions.

▲ Other Research Update

- ▲ Lou and Michael’s project with Affinity Credit Union to examine the provision of financial services to immigrant communities is nearing completion; Affinity has the first draft of the report and Lou is working on the final version
- ▲ Murray Fulton and Michael Atkinson’s (School of Public Policy) examination of executive compensation in government offices, Crown corporations, universities, and co-operatives; ongoing
- ▲ Michael Gertler’s work with a variety of partners on “Houses and Communities: Learning from a Case Study of Co-operative Assisted Home Ownership in Saskatchewan”; ongoing
- ▲ Michael Gertler’s “Food Sovereignty in the Canadian Context: Issues, Initiatives, and Opportunities”; ongoing
- ▲ Catherine Leviten-Reid’s “Multistakeholder Governance in the Social Economy: Towards a New Framework for Research”; ongoing
- ▲ Catherine’s research on health services in Duck Lake in partnership with the Saskatoon Health Region and CUISR; ongoing

▲ Conferences, Workshops, and Meetings

- ▲ International Co-operative Alliance General Assembly, Cancun, Mexico, 14–18 November 2011; Lou attended and chaired a one-day research symposium titled Measuring Co-operative Performance and Impact, which she also organized
- ▲ Big Thinking lecture series, 8 December 2011, Parliament Hill, Ottawa: Lou presented
- ▲ Las Cooperativas en Canadá, the 11th Conference on Canadian Studies, University of Havana, Cuba, 20–23 February 2012; Michael attended and presented
- ▲ Promoting the Understanding of Co-operatives for a Better World conference, Venice, Italy, 13–16 March 2012; Lou attended and presented

- ▲ Growing Our Future: Making Sense of National Food Strategies conference, Ottawa, 5 April 2012; Murray will attend and present

▲ Seminars

- ▲ “The Boomerang Effect: How Quebec’s School Co-ops Are Training the Next Generation of Co-operators,” Jean-Emmanuel Bouchard, president, Fédération québécoise des coopératives en milieu scolaire, 25 January 2012
- ▲ “Making the Invisible Count: Gender Equity in a Fair Trade Coffee Co-operative in Nicaragua,” Jannie Wing-Sea Leung, MSc, Department of Community Health and Epidemiology, U of S, 16 February 2012
- ▲ “Co-operative Solutions: How the Fair Trade and Organic Coffee Markets Support Forested Ecosystems on Nicaraguan Coffee Farms,” Michael Zelmer, communications director, Fair Trade Canada, 22 March 2012
- ▲ “Forestry Co-operatives: A Community-Based Approach to an Emerging Bio-Economy,” Hayley Hesseln, Department of Bioresource Policy, Business and Economics, U of S, 26 April 2012

▲ Publications

- ▲ the Centre is co-publishing long-time co-operator Harold Chapman’s memoirs titled *Sharing My Life: Building the Co-operative Movement*; it will be out this spring
- ▲ “Community Survival: Co-operative Solutions for Local Economies,” accepted for publication by UBC Press, is in the revise-and-resubmit mode; Nora has addressed reviewers’ recommendations with individual authors and is awaiting their responses
- ▲ “*A Place to Learn, Work, and Heal*”: *An Evaluation of Crocus Co-operative*, LLL final report; printed and posted
- ▲ with Greg Marchildon, School of Public Policy (Regina), Catherine is working on a revised and expanded edition of Stan Rands’s *Privilege and Policy: A History of the Community Clinics in Saskatchewan*, forthcoming
- ▲ “A Co-operative Dilemma: Converting Organizational Form,” edited by Roger Herman and Jorge Sousa; Centre book; typeset, proofread; in negotiations with Heday Publishing for possible co-publication; it will be out this spring
- ▲ fourteen Social Economy reports await Nora’s attention

▲ Faculty/Scholar/Staff/Student News

- ▲ Michael stepped down as acting director 31 December; he became graduate chair, a new position at the Centre, in January 2012
- ▲ Lou returned from sabbatical and took up duties as Centre director 1 January 2012
- ▲ the School of Public Policy has nominated Lou for the university’s award for distinction in outreach and engagement
- ▲ Audra has been invited to serve on the management advisory committee for a proposed car share co-op on campus

- ▲ Murray, Nora, and Audra are on a committee researching the possibility of establishing a coffee co-operative in the Diefenbaker Building
 - ▲ student Alexa Ketilson joined us briefly to assist Heather with data entry for the final report on the Social Economy project to SSHRC
 - ▲ PhD candidate Monica Juarez Adeler has obtained a position as a full-time lecturer in the Faculty of Business and Economics at the University of Winnipeg
- ▲ Partners and Developments
- Mary Beckett, Herb Carlson, Ken Sherwin, and Karl Baumgardner will present verbal reports on the relevant activities of their organizations.

