

## History of the Centre for the Study of Co-operatives

What follows is a chronological selection of excerpts from the Centre's annual reports, outlining the people involved with the Centre during any given year along with some of the significant highlights. There is much more detailed information about our research, outreach and engagement activities, publications, and more in each of our annual reports. The earlier annual reports (1984–1999) are only available in our office in hard copy while annual reports since 2000 are available on our website.

### The Centre for the Study of Co-operatives: The First Five Years, 1984–1989 (precursor to the Centre's annual reports)

#### The Beginning

On March 24, 1982, representatives of Saskatchewan's co-operative sector, the University of Saskatchewan and the Saskatchewan Department of Co-operatives and Co-operative Development signed a contract to establish the Centre for the Study of Co-operatives at the University of Saskatchewan. The Centre, the first of its kind in Canada outside Quebec, officially opened on June 7, 1984.

The Centre came into being as a result of a recognition shared by the signatories to the contract that the University and the public of Saskatchewan, and among that public, co-operatives and their members, would benefit from the attention of the academic community to contemporary issues facing co-operatives in Saskatchewan and in Canada.

The signatories are the Centre's sponsors and sources of finance. The Saskatchewan Department of Co-operatives and Co-operative Development contributed 40% of the Centre's funding, and Saskatchewan's co-operative sector, represented by the Saskatchewan Wheat Pool, Credit Union Central of Saskatchewan, Federated Co-operatives Limited, and the Co-operative College of Canada, provided the remaining 60%. The University of Saskatchewan houses the Centre in the Diefenbaker Canada Centre on campus and provides office equipment and support services.

Each of the representatives of the co-operative sector has a representative on the Centre's Management Advisory Board, as does the Department of Co-operatives and Co-operative Development; the President of the University has acted as the Board's chairperson and nominates four other members from the University. This Board reports to the University's Board of Governors through the office of the President. The Board appointed Christopher S. Axworthy as the Centre's first director on June 1, 1984.

#### Objectives

The contract establishing the Centre set out these objectives:

1. To establish a program of study at the undergraduate and the graduate level with a specific focus on co-operatives and the credit unions. The courses of study will include classes available to students in the College of Law, Agriculture, Arts and Science, Commerce, and Education.

2. To undertake off-campus programs in collaboration with the Co-operative College of Canada.
3. To undertake research of particular interest and relevance to co-operatives and credit unions, and to make available the results of such research by publication, including textbooks and curricula for colleges and universities; and
4. To undertake research concerning the legislation governing co-operatives and credit unions.

#### Management Advisory Board

The first board of the Centre of the Study of Co-operatives consisted of:

- Dr. L. F. Kristjanson, University of Saskatchewan, chair
- V. J. Leland, Federated Co-operatives Limited, vice-chair
- A. D. McLeod, Saskatchewan Wheat Pool
- N. A. Bromberger, Credit Union Central
- M. G. H. Barclay, Canadian Co-operative Association
- T. B. Wishart, College of Arts and Sciences
- W. J. Brennan, College of Commerce
- W. J. Furtan, Department of Agricultural Economics
- R. P. MacKinnon, College of Law
- V. Kaisler, Saskatchewan Economic Development and Tourism.

#### Faculty and Staff

The first faculty and staff at the Centre for the Study of Co-operatives were:

- Christopher Axworthy, Centre Fellow (Law), director, Centre for the Study of Co-operatives
- Lou Hammond Ketilson, Centre Fellow (Commerce), and then acting director, Centre for the Study of Co-operatives
- Murray Fulton, Centre Fellow (Agricultural Economics), faculty
- Brett Fairbairn, Centre Fellow (History), faculty
- David Laycock, research associate
- Lars Apland, research officer
- Jo-Anne Andre, support staff
- Lynn Murphy, support staff

#### Graduate Students

The first graduate students supervised by faculty at the Centre for the Study of Co-operatives were:

- Stuart Bailey, “Some Methods of Encouraging Democracy in Consumer and Producer Co-operatives” (1985). Supervisor: Chris Axworthy
- Zheng Wang, “The History of Saskatchewan Credit Union Law” (1987). Supervisor: Chris Axworthy
- Jeff Corman, “A Dynamic Model of Co-operative Growth” (1988). Supervisor: Murray Fulton

- Akin Akindele, “The Duties and Responsibilities of directors” (1988). Supervisor: Chris Axworthy

## Annual Report, 1990-1991

Director’s Message (1990-1991) from Dan Ish, director of the Centre for the Study of Co-operatives

This annual report is the first one which the Centre for the Study of Co-operatives has produced other than internal reports. It is our intention to chronicle the developments at the Centre through annual reports as the primary communication vehicle for our supporting constituencies, primarily the co-operative sector and the University community.

