

# Director's Report to the Advisory Board

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Murray Fulton, Director  
Centre for the Study of Co-operatives  
June 2015



Centre for the  
Study of Co-operatives



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 Saskatchewan Credit Unions, Federated Co-operatives Ltd., Concentra Financial, The Co-operators, and CHS Inc.

The centre is also supported by the University of Saskatchewan. The university not only houses our offices but provides in-kind contributions from a number of departments and units as well as financial assistance with operations and nonsalary expenditures.

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



# Highlights of Centre Activities

October 2014 to June 2015

Awards for Sponsors



Unveiling of Donor Wall



New Graduate Certificate Approved



New Website



Launch of *Co-operative Canada*



The Centre's Annual Report



Books for Africa



Co-operative Innovation Project



Other Research Update



Conferences, Workshops, and Meetings



Seminar Series



Centre Publications



Faculty Publications



Teaching and Graduate Supervision



Presentations



Faculty/Staff/Student News



Administration and Other

### ▲ Awards for Sponsors

The Co-operators Group and Federated Co-operatives Limited were recognized in Corporate Knights' ranking of the Best 50 Corporate Citizens in Canada.

Concentra Financial has preserved its status as a Platinum Club member in the rankings among Canada's Best Managed Companies. It is the twelfth consecutive year Concentra has earned this mark of business excellence.

SaskCentral was named One of Canada's Best Workplaces for 2015 by the Great Place to Work® Institute Canada.

### ▲ Unveiling of Donor Wall

Students, staff, faculty, scholars, and representatives from the co-operative sector gathered in late October to celebrate the Centre's thirtieth anniversary. We used the occasion to unveil a donor wall recognizing the financial support of the Centre's sponsoring partners, which over the years have included Federated Co-operatives Limited, Saskatchewan Credit Unions, Concentra Financial, The Co-operators Group, CHS Inc., University of Saskatchewan, Government of Saskatchewan, Saskatchewan Wheat Pool, The CUMIS Group, and the Co-operative College of Canada. Together, they have contributed nearly \$10 million to co-operative teaching, research, and outreach since the Centre opened its doors in 1984. See more [here](#).

### ▲ New Graduate Certificate Approved

We are thrilled to announce the approval of a new Graduate Certificate in the Social Economy and Co-operatives. This innovative new program will be offered beginning in the fall of 2015 and will address a number of broad issues around co-operatives and social enterprises. The certificate will be offered through the Johnson-Shoyama Graduate School of Public Policy, with generous development funding from one of our sponsoring organizations — CHS Inc. Centre Research Officer Audra Krueger was instrumental in co-ordinating this effort. Find more information [here](#).

### ▲ New Website

We launched our new website in February 2015. Nora took on the task of entirely redesigning, restructuring, and simplifying it, with a view to streamlining content and making it as easily accessible as possible to visitors. You will find us at the same URL — [www.usaskstudies.coop](http://www.usaskstudies.coop) — and we welcome your feedback and suggestions.

### ▲ Book Launch for *Co-operative Canada*

A large crowd gathered in the foyer of the Diefenbaker Building, 26 January 2015, for the launch of *Co-operative Canada: Empowering Communities and Sustainable Businesses*, edited by Brett Fairbairn and Nora Russell and published by UBC Press. The book is based on the results of a large collaborative research project undertaken by the Centre, with chapters written by co-operative scholars from across Canada.

### ▲ The Centre's Annual Report 2014

For the first time, Nora produced an entirely electronic version of the Centre's annual report highlighting the year's activities. You can read it [here](#).

### ▲ Books for Africa

The Centre has donated and co-ordinated the shipment of sixty-seven boxes of books to the Co-operative University of Tanzania, one of our partners in the "Rural Development through the Integrated Co-operative Model" project in Africa. The books were duplicates of the university's collection when our library moved to Special Collections. We were pleased to be in the position to make this contribution to co-operative education abroad.