Teaching, Research, Publications, Presentations, Administration, and Outreach

Lou Hammond Ketilson

Lou returned from sabbatical 1 January 2012 and resumed her duties as director at the Centre.

▲ Graduate Supervision

Lou is supervising MA student Tsegi Chuluunbaatar (InterD Co-op Concentration) and is a committee member for Monica Juarez Adeler (InterD PhD, Co-op Concentration) and Douglas Akhimienmhonan (PhD, Department of Bioresource Policy, Business and Economics), as well as Zahra Rahmani Nooshabadi (MA, School of Public Policy). Lou is also committee chair for Rob Dobrohoczki, Maria Basualdo, Annette Johnson, Mike Chartier, and Patricia Elliot, all Centre PhD students in the Co-op Concentration.

▲ Research

- ▲ principal investigator for the Centre's Social Economy project, "Linking, Learning, Leveraging," jointly undertaken by the Centre and the Community-University Institute for Social Research in partnership with academics and community partners in Saskatchewan, Manitoba, and northern Ontario; final report submitted 29 February
- ▲ co-applicant on the Canadian Co-operative Association's five-year Community University Research Alliance (CURA) grant — Measuring the Social, Environmental, and Economic Impact of Co-operatives in Canada; academic lead for the Prairie Cluster

- ▲ as part of this grant, with Jessica Gordon Nembhard, partnered with Advantage and Affinity credit unions on a project titled “Impacts of Credit Unions on Communities in Saskatchewan and Manitoba: Measuring Member and Community Benefits and Asset Building from Credit Union Ownership”; working on second draft of survey of Affinity members; plans to complete pilot and administer full survey by mid-May
 - ▲ phase one of Lou’s project in partnership with Affinity Credit Union to examine the provision of financial services to the immigrant community is complete; draft report is complete and with Affinity
 - ▲ received \$24,000 from the Rural and Co-operatives Secretariat to develop a bilingual version of the Building Community exhibit, accompanied by workshops, and a tool-kit supporting community development through the mechanism of the exhibit and workshops combined —1 January – 31 March 2012
- ▲ Presentations
- ▲ “Building Resilient Communities: The Economic Impact of Credit Unions and Caisses Populaires in Canada,” presented to the Big Thinking lecture series, 8 Dec 2011, Parliament Hill, Ottawa, organized by the Canadian Federation of Humanities and Social Sciences. A video of the presentation is available on the Measuring the Co-operative Difference Research Network website and will soon be available on the Centre’s website.
 - ▲ “A Critical Assessment and Integration of Scholarly Views Regarding Old and New Roles for Co-operatives,” presented to Promoting the Understanding of Co-operatives for a Better World conference, Venice, Italy, 16 March 2012
- ▲ Publications
- ▲ “Partnering to Finance Enterprise Development within the Aboriginal Social Economy,” submitted to special edition of journal *Canadian Public Policy: Strengthening Communities through Government and Social Economy Partnerships*, edited by Jorge Sousa and Mike Toye, forthcoming
 - ▲ “Foreword” to “Sharing My Life: Building the Co-operative Movement” by Harold Chapman; published by Harold Chapman and the Centre, forthcoming 2012.
 - ▲ “First Nations Co-operatives in Canada: (Re)inventing Appropriate Forms of Enterprise,” in “Community Survival: Co-operative Co-operative Solutions for Local Economies,” UBC Press, forthcoming.
 - ▲ with Cornelius Christian and Maxim Gertler-Jaffe, “Providing Financial Services to Saskatchewan’s Immigrant Community,” study commissioned by Affinity Credit Union; first draft with Affinity; final draft in process
 - ▲ “Linking, Learning, Leveraging Social Enterprises, Knowledgeable Economies and Sustainable Communities,” final report submitted to the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada, 29 February 2012
 - ▲ with Jessica Gordon Nembhard and Pat Thomas, “Measuring the Impact of Credit Unions on Communities,” to be submitted to the *Annals of Public and Co-operative Economy*