The following pages outline the activities of this unique institution whose mandate is to conduct research on co-operatives and to develop and encourage co-operative studies courses at the University of Saskatchewan and elsewhere. The uniqueness of the Centre is found not only in the focus of its subject – co-operatives – but also in its multidisciplinary structure. It is one of the very few institutions that integrate academic study from a number of different scholarly perspectives.

We at the Centre feel that it has been a success, a tribute not only to those who have worked at and for the Centre but also to those who had a vision over a decade ago. We hope renewed visions will ensure it’s continued success.

In 1990, the terms of the contract for the Centre’s continuance were redrawn, with representatives from six major co-operatives and the University. The Saskatchewan Government discontinued its involvement with the Centre in 1987. Currently, both the co-operative sector and the University of Saskatchewan have four members on the Centre’s Management Advisory Board. Though the support structure for the Centre was changed with the new agreement, the Centre’s objectives remain the same.

Chris Axworthy left the Centre in 1988 to serve as a member of Parliament and Daniel Ish from the College of Law, assumed the directorship for the Centre in 1989.

The dynamic group of academics has made significant progress in fulfilling the Centre’s research and teaching objectives ... They have also been influential in promoting research about co-operatives in general. This includes playing a major role in founding and maintaining the Canadian Association for Studies in Co-operation (CASC), an association of academics, educators, and co-operatives. As well, strong ties have been developed with other academic institutions in Canada studying co-operatives and with co-operative organizations carrying on research of their own.

To ensure that the results of the Centre’s research are widely disseminated among both the academic and co-operative communities, the Centre has made a concerted effort to publish and distribute its works. These have taken the form of several books, an occasional paper series, and articles in both the popular co-op press and in academic research journals. Workshops and conference presentations have also figured strongly in

the effort to share the Centre's research and exchange ideas with others interested in co-operatives.

Essential to the academic research is ready access to library resources. Thus, early on in the Centre's existence, space and resources were allocated to developing a library collection. Included were materials relevant to the disciplines of the academic staff, as well as materials with an interdisciplinary focus and materials from disciplines not represented at the Centre. This was to ensure that the collection would be well-rounded and useful to outside researchers as well as to the Centre's staff. With the help of donations of materials from other organizations, the Centre's library collection has grown considerably over the years.

In 1990 more of the Centre's financial and human resources were directed toward enhancing the exchange of research information between its staff and others interested in research related to co-operatives. This included adding a new staff position, that of a communications and liaison officer, with responsibilities for co-ordinating the Centre's publishing program and developing a communications program for the organization. As well, funds were designated for a visiting research position, open to academics or practitioners interested in studying co-operatives in Saskatchewan. In June 1991, the Centre also increased its role in the Canadian Association for Studies in Co-operation (CASC) with staff members taking on positions of president and secretary-treasurer and with the Centre agreeing to provide administrative support for the organization.

#### Management Advisory Board, 1990-1991

- Peter McKinnon, College of Law, chair
- Vern Leland, Federated Co-operatives, Limited, vice-chair
- John Brennan, College of Commerce
- Gary Storey, Department of Agricultural Economics
- Tom Wishart, College of Arts and Sciences
- Glen McGlaughlin, Saskatchewan Wheat Pool
- Bill Turner, The Co-operators, CUMIS, and Co-operative Trust Company
- Trevor Shepstone, Credit Union Central of Saskatchewan

#### Faculty and Staff, 1990-1991

- Daniel Ish, Centre Fellow (Law), director, Centre for the Study of Co-operatives
- Lou Hammond Ketilson, Centre Fellow (Commerce)
- Murray Fulton, Centre Fellow (Agricultural Economics)
- Brett Fairbairn, Centre Fellow (History)
- David Laycock, research associate
- Louise Simbandumwe, research assistant
- Ann Marie McInnis, graduate research assistant
- June Bold, communications officer
- Leslie Polsom, librarian
- Mary Lou McLean, office manager

## Annual Report, 1991-1992

The year 1991 saw the beginning of the Centre's Visiting Research Fellow Program. Open to both academic scholars and co-operative practitioners, the program aims to promote research on co-operatives and to encourage the interchange of ideas between Centre researchers and others. Visiting researchers also benefit from access to extensive academic resources available through the Centre. The program's first participant was George Melnyk of Calgary, Alberta, who has written extensively on co-operatives, particularly co-operative communities. Patrick Develtere of Leuven, Belgium, also participated in the program, developing his area of interest in co-operative development in third world countries. The first experiences with the visiting research fellow program were very promising and strongly demonstrated the value of such exchanges of ideas. Continuing this program is a priority for the Centre.