### ▲ Co-operative Innovation Project

Funded by \$1 million from Federated Co-operatives Limited (FCL), on behalf of the Co-operative Retailing system, the CIP team has been busy collecting data between October 2014 and June 2015. Team members have completed twenty-six Aboriginal and rural community visits and are hoping to get to another few communities over the next few months. They have concluded a telephone survey with more than 2,000 respondents, an Internet-based survey with more than 350 respondents, as well as interviews with individual co-op development officers in the four provinces.

This information is being analyzed and cross-referenced with qualitative information from a variety of data sources including the 2006 and 2011 censuses, the National Household Survey, health region data, and data from the provincial co-operative associations to test the premise that successful co-op development is dependent upon various quantitative and qualitative community characteristics.

The CIP team has welcomed a new project manager, Darcy Overland, research officer Merle Massie, and a new research assistant, Kyle White. The original project director, Nicole McLaren, community engagement co-ordinators Dazawray Parker and Rhiannon Klein, and research assistant Miranda Gouchie have completed their work. Research assistant Paula Mowat and data analyst Wu Haotao continue in their roles.

Data analysis will continue through to December 2015. The team is working on community profile reports for communities that have been visited, and a report will be presented to FCL in September 2015.

### ▲ Other Research Activities

- ▲ "Impact of Credit Unions on Communities in Saskatchewan and Manitoba: Measuring Member and Community Benefits and Asset Building from Credit Union Ownership," Lou Hammond Ketilson and Centre Scholar Jessica Gordon Nembhard's partnership with Advantage and Affinity credit unions; completed
- ▲ "The Impact of Co-operative Housing on Household Income, Skills, and Social Capital," by former Centre postdoc Catherine Leviten-Reid and Karla Skoutajan of the Co-operative Housing Federation of Canada, completed

- ▲ “Demutualization of Co-operatives and Mutuals,” report for Co-operatives and Mutuals Canada, Murray Fulton and Jean-Pierre Girard, new
- ▲ “Social Innovation in Canada and Germany: Theoretical and Historical Perspectives,” research proposal submitted February 2015 to the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation; Brett Fairbairn, new
- ▲ “University Leadership: Development Paths and Networks,” proposal to the Conference Board of Canada for a leadership development program for senior university leaders, Brett Fairbairn, new
- ▲ “Urban Aboriginal Service Delivery Landscape: Themes, Trends, Gaps, and Prospects,” SSHRC Partnership Grant, Isobel Findlay and Vince Bruni-Bossio, PIs, new
- ▲ “Leadership, Innovation, and Cultural Change at Federated Co-operatives Limited and in the Co-operative Retailing System”; Brett Fairbairn, ongoing
- ▲ leadership and governance in higher education; Brett Fairbairn, ongoing
- ▲ theory and case studies of governance and innovation in co-operatives; Brett Fairbairn, ongoing
- ▲ history of the co-operative movement in Germany, additional research to update to the present day; Brett Fairbairn, ongoing
- ▲ “Impacting Community Strength and Sustainability: Community-Campus Engagement at Station 20 West,” SSHRC Community First: Impacts of Community Engagement Hub Project, Isobel Findlay and Suresh Kalagnanam; ongoing
- ▲ “Pursuing Excellence in Collaborative Community-Campus Research,” SSHRC Connection grant, Isobel Findlay is a co-applicant; ongoing
- ▲ “Ameliorating Workplace Harassment among Caregivers: Fostering Communicative Action and Ethical Practice through Participatory Theatre,” CIHR Operating Grant, Isobel Findlay, Elizabeth Quinlan, and Beth Bilson; ongoing
- ▲ Canadian Co-operatives and Film Research Project; Centre partnership with George Melnyk, University of Calgary, ongoing
- ▲ “Governance and Managerial Effort in Collectively-Owned Enterprises,” Murray Fulton and Dionne Pohler, ongoing
- ▲ “The Political Economy of Good Co-operative Governance,” Murray Fulton, Dionne Pohler, and Brett Fairbairn; ongoing
- ▲ “Governance of Co-operative Federations: Principles and a Framework for Research,” Brett Fairbairn, Murray Fulton, and Dionne Pohler; ongoing
- ▲ agricultural policy project funded by the US Department of Agriculture, Murray Fulton’s work in partnership with colleagues at the University of Nebraska–Lincoln — ongoing
- ▲ examination of executive compensation in government offices, Crown corporations, universities, and co-operatives, Murray Fulton and Michael Atkinson; ongoing
- ▲ “Social Engagement, Independence and Productivity among Older Adults: Participatory Research to Promote Aging in Place,” SSHRC Insight Development Grant, Michael Gertler is co-investigator; ongoing
- ▲ “Pursuing Excellence in Community Based Research: A National Partnership for Research and Action,” SSHRC Partnership Grant LOI submission; Michael Gertler is collaborator
- ▲ “Social, Economic, Agronomic, and Environmental Dimensions of Community