- ▲ “Building Resilient Communities: The Economic Impact of Credit Unions and Caisses Populaires in Canada,” Centre occasional paper, forthcoming
 - ▲ editing the 2012 *Review of International Co-operation* published by the International Co-operative Alliance, based on papers from the ICA research conference in Mikkeli, Finland; forthcoming
 - ▲ with Gayle Broad, “Challenges in Mapping the Social Economy in Indigenous Communities in Canada,” for submission to special edition of Ciriec Canada journal *Économie et Solidarités* titled What Is the Future for the Co-operative and Solidarity Economy in Aboriginal Communities?
 - ▲ “Wealth Creation, Community Development, and Poverty Reduction” in “Co-operative Enterprise for Dummies: Why Co-operatives Are Important,” ed. Terry MacDonald, in process by the Global Co-operative Development Group, forthcoming from Wiley Publications
 - ▲ “A Critical Assessment and Integration of Scholarly Views Regarding Old and New Roles for Co-operatives,” presented to Promoting the Understanding of Co-operatives for a Better World conference, Venice, Italy, 16 March 2012; paper will appear in conference proceedings
 - ▲ final report of the Issues-Based Interdisciplinary Scholarship Working Group, will be submitted to the VP Research and VP Academic, then for circulation to all faculty; due for completion early April
 - ▲ “Understanding Co-operatives through Research,” Centre booklet, forthcoming
 - ▲ with Thibault Martin, co-editing a special edition of the Ciriec Canada journal, *Économie et Solidarités* titled What Is the Future for the Co-operative and Solidarity Economy in Aboriginal Communities?
- ▲ Outreach and Engagement
- ▲ in planning stage with Swift Current about mounting the Building Community exhibit there in 2012
 - ▲ also worked with Manitoba and Northern Ontario partners in preparations for the launch of their travelling versions of the exhibit
- ▲ Administration and Meetings
- ▲ as commitment leader for the Issues-Based Interdisciplinary Scholarship priority of the U of S’s *Second Integrated Plan 2008–12*, working on completion of the Working Group’s final report for April
 - ▲ as PI of Linking, Learning, Leveraging project and director of Northern Ontario, Manitoba, and Saskatchewan Social Economy Research Network: convened and chaired the final meeting of the management board, 10–11 February in Saskatoon; completed and submitted the final report to SSHRC
 - ▲ as member of the steering committee on Setting a National Co-operative Research Agenda, conference calls in November and January; this project is now complete
 - ▲ as a member of the management board for Measuring the Co-operative Difference Research Network, conference call in January

- ▲ as member of National International Year of Co-operatives 2012 Committee, attended in-person meeting in Ottawa, 2 February
- ▲ as member of Steering Committee for Impact! The Co-operators Youth and Sustainability Programme, attended steering committee meeting in Guelph, 10 January
- ▲ as chair of International Co-operative Alliance’s Committee on Co-operative Research
 - ▶ met with governance committee of the ICA board of directors to discuss the Committee on Co-operative Research strategic plan, Cancun, Mexico, 13 November 2011
 - ▶ organized a one-day research symposium entitled “Measuring the Performance and Impact of Co-operatives” in conjunction with the ICA General Assembly, Cancun, Mexico, 17 November
 - ▶ member of steering committee for international research conference titled Co-operating for Change in the International Year of Co-operatives, to be held in Montreal, 24–26 June 2012; event is a joint meeting of the ICA Committee on Co-operative Research, the Canadian Association for Studies in Co-operation, the Association of Co-operative Educators, the Interdisciplinary Research and Information Centre on Collective Enterprises, the Measuring the Co-operative Difference Network, and the Territorial Development and Co-operation network (the latter two are Community-University Research Alliances)

Michael Gertler

Michael concluded his term as acting director of the Centre and became graduate chair 1 January 2012.

