

Director's Report  
to the  
Management Advisory Board



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



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Director



November 2001



# Overview and Highlights



*Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council  
Grant Application*



*Scholars Retreat*



*Summer Research*



*The Seminar Series*



*Publications New and Forthcoming*



*Staff News*



*Visitors*

### ▲ *Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council Grant Application*

Since learning on 20 June that our letter of intent for a Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council strategic research grant had been approved, centre personnel and scholars have been working to develop a full-fledged proposal, deepening the academic and theoretical grounding of the idea—“Co-operative Membership and Globalization: Creating Social Cohesion through Market Relations”—and obtaining firm commitments from potential partners and collaborators. The SSHRC grant of \$5,000 towards proposal development was put to good use co-ordinating input from sixteen researchers and nineteen partner organizations from Canada, the US, and Australia, which kept Carol working full time during August and September. The proposal was submitted on the deadline of 1 October and we do not expect to hear a final decision until February 2002. Please consult Carol’s section, below, for further details.

### ▲ *The Scholars Retreat*

The fifth of July was a landmark day for the centre--the first general meeting with our new Centre Scholars. The structure was casual and as retreats tend to be, highly participatory and intense, leaving us all with a wonderful feeling of possibilities and new directions. Several scholars gave presentations, and they all spoke of their connections with co-operative studies and where their current interests might overlap those of Centre Fellows and research staff. To mention only a few, Len Findlay noted that he felt the centre was an alternative home for many people, a place where the rules are different, the sociability is different, and the questions are different because of its interdisciplinary nature; he spoke about his interest in researching the concept of the university as a co-operative enterprise. Gordon Barnhart gave a presentation on the beginnings of co-operative activity in the province under Walter Scott, Saskatchewan’s first premier and the subject of a recent book he has written. Sheryl Mills, who teaches a class in co-operative learning discussed her interest in co-operatives not as “things’ but as relationships and process. In the panel on co-operative teaching and learning, she and Marj Benson shared experiences they had had with recent classes, which served to highlight the complexities, pitfalls, conflicts, and rewards inherent in any co-operative effort. Jill Hobbs has already published something with the centre on agricul-

tural co-operatives and has ongoing interest in the area. It is clear there are many avenues to explore together.

Activating and working with our network of scholars will be a top priority over the next two years. Much progress has already been made (see centre publications by scholars noted in Publications New and Forthcoming, below). Scholars are contributing to the seminar series (see also below) and several attend on a regular basis. Isobel Findlay and Ian MacPherson had a central involvement in the preparation of the SSHRC proposal. Carol has been working on Regional Economic Development Authorities and Michael on the Saskatoon Farmers' Market under the auspices of the Community University Institute for Social Research, directed by Centre Scholar Jim Randall; Carol in fact helped CUISR in the recruitment of its library technician. And we are publishing Marj Benson's manuscript titled *Conflict, Co-operation, and Culture: A Saskatchewan Context*, which rose out of her class in multi-party conflict resolution last year. On other fronts, we have integrated scholars into information distribution and social events to keep contact as frequent and open as possible.

### ▲ *Summer Research*

Research activities during the summer, which wound up at the end of August, have already yielded publications. One of Chad Haaf's papers on NGCs has appeared in booklet form and also in a package of resource material that grew out of the NGC Experts Workshop last March. His two other papers, also pertaining to NGCs, are being considered for booklets as well. Karla Radloff's paper on student co-operatives in North America will become the first in the centre's new series of general research papers. See the section on publications, below, as well as Karla and Chad's sections, for more details.

### ▲ *The Seminar Series*

The Centre Seminar Series, co-ordinated by Roger, resumed this fall with a presentation by Murray titled "Leadership in Democratic and Participatory Organizations," followed a week later by Gordon Barnhart's "Premier Walter Scott: The Beginnings of a Co-operative Tradition." Both were well attended and elicited lively discussion afterwards. Marj Benson will be giving the next seminar in early December, based on her experience pioneering a law class in multiparty conflict resolution. Both Gordon and Marj are Centre Scholars,

so it is a particular pleasure to have them participating in the seminar series. We expect this will be an area of ongoing collaboration that will enrich research efforts among Centre Scholars, Fellows, and those in complementary fields who attend.