Pastures and Grazing Co-operatives on the Canadian Prairies,” Michael Gertler and JoAnn Jaffe, ongoing

- ▲ “Examining Success Factors for Sustainable Rural Development through the Integrated Co-operative Model,” in partnership with CCA and universities in Tanzania, Uganda, and Rwanda; Lou Hammond Ketilson is project co-ordinator; Centre scholars JoAnn Jaffe and Cindy Hanson are collaborating; ongoing
- ▲ Case Study Competition at Canadian Association for Studies in Co-operation meetings; Audra Krueger organized and led nine students through this
- ▲ “Responses to CETA within the Canadian Beef Value Chain,” Eric Micheels is PI, Alliance for Food and Bioproducts Innovation (AFBI) Scholars Program
- ▲ “Identification and Management of Risk in Production Agriculture in Saskatchewan,” Eric Micheels is PI, AFBI Scholars Program
- ▲ “Development of Innovative Therapeutic Food Products for Treating Malnutrition and Responding to Emergencies in High Risk Communities,” Global Institute for Food Security project, PI is M. Nickerson, Eric Micheels is a co-investigator

#### ▲ Conferences, Workshops, and Meetings

- ▲ 2014 International Summit of Co-operatives, 5 October 2014, Quebec City
- ▲ Saskatchewan Co-operative Merit Awards, 14 October 2014
- ▲ Canadian Industrial Relations Association meetings, October 2014, Saskatoon
- ▲ Saskatchewan Association of Human Resources Professionals Conference, October 2014, Regina
- ▲ 7th International Symposium, Safety & Health in Agricultural & Rural Populations: Global Perspectives, 21 October 2014, Saskatoon
- ▲ “The Importance of Story Telling,” Affinity Credit Union communications event, 5 November 2014
- ▲ Sharing Economy Unconference, 6 November 2014
- ▲ Visiting Speaker Series, University of Minnesota Carlson School of Management, November 2014, Minneapolis
- ▲ Visiting Speaker Series, University of Nebraska–Lincoln Agricultural Economics Department, November 2014
- ▲ CHS Inc. annual meeting, 4 December 2014, Minneapolis
- ▲ Human Resource Management Association Board of Directors Meeting, January 2015, Winnipeg
- ▲ Young Agriculture Entrepreneurs Current and Connected Conference, January 7, 2015, Saskatoon
- ▲ Canadian Agricultural Economics Society Policy Conference, 29–30 January, 2015, Ottawa
- ▲ (Service Employees’ International Union) SEIU-West Executive Meeting, February 2015, Saskatoon
- ▲ Canada 300 meetings, 12 March 2015, Saskatoon
- ▲ Thompson Rivers University HR Conference and Case Competition, 27 March 2015, Kamloops
- ▲ SaskCentral AGM, 9 April 2015
- ▲ Engaged Scholar Day, University of Saskatchewan, 30 April 2015