▲ Teaching

Sociology 206.3: The Community
INTD 898.3: Co-operatives and International Development

▲ Graduate Supervision

Michael has on-going supervisory duties for one PhD student in the Co-operative Studies Concentration and one PhD student in the School of Environment and Sustainability. He is also on advisory committees for one InterD MA student and four InterD PhD students in the Co-op Concentration, and a committee member for one PhD student in Sociology.

▲ Research

- ▲ with Lou Hammond Ketilson, a project with Affinity Credit Union to examine its relationships with immigrant communities
- ▲ principal investigator, “Food Sovereignty in the Canadian Context: Issues, Initiatives and Opportunities”

- ▲ principal investigator, “Houses and Communities: Learning from a Case Study of Co-operative Assisted Home Ownership in Saskatchewan”
 - ▲ co-applicant on the Centre’s SSHRC project on the Social Economy and a collaborator on the Canadian Social Economy Hub, which promotes collaboration among the six regional Social Economy nodes across Canada; this project concluded in February 2012
- ▲ Presentations
- ▲ with J. Jaffe, “Blue Ocean Co-operation: Co-operative Advantages and Canadian Realities,” presented at “Las Cooperativas en Canadá,” the 11th Conference on Canadian Studies, University of Havana, Cuba, 20–23 February
- ▲ Administration/Professional/Outreach and Engagement
- ▲ acting director of the Centre, term concluded 31 December 2011
 - ▲ graduate chair, Interdisciplinary Studies Concentration in Co-operatives Studies, the Centre, 1 January 2012
 - ▲ University of Saskatchewan Faculty Association Representative for the Department of Sociology, January 2012–
 - ▲ external evaluator, faculty tenure application, University of Regina
 - ▲ reviewer for draft report, International Labour Organization Co-operative Branch, “Sustainable Energy Co-operatives,” review submitted December 2011
 - ▲ board member, Saskatchewan Co-operative Association, 2010–2012
 - ▲ resource person/advisor, Co-operative Issues Council, Enterprise Saskatchewan
 - ▲ associate member, School of Environment and Sustainability, 1 July 2008–
 - ▲ management board member, Community-University Institute for Social Research, U of S
 - ▲ member, Regional and Urban Planning Administrative Committee, College of Arts and Sciences
 - ▲ member, Canada-USA Relations Working Group, Division of Social Sciences, College of Arts Science
 - ▲ member, Department of Sociology Library Committee
 - ▲ member, Canadian Co-operative Association Ad Hoc Committee on Environmental Sustainability
 - ▲ member, Research Needs: Cooperatives, Social Enterprises, and Rural Civil Society discussion group, US Department of Agriculture
 - ▲ member, editorial board, *Journal of Co-operatives*, 2009–
 - ▲ representing the Centre on IYC 2012 Saskatchewan Planning Committee.
 - ▲ chair of the conference co-ordinating committee and the program committee, Co-operating to Build a Better West conference, 1–3 November 2012, Saskatoon

Brett Fairbairn

Most of Brett's time is devoted to his administrative responsibilities as University Provost and VP Academic, though he remains connected to the Centre and co-operative studies in a variety of roles.

▲ Graduate Supervision

Brett continues to supervise one PhD student: Mark McCulloch (History) "Women's Groups and Consumer Co-operatives in East Germany, 1949-71." He also serves on a number of other PhD and MA student advisory committees.

▲ Research

▲ co-investigator, "Strategic Research Network on Social Innovation, the Social Economy, and Civil Society," SSHRC funded

▲ Publications

- ▲ "Community Survival: Co-operative Solutions for Local Economies," Brett is the editor as well as author or co-author of 4 chapters in this book accepted for publication by UBC Press
- ▲ "A Shift in Values: Credit Union Expansion by Conversion of Bank Branches," in "A Co-operative Dilemma: Converting Organizational Form," ed. Roger Herman and Jorge Sousa, forthcoming Centre book

Murray Fulton

▲ Teaching

JSGS 892.3: Political Economy
BPBE 842.3: Industrial Organization of Agricultural Markets

▲ Graduate Supervision

Murray is supervising four PhD students, three of whom are working on co-op topics; he is also supervising three master's students, one of whom is working on a co-op topic.