### Management Advisory Board, 1991-1992

- Peter McKinnon, College of Law, chair
- Vern Leland, Federated Co-operatives, Limited, vice-chair
- John Brennan, College of Commerce
- Gary Storey, College of Agriculture
- Glen McGlaughlin, Saskatchewan Wheat Pool
- Bill Turner, The Co-operators, CUMIS, and Co-operative Trust Company
- Trevor Shepstone, Credit Union Central of Saskatchewan

### Faculty and Staff, 1991-1992

- Daniel Ish, Centre Fellow (Law), director, Centre for the Study of Co-operatives
- Lou Hammond Ketilson, Centre Fellow (Commerce)
- Murray Fulton,, Centre Fellow (Agricultural Economics)
- Brett Fairbairn, Centre Fellow (History)
- David Laycock, research associate
- June Bold, communications officer
- Leslie Polsom, librarian
- Mary Lou McLean, office manager

## Annual Report, 1992-1993

The Centre has become a recognized and productive institution within the Canadian co-operative and educational sectors. At the same time, during the past nine years, the global political and economic environment has drastically changed, with effects that are felt daily by individuals and nations. From the perspective of the Centre, the current global environment has drawn our interests and work increasingly to a concern for communities, their growth, decline and role as carriers of values – and for the international context of co-operative action.

The Centre's increasing emphasis on communities and the international setting is not unique. International research, teaching and delivery of papers are an important part of academic work, and internationalization of the University's programs is a goal with

increasing prominence. Moreover, a search for community renewal, particularly at the local level, seems a natural outgrowth of the apparent weakening of our national institutions by global forces of trade competition and by the burden of fiscal deficits and monumental long-term debt. Co-operatives and co-operative principles remain a compelling force in this environment. They emphasize people, participation and growth alongside – and not at the expense of – their communities, and education.

#### Management Advisory Board, 1992-1993

- Peter McKinnon, College of Law, chair
- Bill Turner, The Co-operators, CUMIS, and Co-operative Trust Company, vice-chair
- John Brennan, College of Commerce
- Gary Storey, College of Agriculture
- Glen McGlaughlin, Saskatchewan Wheat Pool
  
- Don Russell, Federated Co-operatives Limited

#### Faculty and Staff, 1992-1993

- Daniel Ish, Centre Fellow (Law), director, Centre for the Study of Co-operatives
- Lou Hammond Ketilson, Centre Fellow (Commerce)
- Murray Fulton, Centre Fellow (Agricultural Economics)
- Brett Fairbairn, Centre Fellow (History)
- Byron Henderson, communications officer
- Leslie Polsom, librarian
- Mary Lou McLean, office manager

### **Annual Report, 1994**

The Centre's funding is based on a series of five-year contracts. A new five-year contract was signed by all of the Centre's sponsors this year. The term of the contract extends to June 30, 1999. In essence, it is an extension of the current base funding for the Centre. The Saskatchewan Government, one of the original founders of the Centre, has returned as a sponsor for the next five-year term.

This year the Centre moved to an expanded location in the Diefenbaker Canada Centre, providing several new offices and an expanded library. The new offices will also provide the Centre with a more unified presence, a main office and reception area.

#### Management Advisory Board, 1993-1994

- Peter McKinnon, College of Law, chair
- Bill Turner, Credit Union Central, vice-chair
- John Brennan, College of Commerce
- Gary Storey, College of Agriculture
- Glen McGlaughlin, Saskatchewan Wheat Pool
- Don Russell, Federated Co-operatives Limited

- Bob Effa, The Co-operators, CUMIS, and Co-op Trust
- Tom Marwick, Government of Saskatchewan

#### Faculty and Staff, 1993-1994

- Daniel Ish, Centre Fellow (Law), director, Centre for the Study of Co-operatives
- Lou Hammond Ketilson, Centre Fellow (Commerce)
- Murray Fulton, Centre Fellow (Agricultural Economics)
- Brett Fairbairn, Centre Fellow (History)
- Byron Henderson, communications officer
- Martin Chicilo, researcher
- Andrea Harris, researcher
- Leslie Polsom, librarian
- Mary Lou Dice, office manager

### Annual Report, 1995

The year 1995 was a year of change at the Centre for the Study of Co-operatives. The Centre is now under new direction as Murray Fulton succeeded Dan Ish as director.