- ▲ Arctic Co-operatives Limited AGM, Winnipeg, 4–5 May 2015
- ▲ Poverty Reduction Summit, 6–8 May 2015, Ottawa
- ▲ Free Trade Saskatoon public event, 14 May 2015, Saskatoon
- ▲ Sallows Fry Conference 2015, College of Law, U of S, 21–22 May 2015
- ▲ International Association for the Study of the Commons, 26 May 2015, Edmonton
- ▲ ICA Committee on Co-operative Research Conference, 27–30 May 2015, Paris
- ▲ Canadian Association for Studies in Co-operation annual meetings, 2–4 June 2015, Ottawa
- ▲ Co-operatives and Mutuals Canada 2nd Annual Congress and Annual General Meeting, 17–18 June 2015, Saskatoon

### ▲ Seminar Series

- ▲ 29 October 2014 — “The National Film Board of Canada and Co-op Films: A Historical Survey,” presentation by George Melnyk, Department of Communication and Culture, University of Calgary
- ▲ 11 December 2014 — Hartley and Margaret Fredeen Scholarship in Co-operative Studies Seminar, “Partnerships for Health: Universal Health Care in Tanzania,” presented by 2013 winner Cara Spence Gress
- ▲ 17 March 2015 — “Laying the Cornerstones for a New National Credit Union Trade Association,” presentation by Marc-André Pigeon, director, Financial Sector Policy, Credit Union Central of Canada
- ▲ 16 April 2015 — “How Can Co-ops Become More Productive and Profitable?” presentation by Avner Ben-Ner, professor, Center for Human Resources and Labor Studies, Carlson School of Management, University of Minnesota
- ▲ 12 May 2015 — “Governance Issues in Multilevel Co-operative Bank Networks,” presentation by Ivana Catturani, junior research fellow, European Research Institute on Co-operative and Social Enterprise, Trento, Italy

### ▲ Centre Publications

- ▲ *Co-operatives and Three-Dimensional Sustainability*, Centre occasional paper by Carolin Schröder, Centre for Technology and Society, Technical University of Berlin, 2014 visiting scholar, published
- ▲ *Co-operatives for Sustainable Communities: Tools to Measure Co-operative Impact and Performance*, ed. L. Brown, C. Carini, J. Gordon Nembhard, L. Hammond Ketilson, E. Hicks, J. McNamara, S. Novkovic, D. Rixon, and R. Simmons, Centre book based on proceedings of Tools to Measure Co-operative Impact and Performance Conference (Halifax 2014), forthcoming July 2015
- ▲ “Building Resilient Communities: The Economic Impact of Credit Unions and Caisses Populaires in Canada,” Centre booklet, in progress
- ▲ “Understanding Co-operatives through Research,” Centre booklet, in progress
- ▲ “The Limits of Co-operation,” Centre booklet, in progress
- ▲ Saskatoon Council on Aging practicum project report, Centre research report, forthcoming
- ▲ “A Case Study of Youth Involvement in Irish Credit Unions,” Centre occasional paper based on SCA executive director Victoria Morris’s MA thesis, in progress