▲ Research

- ▲ executive compensation in the public and co-op sectors, including Crowns, universities, government executive offices, and co-operatives; ongoing
- ▲ Centre's SSHRC project on the Social Economy; academic co-lead of the Governance Cluster; this project ended in February
- ▲ the role of producer associations in innovation activity, part of the Canadian Agricultural Innovation Research Network; ongoing

▲ Presentations

- ▲ “Agricultural Policy in the 21st Century: Motivation and Effectiveness,” presented to the Growing Our Future: Making Sense of National Food Strategies conference, Ottawa, 5 April 2012
- ▲ “Food Security: What Does It Mean for Canadian Food and Agricultural Policy?” at the same conference

▲ Administration

- ▲ graduate chair, Johnson-Shoyama Graduate School of Public Policy
- ▲ member of the College of Graduate Studies and Research executive committee

Nora Russell

▲ Writing, Editing, Design, Print Supervision

- ▲ “Community Survival: Co-operative Solutions for Local Economies,” Centre book accepted for publication by UBC Press; in the revise-and-resubmit phase
- ▲ “*A Place to Learn, Work, and Heal*”: *An Evaluation of Crocus Co-operative*, LLL final report; printed and posted
- ▲ *Rural Youth Research Internship*, LLL final report; with authors for revisions
- ▲ *Labour Market Study: A Community-Based Research Report for Mamaweswen, the North Shore Tribal Council, Naadmaadwuiik, and Saulteaux Enterprises, Aboriginal Human Resource Development Agreement Local Delivery Mechanisms*, LLL final report; with authors for revisions
- ▲ *A Co-operative Dilemma: Converting Organizational Form*, Centre book, ed. Jorge Sousa and Roger Herman; most of Nora’s time since the last report has been spent managing the process of preparing the final version of this manuscript for publication; this included both significant substantive and copy editing, design and layout, including recreating all the charts, figures, and tables, supervising proofreading, co-ordinating cover design, and obtaining printing quotes; we are presently in negotiations with Henday Publishing of Edmonton for a possible co-publication; we are also discussing the possibility of creating course packs from the case studies in the book
- ▲ *Community Survival: Co-operative Solutions for Local Economies*, book accepted by UBC Press: co-ordinated reviewers’ comments and recommendations to authors; re-read manuscript and gave detailed advice to individual authors on how to handle reviewer’s comments; awaiting authors’ revisions
- ▲ prepared announcement for Centre stakeholders detailing our plans for International Year of Co-operatives (IYC)
- ▲ wrote an article on IYC for *On Campus News*
- ▲ prepared announcement on Audra’s appointment for *On Campus News* and also to send out to our mailing lists
- ▲ prepared French versions of the Building Community exhibit panels chosen by

Northern Ontario and Manitoba for their travelling exhibitions; this involved replacing the English text on the original files and re-doing the layout to accommodate the longer French text

- ▲ designed and did layout of French version of all one hundred panels of the original exhibit to accompany the English version at national events as well as for posting to the Centre's website
- ▲ did preliminary editing and design for Lou's report to Affinity Credit Union examining the provision of financial services to immigrant communities
- ▲ the same for Lou's submission to the special edition of the journal *Canadian Public Policy*, edited by Jorge Sousa and Mike Toye
- ▲ researched and wrote core materials for Lou's nomination for the university's Distinction in Outreach and Engagement award
- ▲ edited the minutes of the last advisory board meeting
- ▲ co-ordinated, wrote, and did layout for this director's report

▲ Other Activities

- ▲ prepared seminar announcements
- ▲ assisted Canadian Co-operative Association in preparation of the inventory of co-operative research
- ▲ assisted with many details on the upcoming conference, Co-operating to Build a Better West, e.g., editing and design of initial announcement and sponsorship materials, design of letterhead, announcement of keynote speaker
- ▲ assisted in preparation of materials for CCA's newsletter

▲ Professional, Outreach, and Other

Like other Centre staff, Nora attends all Centre seminars and Co-op Week Luncheons. She also participated in the Centre Planning Retreat in February. And she is a member of the committee investigating the possibility of forming a coffee co-operative in the Diefenbaker Building. As a member of EAC Saskatchewan, a branch of the Editors' Association of Canada, she designed the posters and other promotional material for their spring workshops. Nora is a member of the Saskatchewan Publishers Group, which connects the Centre to other publishing organizations throughout the province, and she is the Centre's representative to the Saskatoon Co-op Network, a group that organizes lunch-time speakers on co-op topics throughout the year.