The existence of the Centre, and the strong support of its founders, testify to the importance of co-operatives in the Saskatchewan community. Co-operative principles and co-operative organizations have been a formative theme throughout the history of this province. The Centre has become a recognized and productive institution within the Canadian co-operative and educational sectors.

#### Management Advisory Board, 1994-1995

- Peter McKinnon, College of Law, chair
- Bill Turner, Credit Union Central, vice-chair
- John Brennan, College of Commerce
- Hartley Furtan, College of Agriculture
- Glen McGlaughlin, Saskatchewan Wheat Pool
- Don Russell, Federated Co-operatives Limited
- Leslie Biggs, College of Arts and Science
- Tom Marwick, Government of Saskatchewan

#### Faculty and Staff, 1994-1995

- Murray Fulton, Centre Fellow (Agricultural Economics), director, Centre for the Study of Co-operatives
- Daniel Ish, Centre Fellow (Law)
- Lou Hammond Ketilson, Centre Fellow (Commerce)
- Brett Fairbairn, Centre Fellow (History)
- Byron Henderson, director of Communications
- Martin Chicilo, researcher
- Andrea Harris, researcher
- Brenda Stefanson, researcher

- Diana Kichuk, librarian
- Leslie Polsom, librarian (on education leave)
- Marianne Taillon, office manager

## Annual Report, 1996

The Centre welcomed Michael Gertler in July 1996. He took over the research position previously held by Dan Ish, who returned to the College of Law after seven years with the Centre. In 1996, Byron Henderson launched the Centre's first website, "a major communication initiative that will enhance our international presence and linkages." Byron also developed a website for the Canadian Co-operative Association (CCA). Byron's work on the World Wide Web led to an invitation to spend three months as a visiting scholar at Apple Computer in California (March to June 1997), working on collaborative software design related to community growth and development. With the launch of the Centre's new website came the launch of the library's online catalogue.

### Management Advisory Board, 1995-1996

- John Stewart, College of Agriculture, chair
- Bill Turner, Credit Union Central, vice-chair
- Lynne Pearson, College of Commerce
- Leslie Biggs, College of Arts and Science
- Gary Storey, Department of Agricultural Economics
- Barry Senft, Saskatchewan Wheat Pool
- Don Russell, Federated Co-operatives Limited
- Bob Effa, Co-operators, CUMIS, Co-op Trust
- Tom Marwick, Government of Saskatchewan

### Faculty and Staff, 1995-1996

- Murray Fulton, Centre Fellow (Agricultural Economics), director, Centre for the Study of Co-operatives
- Lou Hammond Ketilson, Centre Fellow (Commerce)
- Brett Fairbairn, Centre Fellow (History)
- Michael Gertler, Centre Fellow (Sociology)
- Byron Henderson, director of Communications
- Andrea Harris, researcher
- Brenda Stefanson, researcher
- Diana Kichuk, librarian
- Leslie Polsom, librarian (on education leave)
- Marianne Taillon, office manager

## Annual Report, 1997

In the past year, as co-ops struggled to meet the challenges presented by new economic and social realities, the Centre was active in researching the impact of the sector in the province. This information will be invaluable to the sector and to public policy makers as we build on our deep roots to create the new growth and development that will sustain us in the future.

The Centre played a prominent role in assisting co-op organizations deal with issues of leadership development and the involvement of women within their governance structures. They also continued to actively promote new co-op development through their support for the New Generation Co-operative concept.

The year ahead holds great promise and interest. The possibility of using technology to network co-ops across Canada and around the world has great potential. Collaborative efforts to develop and deliver training programs for co-op leaders will enhance the decision making and governance processes within our organizations. The Centre is ideally placed to help set the stage for using the co-op model in new areas of endeavour.

Lou Hammond Ketilson was acting director of the Centre from January to June 1998, replacing Murray Fulton while he was on sabbatical. Brett Fairbairn, too, was on sabbatical this year. Brenda Stefanson left the Centre in January 1998 to work with the Agriculture Institute of Management in Saskatchewan, which funded her NGC resource kit. Leslie Polsom went to the Legislative Library in Regina in April, 1998.

