

Director's Report
to the
Management Advisory Board



Centre
for the Study
of Co-operatives



Lou Hammond Ketilson
Director



June 2005





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 (formerly Co-operative Trust), and The Co-operators.

The centre is also supported by Saskatchewan Industry and Resources and the University of Saskatchewan, with Saskatchewan Wheat Pool and the CUMIS Group making additional contributions.

The university not only houses our offices but provides in-kind contributions from a number of departments and units—Agricultural Economics, History, Management and Marketing, Political Studies, 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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▲ SSHRC Project Update

Data collection and other research activities are in high gear as we head into the final year of this project, with participants making good use of their findings in presentations at conferences and workshops across the country and abroad this spring and summer.

We have planned a fairly intense year of activities to wind up the project. The presence of the Connections 2005 and CASC conferences (see details below) in Saskatoon this May made it possible to gather together many of the researchers involved. Brett and Lorraine convened three different meetings to deal with planning decisions and research updates. Confirmed for this fall is an intensive weekend writing workshop, with the goal of pulling together key ideas and findings of the project and producing a manuscript for an integrated, tightly focussed, co-authored academic book. We also have plans for a national policy conference in early 2006 to present the research and recommendations of the project to federal and provincial civil servants and other interested parties. Other research communications strategies include journal submissions, book chapters, information booklets for our partner organizations, research reports by our student assistants, and dissemination at conferences.

The project is currently supporting six graduate students through scholarship funding, and has employed fifteen students in summer research positions over the past four years.

▲ Significant New Research Funding Application

With the Letter of Intent submitted as of the last director's report, the centre then embarked upon the preparation of the full application for this new SSHRC funding initiative focussed on the social economy. It provoked a flurry of activity in the centre rarely seen, with all faculty and staff fully engaged and Lou, Roger, Nora, and Lorraine working basically double time the week before the deadline. The proposal is to study the evolving social economy in the context of the particular geographies and histories of hinter-

land cities and associated areas, investigating past and present conditions that contribute to the development of social economy vehicles, such as co-operatives, that serve many groups, including those who are often disadvantaged: women, children, and youth; First Nations and Métis persons; and rural populations. With thirty-five co-applicants and collaborators and letters of support from thirty community-based partners, we will be engaged with people throughout the region under study—Saskatchewan, Manitoba, and northern Ontario — if the application is successful.

The application was submitted on 15 April and we expect to hear the results of the competition by early September.

▲ Other Research Update

Cris and Carol's National Co-operative Data Centre project is still in progress, with the comprehensive review of co-op and other business statistics collected by SSHRC student Angela Wagner in editing with Nora. When completed, this will be an invaluable source for business and industry statistics.

The centre has become involved in a major project in China funded by Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada titled "Small Farmers Adapting to Global Markets Project: Farmers' Association Development Strategy and Training Program" (working title is the China Project). It is part of a much larger CIDA project being implemented by Ag Canada. The initiating research team includes Murray Fulton, Bill Turner, Dan Ish, Bernie Sonntag, and Gary Storey, who have already made preliminary trips to China. Roger will also be involved in preparing curriculum/training materials for delivery to trainers in China. With the centre administering the project, other faculty and staff will inevitably be drawn in at later stages. The impact has already been felt in the office, with Patty responsible for the accounts, professional fees, and travel arrangements.

We have recently become engaged in another project in Asia titled "Enabling Co-ops in Rural China." Partners include the centre; The Rural Development Institute, Chinese Academy of Social Sciences; and the Canadian Co-operative Association. The purpose of the project is to conduct research and develop a basic assessment tool to aid co-op stakeholders in identifying factors that enable co-operative development in rural settings. In addition to the assessment tool, deliverables include a paper and annotated bibliography,

both of which are to be developed jointly by the centre and the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences.

Finally, the centre has become a partner in a project in Mongolia funded through the Canada Corp University Partnership Program at the U of S. It's called "Co-operatives and Sustainable Regional Development in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia" and partners include the centre; Paul Stephens in the College of Agriculture; and the Ulaanbaatar Regional Committee. The purpose of the project is to promote the alleviation of poverty through co-operative development and institutional co-ordination among levels of government within the central region. Michael presented a paper at a conference relating to this project last November.

▲ Conferences

The centre organized and hosted two conferences in May, as well as participating in both presentations and attendance at another. Building Co-operative Futures, the third annual International Co-operative Youth Conference, took place at the U of S 12–15 May. It focussed on youth engagement in co-operative organizations and furthering this engagement through education and community-centred participation. Sponsored by the centre and the Saskatchewan Co-operative Association, it attracted eighty youth from across Canada and abroad. Roger was heavily involved in co-ordinating this effort, along with assistance from our graduate students, all of whom also participated in the conference. By all accounts, it was a resounding success.

CCA's Triennial Congress, Connections 2005, sponsored by the Canadian Co-operative Association and Credit Union Central of Canada, was in Saskatoon 14–19 May, overlapping slightly with the youth conference. It was the first-ever joint conference between CCA and CCC, and offered participants a rich mix of practical sessions addressing current topics in the credit union and co-operative business development field, member relations, and governance. Centre people were both presenters and participants. With almost a thousand delegates and activities from morning til night packed into the Centennial Auditorium as well as a nearby hotel, it was a near overwhelming experience. The centre shared a display booth with other co-operative educational institutions from across Canada, which helped to advertise our programs and publications to a captive co-operative audience. Nora organized the centre's contribution and was there to answer questions between conference sessions.

Overlapping with Connections 2005, 18–20 May, was another centre-sponsored event, the annual Canadian Association for Studies in Co-operation meetings. With a theme of “Realizing the Co-operative Difference: Innovations in Co-operation and Co-operative Research,” the conference was a showcase for SSHRC-project research results; it was wonderful having so many of our far-flung partners together in one place. Michael devoted countless hours to his responsibilities as program chair, with assistance from Monica as conference co-ordinator and Nora, who co-ordinated and prepared the detailed program. Preparations eventually involved everyone at the centre either as presenters, participants, and/or volunteers in various capacities. The consistently high quality of the papers and the intimate atmosphere of a relatively small conference (about fifty people) where almost everyone knows each other made it a remarkably rewarding experience for everyone involved.