## ▲ Faculty Publications and other Print Material

- ▲ Brett Fairbairn, “Universities need to aspire,” op-ed, *StarPhoenix*, 24 October 2014
- ▲ Brett Fairbairn, “What would a sustainable university look like?” Opinion piece, *University Affairs*, December 2014
- ▲ Brett Fairbairn, “Demutualization in Co-operative Thought: Perspectives on Assets in Co-operatives,” unpublished research note for project on demutualization led by Murray Fulton and funded by Co-operatives and Mutuals Canada, January 2015
- ▲ Brett Fairbairn, “Elephant in the Room: Time for Dialogue on University Autonomy and Public Accountability?” Conference Board of Canada Centre for Skills and Postsecondary Education blog, February 2015
- ▲ Murray Fulton and Travis Reynolds: “The Political Economy of Food Price Volatility: The Case of Vietnam and Rice,” *American Journal of Agricultural Economics*, first published online 25 May 2015, doi:10.1093/ajae/aav019
- ▲ Isobel Findlay and Kitty Locker, *Business Communication Now*, 3rd Canadian Edition, Toronto: McGraw-Hill Ryerson, 2015; published
- ▲ Isobel Findlay et al., “Building Critical Community Engagement through Scholarship: Three Case Studies,” *Engaged Scholar Journal: Community-engaged Research, Teaching, and Learning* 1, no. 1 (2015): 31–48, published
- ▲ Isobel Findlay, Ana Maria Peredo, and Fiona Duguid, eds. and intro., “Co-operating at the (Cutting) Edge: Innovation for Social Inclusion, Sustainability, and Solidarity Economies,” [special issue] *Journal of Co-operative Studies*, 47, no. 1 (2015): 1–100; published
- ▲ Michael Gertler, “Co-operatives,” in *The SAGE Encyclopedia of Food Studies*, ed. K. Albala (Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage Publications), published
- ▲ Lou Hammond Ketilson, “Understanding Co-operatives through Research,” *Review of International Co-operation*, 2015; published
- ▲ Lou Hammond Ketilson, with Jessica Gordon Nembhard and Patricia Thomas, “Measuring the Impact of Credit Unions on Wealth Building in Communities: Identifying the Appropriate Indicators,” in *Cooperatives’ Power of Innovation: Texts Selected from the International Call for Papers 2014 International Summit of Cooperatives*, ed. L. Hammond Ketilson and M-P. Robichaud, 2014; published
- ▲ Lou Hammond Ketilson and Marie-Paule Robichaud, eds., *Cooperatives’ Power of Innovation: Texts Selected from the International Call for Papers 2014 International Summit of Cooperatives*, Quebec: Conseil québécois de la coopération et de la mutualité, October 2014; published
- ▲ Dionne Pohler and J. Schmidt, “Does Pay-for-Performance Strain the Employment Relationship? The Effect of Manager Bonus Eligibility on Non-Management Employee Turnover,” *Personnel Psychology*, 2015, published online
- ▲ Nazeem Muhajarine and Isobel M. Findlay, eds. *Quality of Life: Towards Sustainable Community Futures* [special issue], *Engaged Scholar Journal: Community-engaged Research, Teaching, and Learning*, accepted
- ▲ Arcadio Viveros-Guzmán and Michael Gertler, “Latino Farmworkers in Saskatchewan: Language Barriers and Health and Safety,” *Journal of Agromedicine*, accepted

- ▲ Eric Micheels with S. Forbes-Brown and J.E. Hobbs, “Willingness to Pay for Milk and Ice Cream with the ‘100% Canadian Milk’ Label: A Discrete Choice Experiment,” *Journal of International Food & Agribusiness Marketing*, accepted
- ▲ Eric Micheels with R. Lassoued, J.E. Hobbs, and D. Zhang, “Consumer Trust in Chicken Brands: A Structural Equation Model,” *Canadian Journal of Agricultural Economics*, accepted
- ▲ Lou Hammond Ketilson, with Jessica Gordon Nembhard and Myrna Hewitt, “Assessing the Impact of Credit Unions on Their Community: A Pre-Test of Possible Indicators,” in *Co-operatives for Sustainable Communities: Tools to Measure Co-operative Impact and Performance*, ed. L. Brown, C. Carini, J. Gordon Nembhard, L. Hammond Ketilson, E. Hicks, J. McNamara, S. Novkovic, D. Rixon, and R. Simmons, Centre book, forthcoming July
- ▲ Lou Hammond Ketilson, with Jessica Gordon Nembhard, “Identifying the Appropriate Indicators to Measure the Impact of Credit Unions and Other Co-operatives on Their Communities,” in *Co-operatives for Sustainable Communities*, as above
- ▲ Lou Hammond Ketilson, editing the *Review of International Co-operation* based on papers from the ICA research conference in Mikkeli, Finland; forthcoming