### ▲ *Publications New and Forthcoming*

The centre's growing expertise in New Generation Co-operatives is leading to an excellent collection of materials on the subject. Adding to the two booklets and the video already in existence, we published three new booklets this fall, all on NGCs: Chad Haaf and Brenda Stefanson, *New Generation Co-operatives and the Law in Saskatchewan*; Brenda Stefanson, Ian McIntosh, and Dean Murrison, *New Generation Co-operatives: Key Steps in the Issuance of Securities, and The Secondary Trade*; and Murray Fulton, *New Generation Co-operative Development in Canada*. Chad was one of our summer researchers and his work appears not only in this booklet but in *Resource Materials for Business Development Professionals and Agricultural Producers*, a binder of materials also published this fall that grew out of the NGC Pilot Project's Experts Workshop held last spring. In addition, we produced *An Economic Impact Analysis of the Co-operative Sector in Saskatchewan, Update 1998*, prepared by Roger this past summer and edited and laid out by Nora for the Department of Economic and Co-operative Development.

We also have another booklet in the works, this one by Ann Hoyt, a professor in the School of Human Ecology at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Titled *Up a Creek with a Paddle: Excellence in the Board Room*, it is based on the keynote address she gave to the Association of Cooperative Educators Institute last August.

Since no one of the several agencies involved undertook to publish the entire 400-page *Report on Aboriginal Co-operatives in Canada*, the centre has taken on the responsibility. Nora has managed to obtain commitments from a number of organizations to purchase copies, which will make it worthwhile for the centre to publish the document. It will be going to the printer this month.

The centre has already published work by Centre Scholars: Isobel and Len Findlay's *Realizing Community: Multidisciplinary Perspectives*, Dan Ish's *Legal Responsibilities of Directors and Officers in Canadian Co-operatives*, and Jill Hobbs's *Against All Odds: Explaining the Exporting Success of the Danish Pork*

*Co-operatives.* We are pleased to be working on a new project with Centre Scholar Marj Benson, whose law casebook titled *Conflict, Co-operation, and Culture: A Saskatchewan Context* will become a centre occasional paper that will be used in her course on multiparty conflict resolution.

Please see Nora's section for more details about activities in the Communications Department.

### ▲ *Staff News*

Apart from the comings and goings of summer researchers Karla Radloff and Chad Haaf, whose work finished at the end of August, and Neville Fernandes, who is wrapping up his research, centre faculty and staff have been in a fairly stable position for the past four months, an unusual occurrence compared to the last couple of years. The only thing looming on the horizon is Murray's six-month administrative leave beginning in January 2002, but although he will be further away, we expect him, if anything, to have more time to think about co-ops. He will be dividing his time among France, Denmark, and Greece, where he will be teaching his annual course on co-operative management at the Mediterranean Agronomic Institute of Chania in Crete.

### ▲ *Visitors*

Though we have had a number of inquiries from such places as China and Korea, the centre has had only two sets of visitors since the last director's report. Herr Ulrich Werner, from the Stuttgart-based Southwest German Co-operative Federation, who first came to see us in January, returned in August to conduct further research. And in October we hosted a large delegation of officials from a number of regional governments within Ukraine as well as from the country's Agriculture Ministry.

# Teaching, Research, Publications, Presentations, and Administration

## Brett Fairbairn

### ▲ *Teaching*

History 287.3: Origins and Development of Co-operatives in Europe

History 498.3: History of Co-operatives in Canada and the United States

History 898.3: Rural Social History (co-instructor)

Brett is also involved with the following graduate students: Rob Angove, MA (History) “Resistance to National Socialism.” In progress. (Committee); Chris Garrish, MA (History) “The Demise of the Orderly Marketing System: The British Columbia Fruit Growers Association, Single-Desk Selling and the Coming of the Agricultural Land Reserve.” In progress. (Supervisor); Julie Gibbings, MA (History) “Colonialism and Development in Central America.” In progress (Committee); Roger Herman, MA (Interdisciplinary). “Innovation and Diffusion in Saskatchewan’s New Agriculture.” In progress. (Committee); Jeff Korte, MA (History) “The German Alpine Redoubt, 1945.” In progress. (Supervisor); Laura McNaughton, MA (History) “Prairie Agriculture and the Veterans’ Land Administration.” In progress. (Committee); Jennifer Milne, MA (History) “Rural Depopulation in Saskatchewan: The Experiences of Women.” In progress. (Supervisor); Cory Penno, MA (History) “Newspaper Nobility: Junker Identity and the Kreuzzeitung in the 1880s and 1890s.” In progress. (Supervisor); Dave Rogers, MA (History) “Adenauer and the Berlin Blockade.” In progress. (Committee); Rochelle Smith, PhD (Interdisciplinary). “Co-operatives in Transition.” In progress. (Co-supervisor).