In an attempt to raise the centre’s profile abroad, we have committed to having centre personnel participate in a variety of international conferences over the next few months. Cris took part in “Concepts of the Third Sector: The European Debate — Civil Society, Voluntary Organizations, and the Social Economy, sponsored by the European Research Network and the International Society for Third-Sector Research at the end of April in Paris. Monica will present a paper at the Mondragon Co-operative Research Conference in Spain at the end of June. In early August a number of centre personnel will be presenting at this year’s ICA International Co-operative Research Conference in Cork, Ireland, titled “The Contribution of Co-operatives to Community Culture.” And Roger and Lou will be attending the annual Association of Cooperative Educators conference in Alexandria, Virginia, in August, where Lou will be presenting a paper on Aboriginal co-operatives.

▲ InterD Research Concentration in Co-operative Studies Update

Just a year old, this new program continues to attract graduate students to the centre in record numbers, a remarkable feat for a unit that does not offer degrees of its own. One new student, SSHRC scholarship winner Dwayne Pattison, came to us from Korea at the beginning of May, and others are expected to join us in the fall. These include two confirmed PhDs, two potential MAs, as well as two confirmed MAs in Political Studies working on co-op topics.

▲ Publications

There are no new publications to report this quarter, although Nora is working on a number of large projects that will see several publications over the next few months, including three occasional papers, a number of booklets, and the co-operative statistics project pulled together by Cris, Carol, and SSHRC student Angie Wagner. See Nora's section in this report for more details of communications and publication activities.

▲ Of Special Note

The centre has played a significant role in ensuring that co-operatives are well represented in the centenary *Encyclopedia of Saskatchewan*. Nora wrote a total of twelve articles, with Brett contributing three major pieces and others coming from Murray and advisory board member Gary Storey. The formal acknowledgements page notes Brett and Nora as editorial board associates, as well as Gary as an editorial board member. And the centre itself is acknowledged as one of the institutions that co-ordinated the development of entries.

▲ Staff News

After nine months as acting director at the centre, no one was surprised when the advisory board formally named Lou as the centre's new director in April, confirming an arrangement that already had the hallmarks of success.

We welcomed Cris back from maternity leave in May and are delighted to have occasional visits from our newest young co-operator, Colin.

We have another new student in the Interdisciplinary Research Concentration in Co-operative Studies program. Dwayne Pattison joined us in May. He will be working on cluster two of the SSHRC project during the summer and will begin his MA studies in September.

Five other students — Juanita Bacsu, Kim Brown, Rob Dobrohoczki, Jason Heit, and Monica Juarez Adeler — are all working for the centre this summer on various aspects of the SSHRC project. And another of our interdisciplinary students, Zhao Jun, is working in China for the summer preparing case studies of farmer associations as part of the centre's contribution to the China Project.

Library technician student Brenda Eshelby was with us for a three-week work placement in May. She and Caren Mann, a library technician who has been with us for the past three months, made huge contributions in helping to restore order in the resource centre. Caron's contract finished in early June.

▲ Scholars Update

CASC Participation

Seven centre scholars — Isobel Findlay, Len Findlay, Louise Clarke, Morris Altman, Brian Oleson, Ellen Goddard, and Ian MacPherson — participated in the CASC 05 conference, either as presenters or moderators of sessions, as well as participating in social events around the conference.

Ellen Goddard led a team of graduate students from the University of Alberta who presented a total of six papers:

- ▲ “The Evolving Structure of the Co-operative Sector in Alberta”
- ▲ “Does the Regulatory Environment Affect Performance? The Case of Marketing Co-operatives”
- ▲ “The Measurement of Efficiency of Agribusiness Supply and Marketing Co-operative Firms in Canada”
- ▲ “The Impacts of Transferring from Co-op to IOF: Pricing Games in the Western Canadian Fluid Milk Market”
- ▲ “Attitudes towards and Satisfaction with Co-operatives in Alberta: An Application of the Theory of Planned Behaviour”
- ▲ “Attitudes towards and Satisfaction with Credits Unions in Alberta: A Scale and Regression Analysis”

Isobel Findlay presented two papers, while Morris Altman and Ian MacPherson each presented one:

- ▲ “Putting Co-operative Principles into Practice: Lessons Learned from the North” (Isobel, with Lou and Wanda Wuttunee)
- ▲ “Social Accounting, Indigenous Knowledge, and Co-operative Principles: From the Bottom Line to Lines of Relation” (Isobel, with Warren Weir)
- ▲ “Modeling Consumer Co-operatives: Is There a Co-operative Advantage?” (Morris)
- ▲ “Challenges Confronting Co-operatives” (Ian)

Ellen Goddard

- ▲ “Impact of Decision Makers Divergences in Risk Attitudes and Perceptions on Co-operative Management in Canada,” presentation to

the joint Northeastern Agricultural and Resource Economics Association/
Canadian Agricultural Economics Society Conference, June 04

- ▲ “Environmental Co-operative Structures: The Case of Manure Disposal in Alberta,” at same conference
- ▲ with Getu Hailu, S. Jeffrey, and D. Ng, “Incentive Incompatibility in Co-operative Agribusiness Firms in Canada: Does Supply Management Matter?” *Journal of Food Distribution Research* 35, no. 1 (2004):110–11.
- ▲ This past term Ellen taught Agricultural Economics 482: Co-operative and Alternative Business Institutions; she is also supervising four graduate students working on co-operative research.

Brian Oleson

Brian assisted as the co-organizer/co-ordinator of the Canadian Association for Studies in Co-operation annual meetings at the University of Winnipeg in June 04. He is engaged in an ongoing agriculture environmental scan for the strategic planning process of Manitoba Credit Union Central. He is a consultant for J. Carlberg’s work on New Generation Co-operatives, which is exploring why NGCs are not more commonly used than is currently the case in Manitoba. And he has ongoing research on the role of new pricing instruments by the Canadian Wheat Board, an organization with many co-operative traits.