## ▲ Teaching and Graduate Supervision

### Murray Fulton

- ▲ JSGS 846.3: Co-operatives in the New Economy: Institutions, Governance, and Policy (with Dionne Pohler)
- ▲ JSGS 862.3: Political Economy
- ▲ supervisor or on committees for ten graduate students

### Michael Gertler

- ▲ Michael is on sabbatical until 1 July 2015 but is supervisor or on committees for six graduate students

### Lou Hammond Ketilson

- ▲ Lou retired this year but has ongoing committee duties for one graduate student; her other student, Patricia Elliot, successfully defended her dissertation in March and graduated at spring convocation
- ▲ external examiner with oversight of co-operatives and other democratic organizations in the Department of Food Business and Development, University College Cork, Ireland; site visit May 2015 for program review and exam committee meeting; external examiner for 6 MA theses

### Dionne Pohler

- ▲ JSGS 846.3: Co-operatives in the New Economy: Institutions, Governance and Policy (with Murray Fulton)
- ▲ JSGS 815: Strategic Human Resource Management: Legal and Policy Issues
- ▲ JSGS 826: Human Resource Management in Healthcare
- ▲ on supervisory committees for ten graduate students

*Additional Lectures:*

- ▲ Online lecturer, JSGS and Brown Governance Online Professional Directors Program, Module 5: Decision-Making Bias, 3 December 2014
- ▲ JSGS 869: PhD Readings Course Seminar: Rationale Theories, 5 December 2014
- ▲ Guest lecturer, MHA 830AB: Master of Health Administration Residency II, JSGS, Effective Communication and Interpersonal Skills, 31 May 2015

**Brett Fairbairn**

- ▲ supervisor or on committee for two graduate students

**Isobel Findlay**

- ▲ COMM 100: Business Communications I
- ▲ COMM 100: Business Communications II
- ▲ COMM 300: (uses co-op cases)
- ▲ supervises or is on committees for six graduate students

**Eric Micheels**

- ▲ AGRC 113.01: Agri-Food Issues and Institutions
- ▲ BPBE 825.03: Research Issues in Agribusiness Management
- ▲ BPBE 498.01: Case Studies in Agribusiness Management
- ▲ supervises or is on committees for thirteen graduate students

▲ **Presentations**

**Murray Fulton**

- ▲ “Making Smart Decisions,” panel discussion, CHS Inc. annual meeting, 4 December 2014, Minneapolis
- ▲ “Keeping Up with Consumers: Understanding the Policy Implications of a Changing Landscape,” Canadian Agricultural Economics Society Policy (CAESP) conference, 29–30 January, 2015, Ottawa
- ▲ “Regulatory Responses to Problems in the Canadian Grain Handling and Transportation System,” CAESP conference, January, Ottawa
- ▲ “Requirements for Successful Co-operative Development in Rural and Aboriginal Communities,” ICA Committee on Co-operative Research Conference titled “Future of the Cooperative Model: Creativity, Innovation, and Research,” 27–30 May 2015, Paris
- ▲ with Brett Fairbairn and Dionne Pohler: “Governance of Co-operative Federations: Principles and a Framework for Research,” ICA Committee on Co-operative Research Conference, May, Paris
- ▲ with Dionne Pohler: “The Political Economy of Good Co-operative Governance, ICA Committee on Co-operative Research Conference, May, Paris”
- ▲ with Jean-Pierre Girard: “Demutualization,” Co-operatives and Mutuals Canada (CMC) 2nd Annual Congress and Annual General Meeting, 17–18 June 2015, Saskatoon
- ▲ “The Co-operative Innovation Project,” CMC AGM, June, Saskatoon

### Michael Gertler

- ▲ with Arcadio Viveros-Guzmán: “Latino Migrant Farmworkers in Saskatchewan: A Cultural Understanding of Agricultural Health and Safety Training,” 7th International Symposium, Safety & Health in Agricultural & Rural Populations: Global Perspectives, 21 October 2014, Saskatoon
- ▲ with JoAnn Jaffe: “Re-forming the Western Canadian Grazing Commons: Community and Co-operative Pastures under Neoliberal Restructuring,” International Association for the Study of the Commons, 26 May 2015, Edmonton
- ▲ with JoAnn Jaffe: “Co-operation with Cows: Reinventing the Prairie Grazing Commons,” Canadian Association for Studies in Co-operation (CASC), 1 June 2015, Ottawa

