

Director's Report
to the
Management Advisory Board



**Centre
for the Study
of Co-operatives**



Brett Fairbairn
Director



June 2001



Overview and Highlights



*Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council
Approves Letter of Intent*



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The Bridging Position



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▲ *Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council Approves Letter of Intent*

We were thrilled to learn on 20 June that our letter of intent for a Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council strategic research grant has been approved. The centre's proposal was one of only fourteen approved from across Canada, and one of two at the U of S. We must now move to develop a full-fledged proposal over the next few months. For the next stage, we will need to deepen the academic and theoretical grounding of our idea—"Membership and Social Cohesion: Co-operative Identities in the Twenty-First Century"—get firm commitments from the partners for the kind of research they will participate in, and (if possible) convene the investigators and partners to discuss it. If we are ultimately successful with the final proposal, it would be the largest research project in the centre's history, involving many partners across the country and around the world, and three years of work. There is much work ahead, but even getting the letter of intent approved is a significant accomplishment.

▲ *Announcing Centre Scholars*

Everyone at the centre is extremely pleased by the appointment of more than a dozen people to positions as Centre for the Study of Co-operatives Scholars, something Brett has been working on for several months. These are people from a wide variety of disciplines at the university and elsewhere whose research interests complement the centre's mandate. Appointments are effective 1 July. On 5 July we will be hosting a day-long introduction to the centre and think tank about possible collaborative projects. It is anticipated that our partnerships with Centre Scholars will greatly increase the interdisciplinary reach of the centre and contribute significantly to collaborative research projects in the future. See the recent newsletter with your materials for more details.

▲ *The Bridging Position*

We are also happy to announce that Cris was the successful applicant for the new co-op position in Political Studies, and is now officially Centre Fellow in Co-operative Governance and an assistant professor of Political Studies.

▲ *NGC Pilot Project Update*

After many months of intense work, the pilot-project phase of this CARD-funded initiative investigating possibilities for new generation co-operative development in Saskatchewan and Manitoba is in its final stages. The NGC Experts Workshop held in early March led to the production of a video and a package of resource materials for professionals, both available free of charge from the centre. Roger's final report to CCA is nearing completion, and Carol is working on a newly designed portion of the centre's website that will be devoted to NGCs. See Roger's section for more details.

▲ *Summer Research*

The centre was successful in its application to the university's Centennial Student Employment Program, which has provided us with two students, one of whom will do research into student co-operatives, the other into NGC legislation. Karla Radloff and Chad Haaf will be with us until the end of August. See Staff News and their individual sections for more details.

▲ *Upcoming Projects*

As Carol predicted it would be, the centre's application to Industry Canada's Digital Collections program to begin digitization of *The Co-operative Consumer* newspaper has also been approved. This exciting project, a result of the government's initiative to digitize significant Canadian materials, will employ three young people for a period of months at the centre. The work will involve scanning, indexing, and the creation of a database, which will be an invaluable resource to researchers. We are very pleased to have been given the opportunity to make this important contribution to the preservation and availability of Canadian materials. See Carol's section for more details.

▲ *The Seminar Series*

Cris presented the final seminar in our 2000–2001 series in late March. Titled "Co-operation, Federation, and Representation: How Federal Principles Serve the Purposes of Complex Co-operatives," it explored the merits of organizing co-operatives in federated systems, particularly in the areas of managing organizational health and securing democratic ideals.

▲ *Publications New and Forthcoming*

Although it was not originally part of the centre's responsibility, we are going to propose to CCA that we publish Lou and Ian's *Report on Aboriginal Co-operatives in Canada*, which Nora edited and designed. Portions of it are being printed and made available by various organizations involved, but thus far no one has undertaken to publish and distribute the entire report. Since the centre has the expertise to handle this, it may well fall to us by default.