### ▲ *Academic Publications*

“Consumer Co-operatives in International Perspective: A Historical Overview,” for volume edited by Michael Prinz, University of Muenster, on the history of consumer society in Germany (forthcoming).

**▲ Presentations**

“Co-operatives: Organization and Leadership,” to TGGGA Centenary Symposium, University of Regina, 25 November 2001.

“Canada’s Co-operative Province: Saskatchewan People and the Co-operative Movement,” to conference on The Self-Perception of Saskatchewan: History and Culture as Guides to the Future,” Saskatoon, 16 November 2001.

“‘Betweenness’ as Characteristic of the Teacher-Scholar: Interdisciplinarity, Internationalization, and the Research-Teaching-Extension Intersection,” to University of Saskatchewan What is a Teacher-Scholar? Symposium, 9 November 2001.

“Looking Ahead: Creating Co-operative Knowledge in an Information Society,” to Education Professionals Section, National Institute of Cooperative Education, Atlanta, Georgia, 23 July 2001.

**▲ Research Grant**

Principal Investigator: Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada, June-September 2001, “Exploring Social Cohesion in a Globalizing Era: Membership and Social Cohesion.” (\$5,000)

**▲ Extension**

Author, “The Future of Cooperative Education,” in *USDA Rural Cooperatives*, forthcoming.

Author, “Envisioning a Co-operative Future,” *The Western Producer*, 25 October 2001.

Speaker, “The Future of Co-operative Education” to New Visions—New Ventures group, CHS Cooperatives, St. Paul, Minnesota, 23 October 2001.

Speaker, “Why Co-operatives Educate,” two presentations to Twin Cities Coops Federal Credit Union (St. Paul, Minnesota), management and directors, 22 October 2001.

Author, “The Future of Co-operative Education,” for United States

Department of Agriculture's *Rural Cooperatives* magazine, forthcoming November 2001.

Speaker, "Envisioning a Co-operative Future for Saskatoon," to Co-operatives Week educational forum, Saskatoon, 17 October 2001.

## Murray Fulton

### ▲ *Teaching*

Economics 231.3: Economics of Co-operatives

Murray is currently supervising a number of graduate students. Carl Potts successfully defended his MSc degree in Agricultural Economics on 4 October 2001. The topic of his thesis was the economics of input credit contracts in the grain industry. Roger Herman (co-supervisor with Lou Hammond Ketilson) is examining the factors that determine the diffusion of farmer-owned enterprises, while Lynette Keyowski is examining the decision by farmers to grow herbicide-tolerant canola. Murray is also supervising a student at the Mediterranean Institute of Chania. Kelly Male is an Albanian student looking at the rise of farmer co-operatives as Albania makes the transition to a market economy. Murray's PhD students include Emie Yiannaka, who is examining the economics of intellectual property rights, Monika Cule, who is researching the economics of corruption in transition economies, and Rochelle Smith (co-supervisor with Brett Fairbairn) who is studying the transition in co-ops as they adjust to globalization and deregulation.

### ▲ *Research*

Murray is currently working with Kim Sanderson, a recent MSc graduate in agricultural economics, on a project looking at the impact of the so-called "New Agriculture" on farmers in Saskatchewan and examining the implications of these changes for co-ops.

### ▲ *Presentations*

"Leadership in Democratic and Participatory Organizations," presidential address to the Canadian Agricultural Economics Society, CAES-AAEA Annual Meeting, Chicago, 5–8 August 2001.

With Konstantinos Giannakas. "Organizational Commitment in a Mixed Oligopoly: Agricultural Cooperatives and Investor-Owned Firms." CAES-AAEA Annual Meeting, Chicago, 5–8 August 2001.