Isobel Findlay

This past term Isobel taught MBA 898.3: E-Commerce and Community for three of our Co-op Concentration PhD and MA students. She is also supervisor of three PhD students in the Co-op Concentration and an advisory committee member for one PhD and two MAs on co-op topics. She is a co-applicant on a successful SSHRC Letter of Intent titled “Building the Social Ecology of an Inclusive Community” and also on the centre’s application to SSHRC’s new Social Economy Suite (see Lou’s section below for details). In addition, Isobel is working on a textbook titled *Business and Administrative Communication* with McGraw-Hill Ryerson; it will have a feature on Myrna Bentley and Concentra Financial, and also includes references to VanCity and several other credit unions, Mountain Equipment Co-op, and a New Zealand co-operative.

Presentations

- ▲ “Participation,” to Building Co-operative Futures 2005, 14 May
- ▲ with Lou Hammond Ketilson, Jesse and Chad Morin, “Putting Co-operative Principles into Practice,” to the 11th annual conference of the Council

for the Advancement of Native Development Officers, Fredericton, 5–8 October 04;

- ▲ with Warren Weir, “Social Accounting, Indigenous Knowledge, and Community Economic Development: From the Bottom Line to Lines of Relation,” at same conference
- ▲ “Defying the Public/Private Divide: ‘A Declaration of Interdependence’ and Interdisciplinarity,” keynote, Annual Graduate Student Conference Public vs. Private Discourse, U of S, 12–14 May 04

Publications

- ▲ “Remapping Co-operative Studies: Re-Imagining Postcolonial Co-operative Futures,” in *Co-operative Membership and Globalization: New Directions in Research and Practice*, eds. Brett Fairbairn and Nora Russell (Saskatoon: Centre for the Study of Co-operatives, 2004)
- ▲ “Defying the Public/Private Divide: ‘A Declaration of Interdependence’ and Interdisciplinary,” forthcoming in *Changing the Climate: Public vs. Private Discourse*, ed. Tenielle McLeod (U of S, 2005)
- ▲ with Warren Weir, “Aboriginal Justice in Saskatchewan 2002–2021: The Benefits of Change. The Commission on First Nations and Métis Peoples and Justice Reform,” Final Report Volume 1: *Legacy of Hope: An Agenda for Change* (June 2004)
- ▲ with Warren Weir and Louise Clarke, co-edited special issue, “Value(s) Added: Sharing Voices on Aboriginal CED,” *Journal of Aboriginal Economic Development* 4 no. 1 (October 2004)

Len Findlay

- ▲ *The Communist Manifesto: Karl Marx and Friedrich Engels*, ed. and trans. L. M. Findlay (Peterborough: Broadview Press, 2004), (includes Owenite materials)
- ▲ Len is co-supervisor for one PhD student and committee chair for another, both of whom are working on co-op topics.

Dan Ish is on the centre’s advisory board and is heavily involved in the China Project, while **Morris Altman**, **Ian MacPherson**, and **Isobel Findlay** are all co-investigators on the SSHRC project as well as co-applicants in the centre’s new SSHRC initiative with the Social Economy Suite, which also includes **Brian Oleson**, **Louise Clarke**, and **Ellen Goddard**.

Teaching, Research, Publications, Presentations, and Administration

Lou Hammond Ketilson

▲ Teaching

Commerce 345.3: Business and Public Policy

This class concluded in April. Lou is supervising two MBA projects; is a committee member for one MA and one PhD; and is committee chair and member for two PhD students and one MA in the centre's Interdisciplinary Concentration in Co-op Studies.

▲ Research

Lou is involved with many research initiatives:

- ▲ principal investigator in the centre's application to SSHRC's new Social Economy Suite submitted 15 April. A joint application with CUISR, it involves academics and community partners in Saskatchewan, Manitoba, and northern Ontario. A decision is expected by late September.
- ▲ co-applicant in CUISR's application to SSHRC's Community-University Research Alliance program for a project titled "Building the Social Ecology of an Inclusive Community." Following the successful Letter of Intent, the group was awarded \$20,000 to proceed to the full application stage; the deadline is 31 August.
- ▲ member of the CIRIEC-International-sponsored Scientific Commission on the Social and Co-operative Economy working group for a project titled "Methods and Indicators for Evaluating the Social and Co-operative Economy." She attended the first meeting of the Canadian team in Montreal 25 May. Other team members include Principal Investigator Marie Bouchard, Canada Research Chair on the Social Economy, University of Québec at Montreal; Leslie Brown, Mount St. Vincent University, Halifax; Jack Quarter, Ontario Institute for Studies in Education, University of Toronto; and Ian MacPherson, BC Institute for Co-operative Studies, University of Victoria.
- ▲ co-applicant in an application to SSHRC's Research Development Initiatives submitted 7 April 2005. The funding will be used to support

development of the Canadian research network (BC–Alberta, N. Ontario– Manitoba–Sask, S. Ontario and Quebec) focussed on the evaluation of the social economy in Canada. This network will be part of the CIRIEC International project mentioned above. PI is Marie J. Bouchard, as above.

- ▲ carries on with her research for cluster one of the centre’s current SSHRC project, Co-operative Membership and Globalization. With interviews and transcriptions from stage one complete and analysis underway, she and Isobel Findlay are planning their next research trip to the Arctic, probably in September. She is also a member of a research team lead by Dr. Wanda Wuttunee at the University of Manitoba submitting a proposal to the Conference Board of Canada to conduct a study of Aboriginal economic development in Canada.
- ▲ continues her involvement with the Saskatchewan First Nations Co-operative (SFNC), assisting with the development of a governance model; helping with an assessment of the impact of the co-op(s) formed with the support of SFNC; and supervising the development of a resource kit for co-operative development within First Nation communities. The SFNC is a case study within the Aboriginal cluster of the social cohesion project.
- ▲ is also working with the First Nations Agriculture Council, FSIN, helping to develop agricultural co-ops in Saskatchewan First Nations communities and overseeing the development of a tool kit to support First Nation agricultural co-op development.
- ▲ is a reviewer for the *Annals of Public and Co-operative Economics*, the journal of CIRIEC International, for June 2005. and she is supervising a research assistant working on a meta-analysis of the research projects completed over the past four years within the CUISR’s Community Economic Development module.