"An Educational Institute of Untold Value": The Evolution of the Co-operative College of Canada, 1953–1987, an addition to our occasional papers series written as a summer project by Jodi Crewe, was published in April. Michael's *Rural Co-operatives and Sustainable Development*, a centre booklet based on research he did during his sabbatical on Costa Rica, is currently at the printer and will be available at the end of June. Roger's NGC Resource Materials Kit, which grew out of the Experts Workshop held in conjunction with the NGC Pilot Project is nearing completion. And Rocky's paper on deposit insurance in Saskatchewan, a history and analysis of the Credit Union Deposit Guarantee Corporation, is *still* in editing, having been bumped by a number of other projects.

▲ *Staff News*

The centre is extremely pleased by the appointment of Cristine de Clercy to the "bridging position" in Political Studies. Cris fit in perfectly as part of the Co-op Studies team during her year's term position, and we look forward to a long-term relationship.

Our former director at the centre, Murray, after a brief stint as head of the Department of Agricultural Economics, has become acting associate dean of Graduate Studies and Research, a position he will hold until 31 December 2001, at which point he will begin a six-month sabbatical.

Marcelo Barroso, a student of Agronomic Engineering from the Universidade de São Paulo, Brazil, left us in early June after spending five months at the centre fulfilling the professional training component of his undergraduate degree. He was quite the character and will be sorely missed by all of us.

We also had to say good-bye to our dear Rocky. After nearly four years at the centre pursuing an interdisciplinary PhD, she returned to her government

position as a policy analyst in the Department of Economic and Co-operative Development in Regina. Lucky for us, her dissertation is still in progress, and she threatens many return visits.

Heather McNeill, who joined us as a consultant in October to work with Murray and Roger on the NGC Pilot Project, completed her responsibilities at the Centre in April and moved on to be a summer researcher with Ian MacPherson at the BC Institute for Co-operative Studies.

We were joined in early May by two students hired through the Centennial Student Employment Program. Karla Radloff and Chad Haaf will both be with us for four months. Karla is researching student co-operatives in North America and investigating the possibility of establishing some at the University of Saskatchewan. Chad is engaged in an analysis of the *New Generation Co-operatives Act*, which will become part of the package of resource materials Roger is compiling in connection with the New Generation Co-operatives Pilot Project the centre has been involved with over the past several months.

And finally, as part of our involvement with the Community-University Institute for Social Research (CUISR), we have hired MBA student Neville Fernandes to do a preliminary study of Regional Economic Development Authorities (REDAS) in Saskatchewan.

▲ Visitors

In May we had a visit from two MBA students from the Ukraine interning at the College of Commerce. Ivanna Matsevych and Serge Cherednichenko are both majoring in international economic relations and studying at the university as well as spending time in business placements.

In mid-June, accompanied by Brian Tudor, CCA Development officer for Asia, a number of co-op officials on a study tour of Canada visited the Centre: Ma. Lourdes Hernandez, deputy CEO of the National Confederation of Cooperatives in the Philippines; Shan Zhizhong and Wu Baolin, vice-directors of the Dong Huamen Management Center of Street Collective Economy, Beijing, China; Rama Reddy, president of the Cooperative Development Foundation, Hyderabad, India; Dr. Hemamali Palihakkara, director general of the SANASA Education Campus, Kegalle, Sri Lanka; and Dr. Guo Li Na, secretary general of the International Committee for the Promotion of Chinese Industrial Cooperatives, Beijing, China.

Teaching, Research, Publications, Presentations, and Administration

Brett Fairbairn

▲ *Teaching*

History 435.3: The Nazi State, 1933–38 (finished teaching in April)

Brett is scheduled to teach his pair of co-ops half-classes, History 287.3: Origins and Development of Co-operatives in Europe, and History 288.3: Co-operatives in the World, in 2001–2.

The following graduate students have successfully defended their theses: Heather McNeill, MSc (Ag. Economics). “Exclusive Relationships in the Agri-Food Industry” (Brett was the external examiner); and David Olivier, PhD (History). “Staatskaperei: The German Navy and Cruiser Warfare, 1856–1888” (Brett was the supervisor).