Heather Acton

▲ The Library

Materials signed out: 22

Materials returned: 12

Reference and research requests responded to: 34

Books catalogued: 2
New Borrowers Registered: 2
Online Catalogue Accesses: 127

▲ Events and Meetings

- ▲ 14 December — Co-op Network Luncheon
- ▲ January and February — training sessions for conference room equipment
- ▲ 25 January — Centre Seminar
- ▲ 7 February — Centre Planning Retreat
- ▲ 16 February — Fredeen Seminar
- ▲ 10–11 February — LLL Management Board Meetings

▲ The Websites and LLL Project

Almost all of Heather's time since the last reporting period has been devoted to preparing the final report for the LLL project to submit to SSHRC, for which Lou hit the "SUBMIT button" on 29 February. There was an overwhelming amount of work to be done in terms of gathering data, attaching SSHRC's very particular descriptors, and formatting. Heather was grateful for the assistance of Alexa Ketilson, a student hired to assist with the data entry.

There have been changes and updates to our websites, particularly in an effort to draw attention to International Year of Co-operative events at the Centre and elsewhere, and to the conference celebrating IYC this coming November.

Heather will now devote her time to work on the websites, clean-up of the Social Economy project now that it is formally completed, and some long-delayed attention to the library.

Below are general website statistics for the four-month period 1 November to 29 February 2011:

- ▲ Centre website: 5,594 visits from 117 countries
- ▲ LLL Social Economy Website: 1,757 visits from 83 countries
- ▲ Building Community Exhibit Website: 810 visits from 58 countries

The statistics are broken down in great detail not included here and Heather has noticed the following points of significance:

- ▲ On the Social Economy site, there is an increase in traffic to individual projects, including final reports, much more than to general information about the project. This is the reverse of previous statistics.
- ▲ Heather was stunned at the amount of traffic coming to the site from iPads compared to previous numbers. She also noticed an increase in traffic from other mobile technology, which means we must ensure that our website is compatible with those technologies.
- ▲ There is a significant amount of traffic coming to our Centre web pages that

are student focussed. There is considerable traffic to the bursaries and scholarships information, information for graduate students, undergraduate courses, current students, and the Student Portal in general.

Audra Krueger

▲ International Year of Co-operatives Activities

A large percentage of Audra's time is consumed by the duties associated with organizing the Co-operating to Build a Better West conference taking place in Saskatoon, 1–3 November. In addition to overseeing the overall organizational process, she is investing extra energies in the finance/budget and the logistics committees. Good progress has been made, including getting out initial announcements, preparing sponsorship packages, booking major venues, as well as confirming keynote speakers and other presenters.

She continued to organize the special seminar series celebrating the International Year of Co-operatives. Student co-operative leader from Quebec, Jean-Emmanuelle Bouchard, spoke to a diverse audience in January. In February, Fredeen Scholarship winner Jannie Leung presented her research on the relationship between fairtrade and gender. And the March seminar featured Michael Zelmer, from Fairtrade Canada, who spoke about his research on the environmental benefits of coffee co-operatives.

▲ Presentations, Workshops, Outreach Activities

- ▲ in November, Audra gave a presentation outlining the value of the co-operative model in childcare operations for the University's Task Force on Childcare
- ▲ in December, she attended the "Method to the Madness: Successfully Managing a Research Project" workshop hosted by the Saskatchewan Population Health Evaluation Research Unit
- ▲ in February, she attended the "Partnership Programs" workshop hosted by the College of Graduate Studies and Research
- ▲ Audra serves on the management advisory committee for a proposed car-share co-op; she has met with community members as well as with the university's offices of Sustainability and Transportation and Parking to discuss submitting a proposal for a car-share co-operative on campus; the advisory group has been invited to submit suggestions to the university to be included in the request for proposals; discussions with sector partners are also underway
- ▲ as part of the committee organizing a coffee co-operative in the Diefenbaker Building, Audra assisted in drafting a survey for distribution; results will help with measuring interest and the next steps in forming a co-op

Patty Scheidl

As office manager, Patty is responsible for the Centre's day-to-day operations and all financial matters including monitoring the main operating fund, maintaining the monthly financial statements and all research accounts, and processing all transactions on the university credit card.