▲ Publications

With Isobel Findlay, co-editing a special edition of *Économie et Solidarités*, the CIRIEC-Canada Journal, on the topic Social Economy, Public Economy, and Aboriginal Economic Development, forthcoming 2006

▲ Presentations

“Putting Co-operative Principles into Practise: Lessons Learned from the North,” at the Canadian Association for Studies in Co-operation meetings, Saskatoon, 18 May

Discussant for the session “The Canadian Landscape: Emerging Diversity Issues, Gender, and Diversity in Organizations” division, Administrative Sciences Association of Canada annual meetings, Toronto, 28–31 May

“Examining Co-operative Membership in Northern Communities: Toonoonik-Sahoonik, Great Bear, and Koomiut Co-operative Associations,” invited presentation at the annual meeting of Arctic Co-operatives Limited, Winnipeg, 4 May

▲ Annual Meetings and Conferences Attended

Credit Union Central of Saskatchewan and Concentra Financial,
Saskatoon, 12–13 April

Arctic Co-operatives Limited, Winnipeg, 3–4 May

CEDNET conference, Sault St. Marie, 5–6 May

Building Co-operative Futures Saskatoon, 12–15 May

Connections 2005 (Joint meeting of the Canadian Co-operative Association and the Canadian Conference of Credit Union Executives),
Saskatoon, 16–18 May

Canadian Association for Studies in Co-operation, Saskatoon, 18–20 May

Saskatchewan Council for Community Development, Saskatoon, 16 June

▲ Administration and Other

Lou was formally named director of the centre during the last meeting of the advisory board. In addition to her responsibilities as director here, she is also the acting co-director for the Community-University Institute for Social Research and a member of the university’s Advisory Committee on Areas of Research, Scholarly, and Artistic Preeminence. In addition, she is a member of the planning committee organizing a conference on Aboriginal Womens’ Community Economic Development.

Brett Fairbairn

▲ Teaching

History 288.3: Co-operatives in the World

This class concluded in April. Students spent the term doing projects profiling the history and current role of co-operatives in Saskatchewan. Some did

purely historical projects; others talked to people in co-ops and did presentations on existing co-operatives including Saskatoon Credit Union, Teacher's Credit Union, Mountain Equipment Co-op, funeral co-operatives in Canada, and so on.

Brett is supervising one MA student in history—Tom Novosel—who is looking at the history of the PA pulp mill and resource development in the PA area, and one PhD student in Interdisciplinary Studies—Warren Weir—who is researching co-operative models for Aboriginal economic development.

▲ Research

As principal investigator on the centre's SSHRC project, "Co-operative Membership and Globalization," Brett is involved in project co-ordination as well as hands-on research. Together with Robert Dobrohoczki, centre PhD student employed as a research assistant, Brett has been working towards getting the Manitoba partners (notably South Interlake Credit Union and Gimli Credit Union) to sign on to specific research protocols. Brett and Rob hope to be doing interviews and focus groups in Manitoba during this summer.

▲ Publications

"Canada's Co-operative Province': Individualism and Mutualism in a Settler Society, 1905–2005," submitted for a planned centenary volume on Saskatchewan history edited by Jene Porter

"Co-operatives and Locality: Social Cohesion in the Promised Land — Alberta and Saskatchewan, 1905–2005," submitted for a planned volume related to the Alberta and Saskatchewan provincial centennials (*Prairie West as Promised Land*), edited by Doug Francis and Chris Kitzan

"Communications, Culture, and Co-operatives: Liminal Organizations in a Liminal Age," submitted for a planned volume on defining co-operative studies edited by Ian MacPherson

▲ Presentations

"The Development of Co-operatives in Saskatchewan," to Canadian Institute of International Affairs, Saskatoon branch, 31 May 2005

With Robert Dobrohoczki, “Social Cohesion in Prairie Town and Country: Credit Unions and Members,” to Canadian Association for Studies in Co-operation conference, Saskatoon, 18 May 2005

“Control Rights and Democracy,” to Connections 2005 (Triennial Congress of the Canadian Co-operative Association and annual meeting of the Canadian Conference of Credit Union Executives) workshop on Control Rights of Members, 17 May 2005

“Co-operative Heritage: Where We’ve Come From,” keynote presentation to Connections 2005, 16 May 2005

“The ‘Roots’ of Co-operation,” to Building Co-operative Futures: Third International Co-operative Youth Conference, University of Saskatchewan, 13 May 2005

“Reflections on a Century of Saskatchewan Co-operatives,” Centre for the Study of Co-operatives Seminar Series, University of Saskatchewan, 10 February 2005

▲ Administration and Other

Apart from his duties as head of the Department of History and as a member of the university’s Planning Committee, Brett was also involved this past term in launching a new Institute of Aboriginal and Indigenous Graduate Studies and Research. A joint venture between the departments of History and Native Studies, it is intended initially to bring together interested faculty members in Arts and Science (more than thirty of whom have so far signed on) and to serve as a focal point for disciplinary and interdisciplinary graduate students who are working on First Nations, Métis, or other Canadian or foreign Indigenous peoples topics.

Together with Lorraine, Brett has been working on planning the last year or so of the Social Cohesion project, and in this connection had a series of productive meetings with partner representatives and researchers during the Connections 2005 conference in May. The project plans a writing workshop for the participating researchers in the fall, to pull together ideas for a book; and a policy conference in early 2006 in Ottawa to bring the policy implications of the research to the attention of federal government officials.

Murray Fulton

▲ Teaching

Ag Econ 842.3: Agricultural Market Organizations

Ag Econ 898.3: Cognitive Processes: Implications for Organizational Behaviour and Policy Making

Both these classes concluded in April. Murray is supervising several graduate students at both the MA and PhD level, two of whom are doing co-operative related theses.

▲ Research

Work is ongoing on Murray's smaller SSHRC project, "Co-operative Structure, Corporate Governance, and the Failure of Agricultural Co-operatives," as well as on his large project, "Transformative Change in Biosphere Greenhouse Gas Management." He is also a co-investigator for the centre's SSHRC-funded "Co-operative Membership and Globalization" under the leadership of Brett Fairbairn.

Murray and Kim Sanderson recently obtained funding for a project entitled "Evaluation of Market Opportunities and Supply Chain Structure for Biocontrol Products in Canada." The objective is to examine the current structure of the biocontrol industry in Canada and to identify the barriers to the production and commercialization of these products. The project will explore industry development issues and the ability of alternative institutional models (e.g., co-operatives) to address the key priorities for each sector of the supply chain.