Brett is also involved with nine graduate students in progress—co-supervising one PhD student, supervising four MA students, and a committee member for four others.

▲ *Publications*

“Social Movements and Co-operatives: Implications for History and Development.” *Review of International Co-operation* 94, 1 (2001).

“A Preliminary History of Rural Development Policies and Programmes in Canada, 1945–1995.” Research report to the Canadian Rural Restructuring Foundation (CRRF), March 1998. Publication forthcoming with CRRF. In addition, the Agricultural Policy Research Committee, one of the nonprofit, government-related organizations of Japan’s Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, requested in April 2001 to translate and publish the report.

Review of Margaret Lavinia Anderson, *Practicing Democracy* (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2000), in *German History*, forthcoming.

“Co-op Must Serve Member Interests,” letter to the editor, Saskatoon *StarPhoenix*, 24 May 2001 (reply to editorial concerning gasoline prices).

▲ *Presentations*

“Why Government Matters—Co-operatives and the State in Canada and the USA,” three workshops at the Canadian Co-operative Association Triennial Congress, Saint John, NB, 21–23 June 2001.

“How Social are Co-ops?” to the Canadian Association for Studies in Co-operation Québec City, 29 May 2001. Brett also attended the meetings of the Canadian Historical Association while in Québec.

“Self-Help, Philanthropy, and State Aid: Ideological Poles in the Emergence of Co-operatives in Germany, c. 1845–1862,” to “Philanthropy, Patronage, and Urban Politics: Transatlantic Transfers between Europe and North America in the 19th and 20th Century,” an international symposium of the University of Toronto in collaboration with the German Historical Institute, Washington, DC, 3–5 May 2001.

“Potential and Pitfalls for Producer Co-operation: Mechanisms for Farmer Involvement in Transportation Issues,” to workshop entitled “Transportation and Co-operation: Opportunities for Producer Involvement in the Western Rail Network,” 19 April 2001. The workshop was cosponsored by the Centre for the Study of Co-operatives and the Department of Agricultural Economics in response to a request from representatives of the Prairie Alliance for the Future; Brett also participated in planning and co-chairing the workshop.

Brett has agreed to do a presentation at a workshop of co-operative communications staff at the National Institute of Co-operative Educators in Atlanta in July 2001.

▲ *Administration and Other*

For the director of the centre, the second quarter of 2001 involved annual personnel reviews, financial reports, budget planning, arrangements for the appointment of Cristine de Clercy as fellow of the centre effective 1 July 2001, and preparations for the first-ever meeting of Centre for the Study of Co-operatives Scholars on 5 July 2001.

Brett attended the Strengthening Departmental Leadership retreat at the university's Kenderdine Campus, Emma Lake, 4–7 June 2001.

He was a member of the search subcommittee for a position in Russian history, Department of History (spring 2001).

The Saskatchewan Archives Board, of which Brett is chair, received a one-million-dollar-per-year, six-year budget increase in the 30 March 2001 provincial budget, to deal with urgent pressures. The board is also looking into developing a multipartner archival centre in Saskatoon.

Murray Fulton

▲ *Teaching*

Agricultural Economics 842.3: Agricultural Market Organizations
Agriculture 112: Agricultural Science (both these classes finished in April)

Murray taught a one-week course on co-operative management at the Mediterranean Agronomic Institute of Chania in Crete, Greece, 11–15 June 2001.

He was the supervisor for Heather McNeill, who successfully defended her MSc thesis entitled “Exclusive Relationships in the Agri-Food Industry,” which examined the North American Bison Co-operative as a case study.

▲ *Research*

Murray, along with Roger and Chad, are finishing up work on the NGC Pilot Project funded by CARD. See more details in the Highlights section, as well as in the write-up on Roger's and Chad's activities.