### Lou Hammond Ketilson

- ▲ organized and chaired the International Research Symposium on Co-operatives, a preconference event of the 2014 International Summit of Co-operatives, 5 October 2014, Quebec City
- ▲ chaired two panels, CASC meetings, 2–4 June 2015, Ottawa
- ▲ with Jessica Gordon Nembhard and Myrna Hewitt: “Like Pinning Jello to the Floor: Reflections on Efforts to Measure Impact,” CASC meetings, June, Ottawa
- ▲ with Myrna Hewitt and Victoria Taras: results of “Impact of Credit Unions on Communities in Saskatchewan and Manitoba: Measuring Member and Community Benefits and Asset Building from Credit Union Ownership,” to Learning Lab titled “2017 and the Co-operative Movement,” CMC 2nd Annual Congress and AGM, 17–18 June 2015, Saskatoon

### Brett Fairbairn

- ▲ “Governance and Innovation in Co-operatives and Federations: Theoretical and Applied Research,” Research Colloquium, Fachgebiet Ressourcenökonomie (Resource Economics Group), Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, 25 November 2014
- ▲ One of forty-one invited participants to the APPA Thought Leaders Symposium, 20–22 April 2015, Austin, Texas (APPA is an association of higher-education leaders interested in facilities planning and management)
- ▲ with Murray Fulton and Dionne Pohler: “Governance of Co-operative Federations: Principles and a Framework for Research,” ICA Committee on Co-operative Research Conference titled “Future of the Cooperative Model: Creativity, Innovation, and Research,” 27–30 May 2015, Paris
- ▲ with Murray Fulton and Dionne Pohler: “The Political Economy of Good Co-operative Governance,” ICA Committee on Co-operative Research Conference, May, Paris
- ▲ “New Theory Meets Historic Co-operator: Raiffeisen as Social Innovator,” CASC meetings, June, Ottawa

### Dionne Pohler

- ▲ panel presentation with John Gormley and B. Johnson: “Unions and the Media,” Canadian Industrial Relations Association, Saskatoon Chapter, October 2014
- ▲ panel presentation with C. Balthazard and M. Carr: “The Professionalization of HR in Canada,” Saskatchewan Association of Human Resources Professionals Conference, October 2014, Regina
- ▲ with Chris Riddell: “Multinationals and Compliance with Regulatory Employment Practices: A Theoretical and Empirical Assessment Using Administrative Data,” Visiting Speaker Series, University of Minnesota Carlson School of Management, November 2014, Minneapolis
- ▲ with Joseph Schmidt: “Does Pay-for-Performance Strain the Employment Relationship? The Effect of Manager Bonus Eligibility on Non-Management Employee Turnover,” Visiting Speaker Series, University of Nebraska–Lincoln Agricultural Economics Department, November 2014
- ▲ “The Professionalization of HR in Canada: Implications for HRMAM,” Manitoba Human Resource Management Association Board of Directors Meeting, January 2015, Winnipeg
- ▲ “Union Member Engagement and Marketing Strategy,” SEIU-West Executive Meeting, February 2015, Saskatoon
- ▲ “The Professionalization of HR in Canada,” Thompson Rivers University HR Conference and Case Competition, 27 March 2015, Kamloops
- ▲ with Murray Fulton and Brett Fairbairn: “The Political Economy of Good Co-operative Governance,” ICA Committee on Co-operative Research Conference titled “Future of the Cooperative Model: Creativity, Innovation, and Research,” 27–30 May 2015, Paris
- ▲ with Murray Fulton and Brett Fairbairn: “Governance of Co-operative Federations: Principles and a Framework for Research,” ICA Committee on Co-operative Research Conference, May, Paris
- ▲ moderator and speaker, “Leveraging the Co-op Principles in Your Business Strategy,” Co-operatives and Mutuals Canada 2nd Annual Congress and Annual General Meeting, 17–18 June 2015, Saskatoon