Murray and a team that includes Gary Storey, Bernie Sonntag, Bill Turner, Dan Ish, and Maurice Doyon (U Laval) were successful in obtaining funding for a project entitled "Small Farmers Adapting to Global Markets Project: Farmers Association Development Strategy and Training Program." The purpose of this project is to provide training to support the development of farmers' associations in rural China. The project budget for the current year is approximately \$366,000. The first major activity will be a study tour to Canada in early September.

▲ Publications

With Monika Cule and Alfons Weersink, "Greenhouse Gas Policy and Canadian Agriculture," *Current Agriculture, Food and Resource Issues* — see www.cafri.org

With Konstantinos Giannakas, “Process Innovation Activity in a Mixed Oligopoly: The Role of Cooperatives,” *American Journal of Agricultural Economics*, May 2005

With Monika Cule, “Some Implications of the Unofficial Economy-Bureaucratic Corruption Relationship in Transition Countries,” accepted for publication in *Economics Letters*

“Farmers as Price Takers: How Farm Returns are Established,” commissioned by the Canadian Agricultural Policy Institute as input into a project on the competitiveness of the agri-food sector and associated impacts on long-term farm income prospects entitled “Understanding Factors Affecting Current and Future Farm Income Prospects”

▲ Presentations

With Linda M. Young, Alfons Weersink, and B. James Deaton, “Carbon Sequestration in Agriculture: Institutional Responses to the Kyoto Protocol in Australia, Canada, the European Union and the United States,” to the Greenhouse Gas Management and the Biosphere workshop, Victoria, 28–29 April 2005

With Alfons Weersink, David Pannel, and Andreas Meyer-Aurich, “Agriculture's Likely Role in Meeting Canada's Kyoto Commitments,” to the same conference

With Jennifer Jozic, “Greenhouse Gas Policy: A Systems Approach to Policy Endogeneity,” poster presentation at the Capturing Canada’s Green Advantage: Biosphere Solutions to Climate Change and the Economy conference sponsored by the BIOCAP Canada Foundation, Ottawa, 2–3 February 2005

With Daniela Mihal, “The Impact of Non-Compliance in the Offset Market,” poster presentation at the same conference

With Marie Boehm, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, Mark Johnston, Saskatchewan Research Council, Patricia Farnese and Dan Pennock, CSALE, Murray participated in a CSALE-sponsored panel discussion at the University of Saskatchewan that examined some of the ramifications of the Kyoto Protocol for the Prairie region of Canada, February

▲ Administration and Other

Murray is the director of the Centre for Studies in Agriculture, Law, and the Environment, and also chair of the Interdisciplinary Committee of the College of Graduate Studies and Research.

Michael Gertler

▲ Teaching

Sociology 206.3: The Community

Sociology 402/802.3: Advanced Seminar in the Sociology of Agriculture

Both these classes finished in April. Michael is currently supervising three MA students in sociology and one in co-op studies; he is on the advisory committee for one MSc and two PhD students; one PhD student for whom Michael served as a committee member successfully defended her dissertation this spring.

▲ Research

Michael is a co-investigator for the centre's SSHRC-funded "Co-operative Membership and Globalization," under the leadership of Brett Fairbairn. He continues to analyse the initial round of field research in connection with cluster two, Co-operative Membership and Changing Boundaries of Community. More interviews are scheduled for the summer.

Research is also underway on the other large collaborative SSHRC project in which Michael is involved—"Thought for Food: Essential Skills and Food System Performance."

▲ Publications

With Kim Sanderson, Diane Martz, and Ramesh Mahabir, "Farmers' Markets in North America: A Background Document" (Saskatoon: Community-University Institute for Social Research, University of Saskatchewan, 2005)

"Synergy and Strategic Advantage: Cooperatives and Sustainable Development," *Journal of Cooperatives*, 19 (2004): 32-46

With JoAnn Jaffe, "Victual Vicissitudes: Consumer Deskillling and the (Gendered) Transformation of Food Systems," *Agriculture and Human Values*, accepted

With JoAnn Jaffe, "Sustainable Development in the New Economy: Risk, Vulnerability and Eco-Social Justice," in *To the Digital Divide and Back: Social Welfare, Technology and the New Economy*, edited by Steven Hick, Marion E. Jones, and John R. Graham (Toronto: University of Toronto Press, forthcoming 2005)

"Production Co-operatives and Co-operative Production: Legacy and Promise," in *The Agrarian Movement in Western Canada* (working title), edited by Murray Knuttila and Robert Stirling (Regina: Canadian Plains Research Centre, forthcoming).

▲ Presentations

"The Saskatoon Farmers' Market Co-operative: A Rural-Urban Co-production," to the annual meeting of the Canadian Association for Studies in Co-operation, Saskatoon, 18–20 May

▲ Administration and Other

Michael has managed a great variety of administrative responsibilities over the past year. He was program chair and secretary of the Canadian Association for Studies in Co-operation for 2004–05, and as such, responsible for planning the CASC conference in May in Saskatoon. At the AGM during the conference he was elected president of the association for 2005–06.

Michael is the academic co-lead of the Community Economic Development Module, Community-University Institute for Social Research (CUISR), U of S, and also a CUISR board member. He is a member of the Administrative Committee, Regional and Urban Development, in the College of Arts and Science; and a member of both the Undergraduate and Graduate Studies Committees in the Department of Sociology.

He is on the Science Liaison Committee for Prince Albert National Park and acts as a manuscript reviewer for the journal *Society and Natural Resources*.

Finally, Michael is chair of the fundraising committee for the Saskatoon Anne Frank Committee hosting the exhibition "Anne Frank in the World, 1925–1945" at the Diefenbaker Canada Centre, Saskatoon, 16 May – 30 June 2005.

Cristine de Clercy

Cris returned from maternity leave mid-May and is busy picking up the threads of many projects and reorienting herself to office life. Although theoretically on leave for a number of months, she continued her involvement in ongoing aspects of centre activities, particularly around the SSHRC project, and has been busy working on publications. It's great to have her back.