With Konstantinos Giannakas. "Market Effects of Genetically Modified Food." CAES-AAEA Annual Meeting, Chicago, 5–8 August 2001.

"Leadership in Democratic and Participatory Organizations," Centre for the Study of Co-operatives Seminar, 1 November 2001.

### ▲ *Administration*

Murray's term as acting associate dean, College of Graduate Studies and Research, ends 31 December 2001, at which point he will be taking six months of administrative leave.

## Michael Gertler

### ▲ *Teaching*

Sociology 204.3: Rural Sociology  
Sociology 302.3: Sociology of Agriculture

Michael is also supervising two MA students and is a committee member for four PhD candidates.

### ▲ *Research*

Michael continues to work on his CUISR-funded project 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. He is currently carrying out a survey of market patrons.

He collaborated with centre staff to prepare the SSHRC proposal "Co-operative Membership and Globalization: Creating Social Cohesion through Market Relations."

He also collaborated with colleagues at the University of Regina to prepare a Letter of Intent, "Globalization, Regional Sustainable Development and the

New Economy,” for the Initiatives on the New Economy program of the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council. If successful, this would support development of a proposal to fund further research on co-operatives in Chile and Costa Rica.

▲ **Publications**

“Sustaining and Sustainable Co-operatives,” *Synergy Magazine* 10 (1), 2001.

▲ **Presentations**

With J. Jaffe. “Social Innovation, Hybrid Enterprise, and State Partnership: The Real World of Agricultural and Rural Diversification on the Canadian Plains,” paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the Rural Sociological Society, 15–19 August, Albuquerque, NM.

Chair and discussant for session on “The Link Between Policy Initiatives and Rural Development,” Annual Meeting of the Rural Sociological Society, 15–19 August, Albuquerque, NM.

Panel presentation on “The Saskatoon Farmers’ Market Co-operative and Alternative Marketing” for the public workshop titled Building a Citizens Agenda for Food Security and Food Democracy, St. Andrew’s College, 12–13 October, Saskatoon

“Organization Matters: Social and Organizational Factors in Sustainable Rural Enterprise,” paper presented at the Canadian Rural Revitalization Foundation Conference, New Rural Economy: From Challenge to Action, 24–27 October, Muenster, SK.

▲ **Administration and Other**

Michael is chair of the Undergraduate Studies Committee, Department of Sociology, for 2001–02.

He is a member of the Administrative Committee, International Studies, College of Arts and Science, U of S.

He is a member of the Endowment Committee of the Rural Sociological Society.

And he is chair of the Science Liaison Committee for Prince Albert National Park.

## Cristine de Clercy

### ▲ Teaching

Political Studies 203.6: The Government of Canada

### ▲ Research

Cris is working on deepening the research base of her introductory study concerning organizational federalism and co-operatives. A formal academic paper on this topic currently is in progress.

She and Peter Ferguson of the Department of Political Studies co-authored a research paper on adherence to the new *Elections Act* provisions around opinion poll reporting. This paper was presented to the meetings of the American Political Science Association and will be sent out for review shortly.

She recently finished her co-authored technical report on the state of GM food policy in western Canada, part of which will be published shortly in a more accessible format. This research will support a new study of the GM food debate and the co-operative sector to be initiated in the next term.

Cris was invited to write a paper on behalf of the Canadian Study of Parliament group. The project was completed in October and released publicly in November. It is available in English and French.

Collaborator, SSHRC Strategic Programs and Joint Initiatives Project on Co-operative Membership and Globalization: Creating Social Cohesion Through Market Relations

Collaborator, SSHRC major collaborative initiative on Municipal-Federal Government Relations: Alternative Provincial and International Models.

### ▲ Publications

“The Requisites of Leadership in the Modern House of Commons,”  
Canadian Study of Parliament Group, Ottawa: Parliamentary Perspectives Series, November 2001.

With Greg Marchildon, Allan McHughen, and Don Gilchrist, “GM Food Policy Research Project.” Technical Report prepared for the Saskatchewan Institute for Public Policy, 2001.

### ▲ *Presentations*

On 17 October 2001 Cris acted as a Facilitator for the Co-op Week Educational session titled “What do you want Saskatoon to look like in 2010? How can co-operatives contribute?” She edited the panelists’ positions and the audience’s views in the form of a document to be presented to the City of Saskatoon council members. It is hoped that this document will initiate some thought about community planning as Saskatchewan heads towards its centenary celebration in 2005.