### Isobel Findlay

- ▲ “Back to the Future? Women and Sustainable Development,” International Women’s Day presentation, School of the Environment and Sustainability, 6 March 2015, Saskatoon
- ▲ with Colleen Christopherson-Coté, “Creating Systems Change: Community-Campus Engagement at Station 20 West,” Poverty Reduction Summit, 6–8 May 2015, Ottawa
- ▲ “Through the Eyes of Women: What a Co-operative Can Mean in Supporting Women during Confinement and Integration,” Sallows Fry Conference 2015, College of Law, University of Saskatchewan, 21–22 May 2015
- ▲ chaired three sessions, CASC meetings, June, Ottawa

## Eric Micheels

- ▲ “Absorptive Capacity and Innovation,” Saskatchewan Ministry of Agriculture, Regional Services Branch, October 2014, Saskatoon
- ▲ “What Drives Innovation in Agricultural Systems?” Saskatchewan Young Agriculture Entrepreneurs Current and Connected Conference, 7 January 2015, Saskatoon
- ▲ “Building Absorptive Capacity in Production Agriculture,” International Food and Agribusiness Management Association (IFAMA) World Forum and Symposium, 14–18 June, 2015, St. Paul, Minnesota
- ▲ with O. Mizraei and A. Boecker, 2015. “The Role of Entrepreneurial Orientation and Market Orientation in New Product Development and New Marketing Procedures on Farm Based Businesses,” IFAMA World Forum and Symposium, June, St. Paul, Minnesota

## ▲ Faculty/Scholar/Staff/Student News

- ▲ Murray will be on sabbatical beginning 1 July until 30 June 2016
- ▲ Brett will take over as acting director in his absence
- ▲ Michael returns from sabbatical 1 July
- ▲ the Centre appointed two new Fellows: long-time Centre supporter Isobel Findlay and the recently appointed bridging position in the Department of Bioresource Policy, Business, and Economics, Eric Micheels
- ▲ Dionne received the Provost’s Outstanding New Teacher Award for 2014
- ▲ Eric received the University of Saskatchewan Agriculture Students Association Professor of the Year for 2015
- ▲ Brett received the 2015 Canadian Association for Studies in Co-operation Award of Merit for his contributions to co-operative studies over the years
- ▲ the Co-operative Innovation Project has had considerable turnover of personnel; project manager Nicole McLaren left and was replaced by research director Darcy Overland; we hired Merle Massie as a research officer to write the final report and an additional graduate research assistant, Kyle White; Community Engagement Co-ordinators Dazaway Landrie-Parker and Rhiannon Klein as well as research assistants Miranda Gouchie and Paula Mowat have concluded their work on the project; Wu Haotao continues in her role as data analyst
- ▲ PhD student Patricia Elliott defended her dissertation and graduated at spring convocation
- ▲ we are fortunate this summer to have research interns Apoorva Gupta from Chandigarh, India, and Mariana Lopez Gomez from Guadalajara, Mexico, here as research interns with the MITACS program; MITACS is a national not-for-profit organization dedicated to supporting research-based innovation with partners in industry, academia, and government; Apoorva and Mariana are working with the CIP project and also on other Centre research projects
- ▲ Victoria Taras, a PhD student in the School of Public Policy supervised by Dionne, was awarded a SSHRC doctoral scholarship
- ▲ CIP project member Merle Massie won a 2015 Saskatchewan Book Award for

Scholarly Writing for her book *Forest Prairie Edge: Place History in Saskatchewan*, which is based on her PhD dissertation

▲ Administration and Other Professional Activities

In addition to their day-to-day commitments, Centre faculty and staff together serve on more than sixty committees, boards, and/or professional and community organizations.