Special financial responsibilities this quarter included:

- ▲ calculating contributions, issuing invoices, processing journal vouchers, and depositing sponsor dues for the third quarter
- ▲ preparing the electronic submission of the 2012–13 budget development information for the Centre's main operating fund
- ▲ reviewing and finalizing all the expenditures in the Social Economy project fund, including itemizing outstanding expenses and ensuring all invoices were submitted by the end of February
- ▲ ensuring all financial forms from all the participating universities in the Social Economy project were completed and submitted on time
- ▲ co-ordinating the submission of hours and payroll information for five student researchers and contract workers
- ▲ preparing and processing the service agreement for Eric Leviten-Reid's work on Michael's housing project; preparing paperwork to pay him
- ▲ co-ordinating the paperwork and payments for the contract with the Co-operatives Secretariat in support of the Ontario travelling exhibit
- ▲ co-ordinating the paperwork and payments for the contract with the Manitoba Promotions Board for the Manitoba travelling exhibit

Other responsibilities this quarter included:

- ▲ editing the minutes of the last board meeting
- ▲ attending a meeting to complete the annual on-line questionnaire associated with the university's Internal Controls for 2011
- ▲ attending the Internal Control Audit meeting that discussed the new policy regarding the approval of the Centre's financial statements
- ▲ co-ordinating a number of meetings: student advisory committee meetings; four meetings for Lou for a variety of purposes
- ▲ co-ordinating paperwork and details for the new display cabinets in the Centre hallway and ensuring the construction specifications were accurate
- ▲ working with the School of Public Policy in arranging space for more graduate students

On an ongoing basis, Patty is responsible for organizing the Management Advisory Board meetings. This includes identifying a suitable date, preparing the minutes and other agenda materials, arranging for printing, assembling the board packages and couriering them out ahead of time, getting parking passes, booking rooms, and ordering lunch.

Karen Neufeldt

Karen's regular duties as clerical assistant include the traditional activities of that position as well as extra activities as required.

Special activities this quarter included:

- ▲ transcribing the minutes of the November advisory board meeting
- ▲ checking in and routing journals; assisting with circulation and research questions for library patrons; reshelving returns; placing book orders
- ▲ assisting with research and data input for Heather for the Social Economy final report
- ▲ processing many sabbatical claims for Lou
- ▲ mailing out completed Social Economy reports and Centre publications to authors, community partners, and for legal deposit
- ▲ processing payments for Social Economy board meeting expenses
- ▲ processing journal vouchers for xerox billing to other departments
- ▲ assisting Patty with processing cheque requisitions, payroll for students, etc., for Social Economy final expenses before 29 February
- ▲ co-ordinating all the arrangements for the Centre Retreat held on 7 February
- ▲ sending out seminar series announcements for four seminars and co-ordinating all the arrangements for their occurrence
- ▲ co-ordinating decisions on IYC promotional materials and placing orders
- ▲ posting articles to the Centre blog; routing articles from email to faculty, staff, students, and scholars
- ▲ assisting Patty with the preparation and mailout of the Management Advisory Board packages
- ▲ making travel, accommodation, meeting, and conference registration arrangements for Centre faculty, staff, students, scholars, and other Centre associates; processing claims upon return:

The Students

Maria Basualdo, who works half time as the Centre's exhibit co-ordinator, is responsible for most of the work reported in the Highlights section of this report on the Building Community Exhibit. She has worked with partners in Northern Ontario, Manitoba, and Saskatchewan to prepare the travelling components for the individual regions, with the printer in Saskatoon co-ordinating the production of the panels, with shippers to send the panels to their respective regions, and with organizers in the three provinces helping to plan events. She and Lou have had meetings with prospective hosts in Saskatchewan and with groups intending to host the original version of the exhibit nationally. For more details, see the Highlights section of this report.