“Toward Consumer Sovereignty under Globalization: How the Co-operative Model Can Help,” to the Citizens’ Agenda for Food Security and Food Safety Conference, St. Andrew’s College, University of Saskatchewan, 12–14 October 2001.

With Peter Ferguson, “Pollsters and Hucksters: A Comparative Analysis of Opinion Poll Reporting in the 2000 Canadian and American Elections,” presented to the American Political Science Association Annual Meeting, San Francisco, CA, 30 August to 2 September 2001.

## 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.

### ▲ *Teaching*

Commerce 345.3: Business and Public Policy

### ▲ *Research*

Lou participated with the rest of centre faculty and staff in preparations for the SSHRC grant proposal.

### ▲ Presentations

Lou has given a number of presentations in connection with the *Report on Aboriginal Co-operatives in Canada*.

“Incorporating Co-operative Principles into Business Strategies,” preliminary presentation in October to Credit Union Central senior management in response to a resolution put forward and passed at the last CUC annual meeting. This is the first of three presentations. Objectives for these presentations are a) to profile the work of the University of Saskatchewan Centre for the Study of Co-operatives and identify the value received by the Credit Union System in exchange for their annual contribution; and b) to provide a review of the research that identifies the importance of translating co-operative values and principles into business strategies and operations. Further presentations will follow in November, to the fall delegates’ meeting, and then in the spring, to the Market Segment Meeting.

### ▲ 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.

## Nora Russell

Nora was so relieved to have survived five plane flights and the month of August in Paris with two teen-aged girls that she threw herself into her work with unprecedented results. Since the last director’s report, activities in the Communications Department have included:

- ▲ completion of the editing on Rocky’s occasional paper on the Credit Union Deposit Guarantee Corporation; it is with the author for revisions;
- ▲ writing, design, and layout of the annual report;

- ▲ writing and layout of the fall newsletter;
- ▲ editing and layout for three additions to the centre's booklet series: Chad Haaf and Brenda Stefanson, *New Generation Co-operatives and the Law in Saskatchewan*; Brenda Stefanson, Ian McIntosh, and Dean Murrison, *New Generation Co-operatives: Key Steps in the Issuance of Securities*, and, *The Secondary Trade*; and Murray Fulton, *New Generation Co-operative Development in Canada*;
- ▲ editing, layout, and production of *Resource Materials for Business Development Professionals and Agricultural Producers*, a binder of materials that grew out of the NGC Pilot Project's Experts Workshop;
- ▲ editing and formatting of *An Economic Impact Analysis of the Co-operative Sector in Saskatchewan: Update 1998*, prepared by Roger this past summer; this then went to the Department of Economic and Co-operative Development for production; and
- ▲ formatting the French version of the Report on Aboriginal Co-operatives in Canada, at the request of the Co-operatives Secretariat.

Smaller projects have included:

- ▲ revising the Employment Equity plan and submitting it to the campus co-ordinator;
- ▲ designing letterhead for the SSHRC grant proposal and co-ordinating the development of a logo by a design expert;
- ▲ preparing a package of materials for Centre Scholars regarding our publications policy and program;
- ▲ revising and updating the student package on co-operative courses, awards, and information sources developed last fall for distribution to students taught by centre faculty (we distributed more than two hundred this fall);
- ▲ developing an all-occasion package of generic PR materials on the centre; and
- ▲ preparing seminar ads as well as ads for the co-op week supplement, the *ACE Newsletter*, and *Synergy Magazine's* special co-op issue.

In addition, she helped Carol with the preparation of documents for the SSHRC grant proposal, prepared Marcello's paper for distribution to all those he interviewed in the course of his research, helped Patty with the minutes for the board meeting, and prepared this director's report.

Nora is particularly pleased to be working on a large project with one of our Centre Scholars, Marj Benson, whose law casebook titled *Conflict, Co-operation, and Culture: A Saskatchewan Context*, will become a centre occasional paper that will be used in her course on multiparty conflict resolution.

There have been two reprints over the past few months: the centre booklet *Interdisciplinarity and the Transformation of the University*, and the occasional paper “*An Institution of Untold Value*”: *The Evolution of the Co-operative College of Canada*.