▲ Publications

Canadian Politics and Federalism in the Millennium: Essays in Honour of David E. Smith, Cris de Clercy and Hans Michelmann, eds. (Toronto: University of Toronto Press, forthcoming)

“Leadership, Political Culture, and the Conservatism of Saskatchewan Voters in the 2003 Provincial Election,” in *Democracy in Canada: Elections, Representation, and Leadership: Essays in Honour of John C. Courtney*, Jeffrey Steeves and Don Story, eds. (Toronto: University of Toronto Press, forthcoming)

“Leadership and Uncertainty in Fiscal Restructuring: Ralph Klein and Roy Romanow,” *Canadian Journal of Political Science*, forthcoming

▲ Administration and Other

Cris is co-ordinator for cluster one of the centre's SSHRC project and a director of the Canadian Political Science Association board for 2003–05.

Nora Russell

Large projects since the last director's report include:

- ▲ editing “Social Cohesion through Market Democratization: Alleviating Legitimation Deficits through Co-operation,” an occasional paper by centre PhD student Rob Dobrohoczki; this is with Rob for revision; publication will be this summer
- ▲ co-ordinating the collection (and writing/editing many) of the thirty-five SSHRC CVs for the application to the Social Economy Suite, as well as collecting original signature sheets from all co-applicants and community partners across the country; editing and formatting all the final documents

- ▲ preparing the program for the Canadian Association for Studies in Co-operation conference; this included design, layout, and print supervision, as well as editing thirty-five abstracts

Smaller projects over the past quarter include:

- ▲ design and layout of agenda for Building Co-operative Futures youth conference in May
- ▲ updating student information package and preparing promotional materials about the centre for display at the Connections 2005 conference; the centre shared the booth, generously sponsored by The Co-operators, with other co-operative education institutions across Canada; it was an opportunity for all of us to advertise our presence and programs to a captive audience of co-op-minded individuals; Nora was responsible for the display and answering questions during conference breaks, in between attending sessions.
- ▲ translated a French call for papers and other conference materials
- ▲ assisted Bill Turner and Dan Ish in preparing a PowerPoint presentation for their recent trip to China
- ▲ assisted with document retrieval and formatting problems for a book Cris is working on with Hans Michelmann
- ▲ preparing ads for centre seminar series
- ▲ assisted with image selection for Brett's keynote presentation at Connections 2005 conference

Reprints:

- ▲ *The SANASA Model: Co-operative Development through Micro-Finance*
- ▲ *Living the Dream: Membership and Marketing in the Co-operative Retailing System*

As usual, Nora has a number of projects awaiting her attention, some of which she has made a beginning on:

- ▲ booklets based on some of the chapters in the SSHRC book, *Co-operative Membership and Globalization*
- ▲ editing and layout for materials from the Co-operative Research Inventory completed for the Co-operatives Secretariat
- ▲ editing and layout for the documents resulting from SSHRC student Angie Wagner's work collecting co-operative and other business statistics in connection with Cris and Carol's National Co-operative Data Centre project
- ▲ Brett's occasional paper for Saskatchewan's centennial, "*Canada's Co-operative Province*": *Individualism and Mutualism in a Settler Society, 1905–2005*

- ▲ Brett's keynote presentation to the Connections 2005 conference, which will be an addition to the centre's booklet series
- ▲ Dan Ish's "Legislation for Farmer Co-operatives in China," a centre booklet based on an international seminar he gave in Beijing in April
- ▲ editing and layout for a number of research reports prepared by summer researchers in connection with the SSHRC project

Like other centre personnel, Nora attended the Connections 2005 conference and was heavily involved in preparations for the Canadian Association for Studies in Co-operation conference and attended all sessions. She takes part in regular meetings of the Editors' Association of Canada and the Saskatchewan Publisher's Group, whose monthly newsletter continues to supply useful industry information and offers an opportunity for the centre to advertise new developments in its own publishing program. As well, she makes regular contributions to the Association of Cooperative Educators newsletter, which has this quarter produced a very favourable review of the centre's most recent publication, *Co-operative Membership and Globalization: New Directions in Research and Practice*.

Nora is also responsible for co-ordinating and preparing the quarterly director's reports.

Roger Herman

▲ Research

Roger has spent considerable time during the past few months co-ordinating efforts and contributing to preparing the application for the Social Economy Regional Node through the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council. Details of this proposed research are discussed elsewhere in this report. Related to this application, he prepared two internal grant applications to the University of Saskatchewan, Research Services, aimed at helping to defray the cost of the competitive grant application process. The first application — for \$4,000 — was successful; the second is still under review.

Roger continues to devote a portion of his time to research activities for cluster two of the SSHRC project, Co-operative Membership and Changing Boundaries of Community. This has involved reviewing and analyzing interview transcripts of key informants from Prince Albert Co-operative Association and Prince Albert Credit Union. And he will be part of the team work-

ing on the new China Project (described elsewhere in this report). His role will be to develop curriculum/training materials that will later be delivered to groups of trainers in China.

Roger served as an independent technical expert for the Co-operatives Secretariat to review an application to the Co-operative Development Initiative program, and he continues to respond to inquiries regarding New Generation Co-operatives as well as co-ops in general.

▲ Conferences

Roger led a committee planning the very successful third annual Building Co-operative Futures youth conference, held in Saskatoon in May 2005. The conference included a variety of sessions and workshops in addition to a Rural Hospitality Evening and a Cultural Evening. About eighty youth from six countries participated in the event. Roger served as master of ceremonies and host for the three-day conference. He took part in the Connections 2005 conference and also assisted with preparations for the annual meetings of the Canadian Association for Studies in Co-operation held in Saskatoon in May; like most others at the centre, he attended all sessions. And he is on the program planning committee for the annual Association of Cooperative Educators Institute to be held in Alexandria, Virginia, in August.

▲ Extension

Roger represents the centre on a number of committees serving a variety of purposes. One is a group of community economic development organizations working to develop a regional CED umbrella organization. Another is a national social economy discussion group facilitated by the Canadian Co-operative Association. A third is an advisory committee of the Community Development Society of Saskatchewan planning an international community development conference for Saskatoon in 2008. And he continues as the centre's representative to the Saskatchewan Council for Community Development.