Maria is also one of the Centre's PhD students; she has completed her course work and is studying for her comprehensives. She has two publications in process:

- ▲ with Isobel Findlay and Clifford Ray, “The Ethics of Engagement: Learning with Aboriginal Co-operatives in Saskatchewan,” in a forthcoming book on community-based research by the Community-University Institute for Social Research and the Saskatchewan Population Health and Evaluation Research Unit, ed. Bonnie Jeffery, Isobel Findlay, Diane Martz, and Louise Clarke
- ▲ with Nicola Chopin and David McDine, “Community-Based Research Partnerships: Students, Community, and Faculty Coproducing Knowledge by Building Trust and Developing Lasting Relationships,” in the same book

Monica Juarez Adeler is working on revisions to her PhD dissertation. She is also teaching full time in the Faculty of Business and Economics at the University of Winnipeg, where she is developing co-op courses and a summer internship program to place students in local co-ops. She is also working on a proposal to the co-op sector in Manitoba to obtain funding for a co-op chair at the Business School.

Monica is an active member of two Co-op Vision Strategy working groups in Manitoba and serves as a board member for the Association of Cooperative Educators and the Canadian Association for Studies in Co-operation. Her role in the latter includes organizing the annual conference in Montreal in June 2012. In addition, she has been the administrator for the Social Economy project’s Manitoba partner, the Institute of Urban Studies. This role is winding down with the completion of the project at the end of February.

Rob Dobrohoczki is well into the writing phase of his dissertation. He continues to work part time as a lawyer and is teaching in the School of Public Policy this term. Rob has one publication forthcoming: with Brett Fairbairn, “I felt that I had lost myself”: Credit Unions, Economies, and the Construction of Locality” in Centre book “Community Survival: Co-operative Solutions for Local Economies,” accepted for publication by UBC Press. Rob serves on the board of the Good Food Junction and the Saskatoon Symphony Orchestra.

Mike Chartier has completed the course work for his PhD and is studying for his comprehensives. His research topic is “A Whiteheadian Approach to Ethical Decision Making: How Could It Facilitate Effective Co-operative Governance?” Mike teaches full time in the Saskatoon Public School system and continues to sit on the board of the Saskatoon Community Clinic as well as the Community Clinic Foundation.

Patricia Elliott is working on her dissertation, titled “Independent Voices: Third-Sector Media Development and Local Governance.” It will look at how third-sector media contributes to citizen participation and social change, and will examine how the co-operative sector and other social movement organizations can best support its development and sustainability. In addition to working on her PhD, Patricia is director of the Community Research Unit at the University of Regina and also teaches in the School of Journalism.

Other Research, Meetings, and Presentations

- ▲ submitted a manuscript to the Canadian Plains Research Centre titled “Free Knowledge: Global Stories of Knowledge Enslaved, Devalued and Emancipated,” co-edited with the University of Regina’s Daryl Hepting
- ▲ completed a documentary film on underground journalism in Burma called *Breaking Open Burma*; filmed in Thailand and Burma, it tells the story of the struggle for press freedom in Burma and features interviews with exiled and underground journalists; it premiered 10 February at the Saskatchewan Council for International Co-operation’s Global Citizens Awards Gala in Regina; to learn about the video, visit www.breakingopenburma.com
- ▲ finished a participatory video project — *This Is Us: Voices from the Street*, released at a community meeting at Carmichael Outreach Centre in Regina on 3 February; the video is accompanied by a kit that includes fact sheets on the issues and copies of research papers prepared in conjunction with the project; to learn more about the video and the kit, visit www.thisisus.ca

Annette Johnson has finished the coursework for her PhD in the InterD Co-op Concentration and is studying for her comprehensive exams. Her dissertation is titled “Finding a Way Out: An Investigation into the Amalgamation of Worker Co-ops and Canadian Unions.” Annette is the lead sociology instructor at the Regina SIAST campus and teaches an introductory course as well as Aboriginal awareness. She also teaches a course at the University of Regina titled Social Structure and Personality.

Tsegi Chuluunbaatar is working on the last course for her MA, a special topics reading class titled Co-operatives and International Development, with Michael Gertler. She is working on her research proposal and ethics approval and later this term will leave for Mongolia, where she will conduct her research — case studies on selected rural Mongolian co-ops. She plans to finish her thesis by next summer.