In terms of professional development, Nora, with Carol and some colleagues from Native Law, attended a one-day workshop in October on the software Photoshop.

Nora has a number of items awaiting her attention including Brenda Stefanson’s thesis on adult educators in co-op development and Hannes Mesecke’s paper comparing western Canadian and German agricultural co-operatives, which will both be occasional papers; Karla Radloff’s paper on student co-operatives in North America, which will be the first in the Centre’s new series of research reports; Chad Haaf’s two papers related to NGCs, which will be booklets; and Ann Hoyt’s (School of Human Ecology, University of Wisconsin-Madison) booklet *Up a Creek with a Paddle: Excellence in the Board Room*, based on her keynote address to the Association of Cooperative Educators Institute in Puerto Rico last August.

## Carol Shepstone

### ▲ Library

As fall classes resume and summer vacations end across the province it seems that thoughts of co-ops are weighing heavily on the minds of many. The library has been busy with students exploring the New Generation Co-operative model, comparing investor owned firms and co-operatives, examining labour relations in Saskatchewan co-operatives, researching the history of consumer co-operatives in Europe, and co-operative theory and international development issues. Along with these student inquiries and centre staff and scholar information requests, there continue to be many external inquiries from the co-operative sector, general public, and students at other institu-

tions. Requests for information have arrived from Japan, New York, Nova Scotia, British Columbia, Manitoba, Alberta, and of course Saskatchewan. As always, the range of co-operative interests are eclectic and have included: co-operative legislation, co-operatives and rural development, wastewater co-operatives, electric co-operatives, worker co-operatives in the international and national settings, New Generation Co-operatives, co-operative banks, and producer car co-operatives. In total, some seventy-five research and reference questions have been answered in the last four months, twenty-one of which were from external patrons.

More than fifty new titles have been added to the library since the June director's report, including the complete collection (to date) of the BC Institute of Co-operative Studies' (BCICS) publications. The library looks forward to continuing to receive more titles through our publications exchange with BCICS. Circulation activity has been slow due to the summer, but approximately eighty-nine items have been checked in and out of the library during the last four months. Current awareness services, which include table of contents notification and lists of new items to the library, continue to be popular and have proven a useful method for keeping Centre Scholars informed about the most recent co-operative related literature.

Carol was also pleased to be able to assist the Community-University Institute for Social Research (CUISR) hire a library technician to develop their new resource library. She continues to act as a professional resource person, consulting on issues as they arise.

### ▲ *The Web Site*

The web site has undergone some significant revisions to layout and content, due mainly to the addition of substantial amounts of new NGC information. This includes full text access to the resource materials binder produced by the centre with the collaboration of CCA. These publications include significant amounts of practical information, in both English and French, for researchers, business professionals supporting NGC development, and for agricultural producers seeking detailed start-up information. In addition to these resources, short video and audio clips have also been added to the NGC information section of the site, providing yet another way for the public to access details about the NGC model. Carol looks forward to ongoing expansion of this section of our web site as the centre and CCA partner to gather information for this centralized Canadian NGC site.

### ▲ *Research*

August and September were consumed with preparation of the centre's grant proposal to the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada —“Co-operative Membership and Globalization: Creating Social Cohesion through Market Relations.” Preparations included co-ordination of some sixteen researchers and nineteen partner organizations. The period leading up to the 1 October deadline included numerous planning meetings, countless pages and bytes of information distributed and gathered, time dedicated to literature searches and document preparation, project budget development, and personal contacts made with potential partners and researchers. With these deadlines looming, other research projects and many daily activities were put on hold, including the REDA research begun earlier this spring, which is now in its final stages.

### ▲ *Professional Activities*

Carol has recently been appointed to the Saskatchewan Multitype Library Board as the representative for the Saskatchewan Library Association. This is a provincial board under the department of Municipal Affairs and Housing, which explores opportunities for co-operative resource and knowledge sharing among libraries from all sectors in the province. She continues to be involved in the library promotions subcommittee of this board, which is examining the state of the information profession in the province and the value of library and information sources to the Saskatchewan economy. This spring she took on the role of Saskatchewan Director of the Western Canada Chapter of the US-based Special Libraries Association. Carol also continues to be involved with the Saskatoon Co-operatives Network and the Saskatoon Special Libraries Network.