▲ *Publications*

With H. Furtan, D. Gosnell, R. Gray, J. Hobbs, J. Holzman, B. Kerr, J. McNaughton, J. Stevens, and D. Stovin. “Transforming Agriculture: The Benefits and Costs of Genetically Modified Crops.” Prepared for the Canadian Biotechnology Advisory Committee, Project Steering Committee on

the Regulation of Genetically Modified Foods (available at: <http://www.cbac.gc.ca/english/>)

With Peter W.B. Phillips, Lynette Keyowski, Stravroula Malla, and Richard S. Gray. "Distributing the Gains: Producers, Consumers and Others." In *The Biotechnology Revolution in Global Agriculture: Invention, Innovation and Investment in the Canola Sector*. Edited by P.W.B. Phillips and G.G. Khachatourians. Biotechnology in Agriculture Series No. 24. Wallingford, England: CABI Publishing, 2001.

With James Nolan. "Competitive Access: The Next Step for the Canadian Rail Industry?" *Journal of the Transportation Research Forum* 40 (2 Spring 2001).

▲ Presentations

"Co-operative Adaptation and Innovation" to a group of NGC leaders in Des Moines Iowa on 6 April 2001, a seminar organized by the National Association of Co-operative Business in the US.

"The Role of Farmers and the Capture of Economic Surplus: Is There a Surplus to Capture?" to workshop entitled "Transportation and Co-operation: Opportunities for Producer Involvement in the Western Rail Network," 19 April 2001. The workshop was cosponsored by the Centre for the Study of Co-operatives and the Department of Agricultural Economics in response to a request from representatives of the Prairie Alliance for the Future

"Member Commitment in Co-operatives" (with Dinos Giannakas), to the joint American Agricultural Economics Association/Canadian Agricultural Economics Society Annual Meeting in Chicago in August.

▲ Administration

In April, Murray moved from being head of the Department of Agricultural Economics to the position of Acting Associate Dean, College of Graduate Studies and Research, a position he will hold until 31 December 2001.

Michael Gertler

▲ Teaching

Sociology 402/802: Advanced Seminar in the Sociology of Agriculture
Sociology 206: The Community (both these classes finished in April)

Michael was the supervisor for Teresa Forge, Department of Plant Sciences, College of Agriculture, who successfully completed her honours thesis titled “Farm Stress: Causes, Implications, Adaptations.” He is also supervising two MA students and is a committee member for four PhD candidates.

▲ Research

Michael collaborated with Roger Herman in assisting centre visitor Marcelo Barroso with interviews of co-op managers for his study “Social Marketing in Agricultural Co-operatives,” April and May.

He received funding from the Community-University Institute for Social Research for the second phase of a study titled “The Economic and Social Importance of the Saskatoon Farmers Market Co-operative in the City and Region,” co-directed with Diane Martz from the Department of Geography. Kim Sanderson, a graduate student in Agricultural Economics, is continuing as a research intern to do surveys of patrons and vendors.

▲ Publications

Rural Co-operatives and Sustainable Development. Centre booklet. Saskatoon: Centre for the Study of Co-operatives, 2001.

▲ Presentations

“The Sustainable Co-operative: Pathways to a Greener and Gentler Enterprise,” at CASC Meetings, Université de Laval, Québec City, 28–29 May.

With JoAnn Jaffe, “Victual Vicissitudes: Consumer Deskillling and the Transformation of Food Systems,” presented at the conference “Food Chains and Food Change: Food and Agricultural Issues at the Turn of the Century,” Joint Meetings of the Agriculture, Food, and Human Values Society and the Association for the Study of Food and Society, Minneapolis, 7–11 June.

“Managing for Ecological Integrity within an Agricultural Landscape,” presentation to the Prairie Parks Workshop, Saskatoon, 11–12 June.