He also serves on the boards of the Saskatoon Community Clinic and the Association of Cooperative Educators.

Lorraine Salt

Lorraine joined the centre in February 2005 with six years of experience in special libraries. She was the library manager at McKercher McKercher & Whitmore, a Saskatoon law firm. Previously a library technician, Lorraine returned to school in 2003 to complete her Master of Information Studies degree at the University of Toronto. Her duties with the centre will include maintenance of the library, providing research support to Centre Fellows and Scholars, their students, and our community partners, while also assisting with research for and administration of the centre's SSHRC grants.

Since the last director's report, Lorraine has been actively involved with the newest SSHRC application on the social economy, creating a bibliography in the area of social economy research, and assisting in various other aspects of the process. She was also involved with the three back-to-back conferences in May that centre folks were either organizing and/or attending. She sat in for part of the Building Co-operative Futures youth conference, managed to fit in some of the Connections 2005 national conference, and attended all of the Canadian Association for Studies in Co-operation conference. While these conferences were going on, Lorraine co-ordinated several meetings of the SSHRC project co-investigators and partners to discuss the progress of the research. With the project heading into its final year, it was useful to get together to discuss the research to date and to plan wind-up activities, which will include at least two major publications and a policy conference. Lorraine will be occupied over the next few months getting the budget and expenses in order, planning a writing workshop for researchers in the fall, and co-ordinating the final conference.

Although traffic in the library decreased significantly when classes ended in April, the activity level has remained fairly high. We extended Caren Mann's term (a library technician working half-time) until 10 June so that she could complete the backlog in cataloguing. And for a three-week period, Caren was assisted by a SIAST first-year library technician student, Brenda Eshelby, who was with us for a work placement. Between the two of them, the boxes of unprocessed materials in the library have diminished considerably, with more than five hundred books and other items having been added to the library database. And data entry and book processing is still ongoing. Brenda also assisted in moving our collection of annual reports to a more prominent location in the library, which both increased the profile of these reports and opened up much-needed shelf space to accommodate additional books. Lorraine is grateful for the assistance of these two women. In a very short period of time, the face of the library has changed dramatically.

Patty Scheidl

Life has been particularly hectic at the centre over the past few months and aspects of all activities inevitably impact the main office. We all rely heavily on Patty and Karen for their organizational skills and attention to the minutiae of our work lives.

As office manager, Patty is responsible for the centre's day-to-day operations and undertakes many additional duties as they arise. She maintains the centre's monthly financial statements as well as the SSHRC project accounts and any other research accounts with which faculty and staff are involved. Other financial activities include helping Karen with publication purchases; dealing with quarterly invoices and deposits for centre sponsors; processing all other invoices and cheques that come into the centre for purchases and payments; and investigating the errors and omissions that occur from time to time.

Like others at the centre, Patty spent a great deal of time in April assisting with the preparation of the Social Economy application. This involved organizing a conference call and then preparing and distributing the minutes. She co-ordinated obtaining letters of support from thirty potential partner organizations, which involved hours of phone calls and e-mails. Upon completion of the application, she organized the photocopying of the hundreds of pages that went into it and made the arrangements to have it couriered to Ottawa. During the following week, she made many follow-up phone calls and e-mails to obtain original copies of the letters of support.

Patty spends endless hours setting up meetings. These arrangements always involve many e-mails and phone calls to determine dates, preparing and sending out invitations, booking rooms, ordering refreshments, printing and distributing materials, and organizing conference calls. On an ongoing basis, she makes all the arrangements for the Management Advisory Board meetings. This includes co-ordinating a suitable date for everyone involved, preparing the minutes, assembling the board packages and couriering them out ahead of time, getting parking passes, booking rooms, and ordering lunch. Over the past few months she has also arranged a number of meetings for Murray and others in connection with the China Project.

Patty is responsible for making travel, accommodation, and conference registration arrangements for centre personnel, which seem to be at a record high this spring. Activities this quarter include:

- ▲ Lou — Arctic Co-operatives Annual meeting, Winnipeg, 2–4 May
- ▲ Lou — Canadian Community Economic Development Network conference, Sault Ste. Marie, 4–6 May
- ▲ Lou — meetings with Daniel Côté and Marie Bouchard regarding social economy projects, Montreal, 25 May
- ▲ Lou — Administrative Sciences Association of Canada conference, Toronto, 26–30 May
- ▲ Brett — Consumer Co-operative Management Association conference, Albuquerque, New Mexico, 9–12 June
- ▲ Zhao Jun — research trip to China, May–June
- ▲ Monica — Mondragon Co-operative Research Conference, Spain, 28 June
- ▲ registration arrangements for ten graduate students attending the Building Co-op Futures youth conference and eleven centre faculty, staff, and students attending the Connections 2005 conference

Patty is also responsible for processing travel claims once people have returned. This quarter included Bill Turner, Gary Storey, and Dan Ish's travel expense claims and professional fees for trips to China in connection with the China Project, an added complication being that the contract is with Ag Canada, but is being administered through the centre.

Patty was involved in preparations for the Building Co-operative Futures youth conference and the CASC conference held in Saskatoon in May, providing assistance with printing and photocopying materials, making arrangements for meals and accommodation, parking, refreshments for breaks, registration, preparing conference kits, and other miscellaneous tasks.

On an ongoing basis Patty assists the centre's students with whatever needs they happen to have. This may involve preparing paperwork for hiring purposes, applications to programs, or scholarship applications, ordering keys, setting up office space, arranging for computer access, and general orientation activities. This quarter also involved preparing payroll forms for seven graduate students hired for the summer and assisting Lorraine with the USTEP applications for summer employment.

In addition to all these responsibilities, Patty managed to find the time to take a number of courses on the university's complex new financial system as well as the new SIRIUS student information system that came into effect 1 May. Implementing the new financial system was a huge job, involving closing accounts, submitting paperwork for the transfer of funds, opening new accounts, and notifying all centre contacts and suppliers of new account numbers.