Professional development activities during the last few months included the week-long Summer Institute 2001: Creating Electronic Texts and Images, held at the University of New Brunswick in Fredericton. This intensive course combined opportunities for hands-on experience with theoretical discussion of the issues of electronic text creation, preservation, and access. Carol also joined Nora for a one-day session on the secrets of Photoshop software in mid-October, and participated in a variety of on-campus virtual and in-person information management presentations.

## Roger Herman

Roger recently completed work on *An Economic Impact Analysis of the Co-operative Sector in Saskatchewan: Update 1998*. Once Nora did the editing and formatting, it was forwarded to the Department of Economic and Co-operative Development.

He also finished tying up the loose ends on the NGC Pilot Project, although he continues to respond to inquiries related to new generation co-operative development.

With the completion of the NGC Pilot Project, Roger has resumed intensive work on the research for his master's thesis titled "The Diffusion of Innovation in Saskatchewan Agriculture," which will examine producer-owned terminals, community-based hog initiatives, and New Generation Co-operatives.

This past summer, he was the only Canadian participant in a Co-operative Think Tank meeting in Medora, North Dakota, which involved a variety of academics and co-op development practitioners from across the US.

Roger is responsible for the co-ordination of the Centre's seminar series, which has so far seen two presentations this fall, with a third in the works.

## Patty Scheidl

In addition to regular day-to-day responsibilities as the office manager, Patty has been kept extremely busy over the past several months with a wide variety of activities. She spent a considerable amount of time in August making arrangements for a mid-September meeting of the co-applicants and partners of the SSHRC grant on Co-operative Membership and Globalization. This included booking accommodations, researching an appropriate location, catering, and booking audio/visual equipment. Unfortunately, all these arrangements had to be cancelled due to the uncertainty of the airlines being backed up.

Patty has devoted a great deal of time over the last couple of months to the Centre's year-end budget for the November advisory board meeting. Since

this was her first time preparing for year-end, she had to arrange for a few meetings with the university's Financial Services people, who advised her on the required protocol and information gathering.

She assisted Carol with preparations for the submission of the SSHRC proposal.

On an ongoing basis, she maintains the Centre's monthly financial statements as well as the various research accounts, ensuring that balances are accurate and all invoices are paid. In particular, she picked up where Wendy left off in connection with the CARDS-funded NGC Pilot Project and kept the paperwork up to date for Roger.

Patty is responsible for making travel arrangements for Centre personnel to attend meetings and conferences; for researching equipment needs and then overseeing ordering and delivery; for making all the arrangements for the regular advisory board meetings, as well as assembling the agenda items; and for setting up meetings. In addition, she and Karen share responsibilities for sending out Seminar Series notices on a regular basis, and for any large mailings, such as the newsletter and the annual report.

## Karen Neufeldt

Karen continues to work 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. Karen also assisted this fall with preparations for the SSHRC grant proposal, and she and Patty recently completed the large mailout of the Centre's annual report and the fall newsletter. Karen also works half-time in the College of Dentistry.

## Chad Haaf

Hired through the Centennial Student Employment Program for the summer, Chad finished his research projects at the end of August. One of his papers became part of the *Resource Materials for Business Development Professionals and Agricultural Producers*, which grew out of the NGC Pilot Project and was published by the Centre this fall. He completed two more papers, one a comparative analysis of New Generation Co-operative legislation in the three prairie provinces, the other a legal analysis of the logistics of converting a limited partnership into an NGC. With editing by a legal expert, both are candidates for either the Centre's booklet series or a new series of general research papers Nora intends to launch in the New Year.

## Karla Radloff

Karla was also hired through the Centennial Student Employment Program and, like Chad, completed her work by the end of August. Her paper on student co-operatives across North America and assessment of the possibility of organizing a student co-op at the University of Saskatchewan will become one of the Centre's new research papers.

## Neville Fernandes

Neville was initially hired as a summer researcher, but other commitments have meant that his work has carried into the fall. He is contributing to the Centre's involvement with the Community Economic Development module of the Community-University Institute for Social Research. He is working with Carol on a lit review of Regional Economic Development Authorities, a history of REDA policy in the province, and researching other examples of this type of organization in North America.