▲ *Administration and Other*

Michael participated in the 10 May 2001 meeting of the Science Liaison Committee, Prince Albert National Park, where he was elected committee chair for a two-year term.

He collaborated with centre staff to prepare the SSHRC Letter of Intent for the proposed study of co-operative membership.

And he participated in the midterm review of the Tier-2 CIDA project titled “Training for Sustainable Regional Development,” a collaboration between the University of Regina and universities in Costa Rica and Chile. Michael was involved in this project, which led to teaching assignments in Central and South America, during his recent sabbatical and research leave.

Cristine de Clercy

In March, Cris was interviewed for a tenure-track position at the U of S by members of the Department of Political Studies and the Centre for the Study of Co-operatives. She accepted the position and begins 1 July. She will remain a Centre Fellow for five more years.

▲ *Teaching*

Political Studies 110.6: Introduction to Political Studies (this course finished in April)

Cris is currently updating the readings list and preparing to teach a second-year course—Political Studies 203.6: The Government of Canada—in the forthcoming 2001–02 academic year.

▲ *Research*

In collaboration with scholars at the Saskatchewan Institute of Public Policy, Cris is in the final stages of wrapping up a large research project concerning the GM food industry in western Canada.

In April she was invited by the Canadian Study of Parliament Group to author a short study as part of their *Parliamentary Perspectives* publication series. Her paper is titled “The Requisites of Parliamentary Leadership in the Modern House of Commons” and will be published in English and French in the fall.

As well, she has been invited to collaborate on a study funded by SSHRC concerning how Canada’s federal arrangement shapes local government. Still in the early planning stages, this study will also address how municipal government has changed over the last fifty years and how it should change to accommodate key political and economic realities in the new century.

▲ *Publications*

Cris is in the process of revising a journal article drawn from her doctoral work for publication in the *Canadian Journal of Political Science*.

Last fall she circulated draft summaries of her thesis to several publishing houses in Canada and the USA. In view of the positive comments and helpful suggestions she received, Cris is rewriting the thesis for publication as a book.

▲ *Presentations*

“Co-operation, Federation and Representation,” to the Canadian Association for Studies in Co-operation Annual Meetings in Québec City, 28–29 May. This paper began as part of a talk to FCL board members in the fall of 2000 and its components have grown to constitute a substantial text.

With Peter Ferguson. “Pollsters and Hucksters: A Comparative Analysis of Opinion Poll Reporting in the 2000 Canadian and American Elections,” to the annual meetings of the American Political Science Association in San Francisco in August.

Lou Hammond Ketilson

Lou is a Fellow of the centre, currently on leave to perform administrative duties in the College of Commerce. Nevertheless, she remains active in working on topics related to co-operatives.

▲ Presentations

Lou was heavily involved in presentations at the “Co-ops Mean Business” conference sponsored by the British Columbia Institute for Co-operative Studies in early June. She conducted a workshop titled “Co-operatives in Business: Competitive Strategies for the Marketplace” and also gave a keynote address titled “Building Social Capital in Canadian Communities.”

She has also given a number of presentations in connection with the recently completed study on Aboriginal co-operatives in Canada.

▲ Administration

Lou continues her term as associate dean in the College of Commerce, which, in addition to general administrative duties, includes responsibility for graduate programs and the directorship of the Centre for International Business Studies.

She is on the President’s SSHRC Committee, the University IT Committee, and is the university co-ordinator of the Community Economic Development module of the Community-University Institute for Social Research. As such, she will have some involvement in Neville’s research into REDAs in the province.

Nora Russell

Since the last director’s report, Nora completed work on the occasional paper “*An Educational Institute of Untold Value*”: *The Evolution of the Co-operative College of Canada, 1953–1987*, which was published in April, and another in the centre’s booklet series, *Rural Co-operatives and Sustainable Development*, by Michael Gertler, which is due from the printer at the end of June. She also wrote and produced the centre’s spring newsletter (included with your binder of materials), and did the final editing, and the layout and production of the Resource Materials Kit for Professionals that came out of the Experts Workshop held in connection with the NGC Pilot Project.