Karen Neufeldt

Karen works for the centre half time, assisting Patty in the office and Lorraine in the library with a variety of activities. Her regular duties include reception, paperwork, cash reports, filing, xeroxing and printing, invoicing and mailing publication orders, keeping track of stock for reprints, as well as invoicing telephone, fax, and xerox bills. Karen is also responsible for sending out the monthly seminar series announcements and periodic newsletters, updating various databases, whatever other mailouts are required, and helping to prepare packages for the advisory board meeting.

Special activities this quarter included:

- ▲ responding to many publications enquiries and preparing invoices and cash reports for purchases
- ▲ assisting with the preparation of materials for the SSHRC application on the social economy
- ▲ helping out with arrangements for the youth conference
- ▲ spending many hours on the phone dealing with accommodations and food for the CASC conference, doing photocopying and handling the program printing, chasing down items for conference kits and helping to assemble the kits, and assisting with registration and arrangements for coffee breaks
- ▲ assisting with scanning photographs for Brett's keynote presentation at the Connections 2005 conference

Karen also undertakes many incidental tasks for faculty, staff, and scholars.

Angela Wagner

Angie is working on her MA thesis titled "Membership Identity and Consumer Behaviour: The Case of Consumer Co-operatives." She expects to defend it late summer 05. Her work under Cris's supervision on sources of business statistics for co-operatives and other organizations is with Nora for editing and will be an addition to our occasional papers series. Angie took part with other graduate students at the centre in the Building Co-operative Futures conference.

Jason Heit

With the end of the academic term, Jason's attention has turned from his course work to his MA thesis requirements, though he has also been involved in a number of centre activities. With Monica and Rob, he has ongoing

responsibility for the seminar series. He assisted Roger and other members of the Building Co-operative Futures conference planning committee in organization, hosting, and participating in that event. He also attended the Connections 2005 conference, and then the CASC conference, presenting as part of a panel with Monica and Rob a paper titled “Expressing Identity or Franchising Conformity: A Review of Six American Agricultural Co-operative Websites.” Jason has a paper titled “Reforming the Risk Society: A Study of Denmark’s Consensus Conference Model and Danish Society” under review with the *Electronic Journal of Sociology*. And the paper he wrote last summer on website design and quality in selected co-operative organizations awaits Nora’s attention for editing as a research paper in the collection gathering around the SSHRC project. Jason is working as a summer assistant on activities related to the research for cluster four of the SSHRC project.

Kim Brown

Kim recently finished the course requirements and is now focussed on the thesis component of her MA program. She was on the planning committee and also a participant in the Building Co-operative Futures youth conference. Following that, she attended the Connections 2005 and the CASC conferences. This summer she is continuing work on board diversity as it relates to cluster one of the SSHRC project, Co-operative Consumer Identities in Urban Communities.

Juanita Bacsu

Juanita has just finished an Honours BA in political studies and is working with Cris this summer, carrying on with the work she began last summer on a master survey instrument that will help to provide insight into the relationships among co-operative membership, globalization, and social cohesion. This is in connection with SSHRC cluster one. Along with the rest of her colleagues, Juanita assisted on the planning committee and was a participant in both the Building Co-operative Futures and CASC conferences as well as attending sessions at Connections 2005. She is hoping to begin her MA this fall at the centre.

Monica Juarez Adeler

Monica has completed the first year of the course work for her interdisciplinary PhD. Her research on e-commerce transactions and co-operative mem-

bership, comparing activity in Canada and the European Union, falls into SSHRC cluster four. With Jason and Rob, and Isobel Findlay as moderator, Monica took part in a panel presentation at the CASC meetings with a paper titled “The Internet and the European Union: Reflections of Economic, Legal, and Socio-Cultural Complexities and the Implications for Co-operatives.” As conference co-ordinator for the CASC meetings, she devoted a great deal of time to organization and logistics. She also participated in Building Co-operative Futures and the Connections 2005 conference. As part of the conditions of her scholarship, Monica is working at the centre this summer on research around cluster four. And at the end of June she will be the centre’s representative at the Mondragon Co-operative Research Conference in Spain, presenting a paper titled “Technology, Globalization, and Co-operatives: Reflections on New Economic, Legal, and Socio-Cultural Complexities and the Implications for Co-operatives.”

Rob Dobrohoczki

Rob has completed the first course in his part-time PhD studies and since then has been busy with conferences. He presented “Reconceptualizing Legitimacy and Disciplinarity in Law: The Case of the Delgamuukw Decision” at both a UBC law conference and the Stepping Stones 2005 Interdisciplinary Graduate Student Conference at the U of S. He co-presented a paper with Brett at the CASC conference titled “Social Cohesion in Prairie Town and Country: Credit Unions and Members,” and then with Monica and Jason took part in a panel presentation in which he discussed “E-Commerce, Democracy, and Co-operative Identity.” He has had a paper accepted at the ICA research conference in Cork, Ireland, titled “Co-operatives as Social Policy Instruments for Creating Social Cohesion in Communities.” And he is working on Nora’s recommended revisions to his occasional paper, “Social Cohesion through Market Democratisation: Alleviating Legitimation Deficits through Co-operation.” This summer Rob is working as Brett’s assistant on the SSHRC research exploring member identity in two Manitoba credit unions.

Caren Mann

Library technician Caren Mann joined us in March to assist Lorraine with the enormous backlog of materials that has built up in the library over the past year. She has done yeoman service in cataloguing, helping to add more than five hundred items to the database. Her term concluded 10 June.

April Bourgeois

April is working on a contract basis for the centre helping to prepare the resource kit for co-operative development within First Nation communities. This comprises part of Lou's work with the Saskatchewan First Nations Co-operative.

Zhao Jun

An interdisciplinary PhD student under Murray's supervision, Zhao arrived at the centre in January and has completed one term of courses. He is working on case studies of farmer associations in China for the China Project this summer. He will be returning to the centre in the fall to resume his studies.

Dwayne Pattison

Dwayne did his undergraduate work at the University of Saskatchewan in Environmental Studies and then spent four years in Korea working in the International Co-operation Office of the National Agricultural Co-operative Federation. He is our most recent SSHRC scholarship recipient and also the newest student in our Interdisciplinary Concentration in Co-operative Studies. He arrived at the centre in May and will be working for the summer on cluster two of the SSHRC project, creating a profile of the Prince Albert community and surrounding areas. He will begin his MA in the fall, with research concentrated in the cluster two area.