Our first interdisciplinary Ph.D. student, Rochelle Smith, came to us in 1997 after nineteen years in the public sector. Her research will focus on co-operatives in transition. In addition to her studies, Rocky is preparing a review of the draft Social Studies K-12 curriculum for the Canadian Co-operative Association (CCA), and serves on the board of the Saskatoon Community Clinic.

The Centre is well known throughout the co-operative world and is regularly asked to host visitors from around the globe. This year yielded a particularly rich crop, with guests from Sweden, Ukraine, Belarus, Moldova, Japan, China, France, the United States, Vietnam, Mongolia, Brazil, India, Czechoslovakia, and Sierra Leone.

### Management Advisory Board, 1997-1998

- John Stewart, College of Agriculture, chair
- Bill Turner, Credit Union Central, vice-chair
- Lynne Pearson, College of Commerce
- Leslie Biggs, College of Arts and Science
- Gary Storey, Department of Agricultural Economics
- Marvin Wiens, Saskatchewan Wheat Pool
- Don Russell, Federated Co-operatives Limited
- Bob Effa, Co-operators, CUMIS, Co-op Trust
- Tom Marwick, Government of Saskatchewan

#### Faculty and Staff, 1997-1998

- Murray Fulton, Centre Fellow (Agricultural Economics), director, Centre for the Study of Co-operatives
- Lou Hammond Ketilson, Centre Fellow (Commerce)
- Brett Fairbairn, Centre Fellow (History)
- Michael Gertler, Centre Fellow (Sociology)
- Byron Henderson, Community Centred Technology Programs
- Nora Russell, publications and communications
- Andrea Harris, researcher
- Brenda Stefanson, researcher
- Leslie Polson, librarian
- Marianne Taillon, office manager
- Karen Neufeldt, administrative assistant

#### **Annual Report, 1998-1999**

During this term, the Centre successfully renegotiated a new five-year contract with its sponsors: Credit Union Central, Sask Wheat Pool, Federated Co-operatives Ltd, Co-op Trust, the Co-operators, the CUMIS Group, the Government of Saskatchewan, and the University of Saskatchewan.

Michael Gertler was on sabbatical. Brett Fairbairn and Murray Fulton returned from sabbatical. Lou Hammond Ketilson took an extended leave in August 1998 to transition to the role of associate dean of Commerce. Byron Henderson took a research leave. Research activity necessitated the hiring from to time of contract works, which this year included Mona Holmlund, Wendy Peters, Kara Gray, and Jodi Crewe.

Rachel Sarjeant-Jenkins undertook a redesign and upgrade of the Centre's website, which included several enhancements.

In addition to our InterD PhD student, Rochelle Smith, who joined us last year, we welcomed Peter Sprague who is pursuing an interdisciplinary MA. His research focuses on alternative business organizational forms to affect positive social change in forestry-dependent communities. He has worked in the forest industry for a number of years consulting in the areas of owner/worker restructuring, worker co-operatives, and forestry business planning and market development.

It was another year of hosting many visitors from around the world, including other Canadian provinces, the United States, Cuba, Kenya, Brazil, Siberia, Sierra Leone, Switzerland, Czechoslovakia, India, Chile, Denmark, Ukraine, and Russia.

#### Management Advisory Board, 1998-1999

- John Stewart, College of Agriculture, chair
- Bill Turner, Credit Union Central, vice-chair
- Lynne Pearson, College of Commerce

- H. Michelmann, College of Arts and Science
- Gary Storey, Department of Agricultural Economics
- Marvin Wiens, Saskatchewan Wheat Pool
- Don Russell, Federated Co-operatives Limited
- Herb Carlson, Federated Co-operatives Limited
- Bob Effa, Co-operators, CUMIS, Co-op Trust
- Duane Bristow, Credit Union Central
- Fraser Nicholson, Government of Saskatchewan

#### Faculty and Staff, 1998-1999

- Murray Fulton, Centre Fellow (Agricultural Economics), director, Centre for the Study of Co-operatives
- Lou Hammond Ketilson, Centre Fellow (Commerce)
- Brett Fairbairn, Centre Fellow (History)
- Michael Gertler, Centre Fellow (Sociology)
- Byron Henderson, Community Centred Technology Programs
- Nora Russell, publications and communications
- Roger Herman, education program development officer
- Andrea Harris, researcher
- Rachel Sarjeant-Jenkins, librarian
- Marianne Taillon, office manager
- Karen Neufeldt, administrative assistant