Other writing projects this past three months include:

- a promotional review of *Canadian Co-operatives in the Year 2000* for the *ICA Newsletter*;

- the appendix on enrolment patterns at the Co-op College for the occasional paper “*An Educational Institute of Untold Value: The Evolution of the Co-operative College of Canada, 1953–1987*;
- a feature article on the centre and our new Centre Scholars for the 18 May 01 edition of *On Campus News* (included with the Information Items in your binder of materials);
- an abbreviated version of the above for the spring 2001 issue of the *Association of Co-operative Educators Newsletter* (also included with the Information Items); and
- ads for *prairie dog* magazine and *Synergy* magazine regarding the *Report on Aboriginal Co-operatives in Canada* by Lou Hammond Ketilson and Ian MacPherson (with Information Items).

Nora helped Carol with the editing and layout for the SSHRC and Industry Canada grant proposals, worked with Marcelo on the language for his research paper, and assisted Patty with the preparation of the minutes of the advisory board meeting. With University Extension Press, she arranged and attended a display of the centre’s publications at the Saskatchewan Libraries Association conference in April, where she made a number of useful contacts, and to the envy of all the librarians present, managed to win a coveted scannable barcode T-shirt.

At his request, Nora sent a copy of *Canadian Co-operatives in the Year 2000* to Johnston Birchall for review in the *Journal of Co-operative Studies*. She also sold 130 copies of the book to CCA for the Triennial Congress in June. And at the request of David Shanks at CCA in Ottawa who co-wrote the chapter, she prepared files for an offprint of CCA’s photo essay from the book, which they have reproduced with their own cover as a stand-alone document.

Nora has a number of items awaiting her attention, including the annual report and three occasional papers: Rocky’s history and analysis of the Credit Union Deposit Guarantee Corporation, which has been in process for some time but keeps getting put on the back burner when other more pressing items intervene; Brenda Stefanson’s thesis on adult educators in co-op development; and Hannes Mesecke’s paper comparing western Canadian and German agricultural co-operatives. She is also looking for time to prepare *Making Membership Meaningful*, first published in 1995 and still in demand, for reprinting. The original files will need some attention before they are ready to go to the printer. We are also considering reprints of two other

books produced by the centre—*Co-operatives and Community Development* and *Realizing Community*, both of which are down to their last few copies.

Nora is responsible for the director's reports on an ongoing basis.

Carol Shepstone

Two substantial grant applications have kept Carol busy since the last director's report. The Centre's letter of intent, "Membership and Social Cohesion: Co-operative Identities in the 21st Century," was submitted to the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada under the strategic theme grants. We learned on 20 June that our application was successful—one of only two approved at the U of S—and now must set our sights on developing a more detailed proposal.

Following on the heels of the SSHRC deadline, Carol also submitted a proposal to the Canadian Digital Collections project to digitize portions of *The Co-operative Consumer* newspaper for web access. The proposal has been approved and Carol is currently finalizing the contract agreement and timeline details with the funding agency, Industry Canada. The grant is a combined initiative to add significant Canadian content to the web and to provide youth with meaningful work experience in information technology. Funding will cover the costs of employing three people to work on the project, with the centre matching funds for hardware and software requirements, Carol's time managing the project, and general office space and support needs. It is an exciting and significant project for the library. The process of digitization itself will contribute to the growing body of knowledge regarding the management and access of digitized collections, and the resulting content will provide researchers and students interested in the history of the co-operative movement in western Canada with an important and easily accessible primary resource.

The addition of the new Centre Scholars will affect the Resource Centre by expanding research support, increasing student and public inquiries, and influencing collection development, as well as contributing to ongoing website development. Carol continues her work on the preliminary REDA research project for CUISR, which was briefly on hold while Neville Fernandes, hired as a student assistant, took part in a study tour of the Ukraine.