#### **Annual Report, 1999-2000**

We welcomed Brett Fairbairn as the new director for the Centre. Murray Fulton concluded his 5-year term as director and is now head of the Department of Agricultural Economics. The Centre was fortunate to increase its complement of faculty positions this year with the recruitment of Cristine de Clercy from the Department of Political Studies. Cristine's presence not only strengthens the Centre's ties with the university, but also reinforces its interdisciplinary nature and capacity. Byron Henderson returned from a year's research leave and Michael Gertler remained on sabbatical until the end of August 2000. Marianne Taillon left in October 1999 for a year's maternity leave and was replaced by Jo Anne Ellis, an experienced office manager who has worked on campus for the past eleven years. Rachel Sarjeant-Jenkins left the Centre in August 1999 to take up a post as head librarian at the Medicine Hat Public Library and was replaced by Carol Shepstone who came to us from the John M. Cuelenaere Library in Prince Albert where she was the assistant director of circulation and reference. Having acquired outside funding for his research activities, Byron Henderson officially left his position at the Centre in June 2000, though he will retain close ties and research interests as a Centre Fellow.

We have had the usual complement of summer research assistants: Jodi Crewe, Hannes Mesecke, and Julie Gibbings.

Over the past year we have welcomed visiting co-op researchers from China, Australia, Russia, and Germany as well as from across Canada and the United States.

#### Management Advisory Board, 1999-2000

- Ernie Barber, College of Agriculture, chair
- Bob Effa, Co-operators, CUMIS, Co-op Trust, vice-chair
- Lynne Pearson, College of Commerce
- H. Michelmann, College of Arts and Science
- Gary Storey, Department of Agricultural Economics
- Marvin Wiens, Saskatchewan Wheat Pool
- Herb Carlson, Federated Co-operatives Limited
- Gary Wellbrock, Saskatchewan Wheat Pool
- Duane Bristow, Credit Union Central
- Fraser Nicholson, Government of Saskatchewan

#### Faculty and Staff, 1999-2000

- Brett Fairbairn, Centre Fellow (History), director, Centre for the Study of Co-operatives
- Murray Fulton, Centre Fellow (Agricultural Economics)
- Lou Hammond Ketilson, Centre Fellow (Commerce)
- Michael Gertler, Centre Fellow (Sociology )
- Cristine de Clercy, Centre Fellow (Political Studies)
- Byron Henderson, Community Centred Technology Programs
- Nora Russell, publications and communications
- Roger Herman / research officer / MA student
- Andrea Harris, researcher
- Rachel Sarjeant-Jenkins, librarian
- Carol Shepstone, librarian (taking over after Rachel's departure)
- Marianne Taillon, office manager (on leave)
- Jo Anne Ellis, office manager
- Karen Neufeldt, administrative assistant

### **Annual Report, 2000-2001**

This year saw the implementation of a Centre Scholars program that will expand the network of academics associated with the Centre both within and beyond the University. The wide variety of disciplines involved will greatly enhance the interdisciplinary reach of the Centre, and add significantly to its profile as a centre of excellence both nationally and internationally.

This year the Centre hosted the usual number of people visiting from around the world on co-operative study tours. In addition to our student researchers from Germany and Brazil, we welcomed two MBA interns from Ukraine, a researcher from Uruguay comparing the evolution of agricultural co-ops in his country and Canada, a manager from the southwest German co-operative federation, plus a number of senior officials from co-op organizations in the Philippines, China, India, and Sri Lanka.

#### Management Advisory Board, 2000-2001

- Ernie Barber, College of Agriculture, chair
- Duane Bristow, Credit Union Central , vice-chair
- Lynne Pearson, College of Commerce
- Hans Michelmann, College of Arts and Science
- Gary Storey, Department of Agricultural Economics
- Bob Effa, Co-operators, CUMIS, Co-op Trust
- Herb Carlson, Federated Co-operatives Limited
- Gary Wellbrock, Saskatchewan Wheat Pool
- Bryon Burnett, Government of Saskatchewan