Carol was pleased to have Anna Gersher, a library technician student from SIAST campus, spend her three-week practicum placement in the library during May. Along with learning the daily routines of the library, Anna also spent a considerable amount of time helping to process the large Saskatchewan Wheat Pool donation, and assisting with the day-to-day filing and shelving. Anna's cheerful attitude and willingness to learn made her a welcome addition to the centre.

The web site continues to grow and undergo revisions as well as additions. The latest changes can be found in the section on New Generation Co-operatives, where browsers will find a more clearly defined image, newly structured navigation and content, and additional materials including video clips on the basics of NGCs and information from the NGC Experts Workshop. Through these revisions we hope to present key NGC information to a variety of users: producers, professionals, and researchers.

Carol continues to be actively involved with the Co-operative Network of Saskatoon, the Saskatoon Special Libraries Network, the Saskatchewan Libraries Association, the Library Promotions Committee of the Multi-Type Library Board. She is pleased to add the responsibilities of Saskatchewan Director for the Western Canada Chapter of the International Special Libraries Association to her list of professional involvements.

Roger Herman

Roger's activities since the last director's report continued to be heavily involved with his position as the co-ordinator of the New Generation Co-operatives Pilot Project. Since the two successful workshops for professionals and government personnel reported in March, he has continued to meet and work with various producers groups using or exploring the use of the NGC model; co-ordinated the development of a video of the NGC Experts Workshop for distribution to professionals interested in working with NGCs; continued to work on raising awareness among professional groups (lawyers and accountants) in Saskatchewan; collaborated with Saskatchewan Economic and Co-operative development to make available a comprehensive package of resources for NGC development to be used by producers, development officers, and professionals working with producer groups; and he prepared his final report on the project for CCA.

On another front, he made two successful applications for summer student grants under the Centennial Student Employment Program, one for a proposal to explore student co-operative development at the U of S, and the other to conduct a review of the Saskatchewan *NGC Act* and provide a comparative analysis of Saskatchewan legislation with that of other Canadian jurisdictions.

Roger has given a number of presentations over the past couple of months: two on NGCs—one as part of the Saskatoon Co-operative Network’s luncheon series, and the other as a guest lecturer in Agricultural Economics 498, Current Issues in Agricultural Law. He also gave a paper at the CASC meetings in Québec City titled “Pursuing a Member Prescribed Mandate: The Challenge for Managers of Co-operatives.”

Roger co-authored with Murray an article on NGCs and Community Economic Development for *Making Waves*, a community economic development publication.

He was involved to a considerable extent in Marcelo’s research, taking part in seven interviews, helping him with his research design, and generally providing advisory support.

In addition to all this, Roger also continues as an interdisciplinary graduate student at the centre. His involvement in the NGC project has helped him to gather information for his thesis.

Rochelle Smith

After almost four years with us as an interdisciplinary PhD candidate, Rocky left the centre shortly after the last director’s report to return to her position in the Policy Division at Economic and Co-operative Development in Regina. She is well into her dissertation titled “Existence and Persistence: The Evolution of Co-operatives from a Systems Perspective,” and we anticipate many visits from her as it progresses.

Patty Scheidl

In addition to regular day-to-day responsibilities as the office manager, Patty has been kept extremely busy over the past three months with a wide variety

of activities, including all of the organization and preparations for the advisory board meeting, the inaugural session with our new Centre Scholars, and the upcoming retreat, not the least of which was finding dates that everyone could fit into their schedules. She has also made travel and accommodation arrangements for a number of conferences attended by centre staff during May and June (the Learned's, the CASC Meetings in Québec City, and the CCA Triennial Congress in New Brunswick). She has been assisting Marcelo throughout his stay by processing travel expense claims, ordering supplies, printing materials, and keeping track of invoices to ensure that he didn't overspend his budget.

Patty maintains the centre's monthly operating budget as well as all the research accounts and has spent quite a bit of time recently sorting out discrepancies and searching for missing invoices, processing budget transfers, and assisting Lou in finalizing the financial records for the Aboriginal Co-operatives account.

She made the arrangements for centre staff to meet with the two visiting MBA students from the Ukraine; assisted Carol in the preparation of the SSHRC grant forms by looking up addresses, phone numbers, and e-mail information, and helping to complete forms that needed to be typed and faxed; made all the arrangements in terms of office space, keys, hiring forms, and ongoing office support for our two summer research students; and helped Karen with the large mailing of the centre's spring newsletter.

Karen Neufeldt

Karen works for the Centre on a half-time basis, providing support in general office duties as required. Her regular duties include reception, paperwork, cash reports, filing, xeroxing and printing, invoicing and mailing publication orders, keeping track of stock for reprint possibilities, as well as invoicing telephone, fax, and xerox bills. She is also responsible for sending out the monthly seminar series announcements, updating the database, whatever mailouts are required, and helping to prepare packages for the advisory board meeting. She continues to help Carol in the library, reshelving returned items, keying in records for backlogged items in preparation for cataloguing, labelling, and copying material for the vertical files. Recently she and Patty did the newsletter mailing and Karen is now in the process of updating the centre mailing lists. Karen also works half-time in the College of Dentistry.

Heather McNeill

Heather left us in April, after fulfilling her responsibilities working with Murray and Roger on the NGC Pilot Project. At the same time, she finished her MSc thesis in Agricultural Economics, which Murray supervised, and successfully defended it before going to Québec for a French immersion course and then on to work with Ian MacPherson at BCICS in Victoria.

Marcelo Barroso

Marcelo was with us for five months completing the Professional Training portion of his undergraduate degree in Agronomic Engineering from the University of São Paulo in Brazil. Under Roger and Michael's direction, he compiled research on co-operative movements, corporate social responsibility, social capital, and societal marketing, part of which involved interviews with almost a dozen co-operative organizations throughout the province. The paper that developed out of his research is titled "Social Marketing in Agricultural Co-operatives in Saskatchewan." Once it is finalized, it will be considered for inclusion in the centre's occasional papers series.

Chad Haaf

We hired Chad as a summer researcher through the Centennial Student Employment Program, which means a significant portion of his salary will be paid by the provincial government. He is using his knowledge and experience as a third-year law student to do a comparative analysis of the existing provincial *Co-operatives Act* and the recently legislated *New Generation Co-operatives Act*. His paper will become part of the Resource Materials Kit for professionals that came out of the NGC Experts Workshop in connection with the NGC Pilot Project. Building on this research, he will develop a practitioners' guide to the *NGC Act*, and will then examine similar legislation in other jurisdictions in order to study Saskatchewan's progress compared to the rest of the country.

Karla Radloff

Karla came to us through the same program as Chad. A fourth-year honours student in Political Studies, Karla is spending the summer researching student co-operatives across North America and assessing the possibility of organizing a student co-op at the University of Saskatchewan. She has begun an initiative to establish a co-operative students' society in the fall, which will act as a forum for interested undergraduates to discuss issues surrounding co-ops and how they could be more involved in them. She will also be a staff member at the graduate-level Saskatchewan Co-operative Youth Seminar this summer, which will give her an opportunity to better understand first-year students' expectations of the services available to them at the university, and how they might provide at least some of these services for themselves.

Neville Fernandes

Neville is contributing to the centre's involvement with the Community Economic Development module of the Community-University Institute for Social Research. His subject matter is Regional Economic Development Authorities, and he will be working with Carol on a lit review, a history of REDA policy in the province, and researching other examples of this type of organization in North America. Neville was to have been with us at the beginning of May, but was invited to participate in an exchange with a number of MBA students from Ukraine. His work with the centre, consequently, began in late June.