#### Faculty and Staff, 2000-2001

- Brett Fairbairn, Centre Fellow (History), director, Centre for the Study of Co-operatives
- Murray Fulton, Centre Fellow (Agricultural Economics)
- Lou Hammond Ketilson, Centre Fellow (Commerce)
- Michael Gertler, Centre Fellow (Sociology )
- Cristine de Clercy, Centre Fellow (Political Studies)
- Nora Russell, publications and communications
- Roger Herman, research officer / MA student
- Carol Shepstone, librarian
- Jo Anne Ellis, office manager
- Patty Scheidl, office manager (taking over for Jo Anne)
- Karen Neufeldt, administrative assistant

### Annual Report, 2001-2002

The Centre has had a landmark year in terms of research funding and activity. Topping the list is a three-year national study to learn more about how members of co-operatives think about their organizations and their communities. Funded by the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC), it is the largest project on co-operatives ever undertaken in the country, and a significant boost to the social sciences and humanities research on this campus. With sixteen co-investigators from seven disciplines in nine Canadian universities, some twenty community partners, and a \$589,000 grant from SSHRC towards a total budget of \$2.2 million over three years, this is truly a mammoth undertaking. The title of the project is, “Co-operative Membership and Globalization: Creating Social Cohesion through Market Relations”. The Centre has also attracted funding for nine smaller initiatives, most of which were undertaken by Centre contract researchers and students.

Cindy Hanson joined us in June 2002 as a replacement for Carol Shepstone while she was on maternity leave.

Several student researchers were funded by the Centre this year: Rob Dobrohoczki, Dinah Amankwah, Colin Leinenweber, Myfanwy Van Vliet, Kim Sanderson, Neville Fernandes, Diane Reid, Armando Lessa, Karla Radloff, Jill McKenzie, and Sara Shymko.

With the launching of the .coop restricted domain name, the Centre purchased three new .coop names that will run simultaneously with our current usask address. This will provide us with added visibility within the new .coop community and beyond as the domain expands in popularity.

This year the Centre hosted visitors from Germany, Ukraine, China, and the United Kingdom.

#### Management Advisory Board, 2001-2002

- Lynne Pearson, College of Commerce, chair
- Herb Carlson, Federated Co-operatives Limited, vice-chair
- Ernie Barber, College of Agriculture
- Duane Bristow, Credit Union Central
- Hans Michelmann, College of Arts and Science
- Gary Storey, Department of Agricultural Economics
- Bob Effa, Co-operators, CUMIS, Co-op Trust
- Ferne Nielsen, Saskatchewan Wheat Pool
- Bryon Burnett, Government of Saskatchewan

#### Faculty and Staff, 2001-2002

- Brett Fairbairn, Centre Fellow (History), director, Centre for the Study of Co-operatives
- Lou Hammond Ketilson, Centre Fellow (Commerce)
- Murray Fulton, Centre Fellow (Agricultural Economics)
- Michael Gertler, Centre Fellow (Sociology )
- Cristine de Clercy, Centre Fellow (Political Studies)
- Nora Russell, publications and communications
- Roger Herman, research officer / MA Student
- Cindy Hanson, research officer
- Carol Shepstone, librarian
- Patty Scheidl, office manager
- Karen Neufeldt, administrative assistant

### **Annual Report, 2002-2003**

The Centre has had a second landmark year in terms of research funding and activity with a dozen projects in various stages of completion. In addition to the \$589,000 SSHRC grant received last year for the Co-operative Membership and Globalization study, Centre Fellow Murray Fulton has received more than \$700,000 in SSHRC funding for two new projects. All this has provided the opportunity for new connections with other universities and for a growing circle of faculty and students to become involved in Centre activities, enriching its interdisciplinary nature and the quality of its work.

We have become the world's leading centre for interdisciplinary research on co-ops. Ours brings out the new insights that come from combining perspectives across many disciplines. Within North America, our Centre's insights and expertise are increasingly

sought after. Within Canada, our Centre is the platform for the largest research project ever undertaken on co-operatives with a \$589,000 SSHRC grant. And when, in summer 2003, the Co-operatives Secretariat of the Government of Canada needed a resource inventory of co-operative research to back up the new federal co-op development initiative, it was to our Centre that they turned to coordinate the project.

Brett received the Queen's Golden Jubilee Medal for this work at the Centre and the Saskatchewan Archives Board. Carol Shepstone returned from maternity leave. Lou Hammond Ketilson concluded her term as associate dean in the College of Commerce and takes a six-month administrative leave prior to returning to the Centre. Murray Fulton is appointed to a three-year term as director of the Centre for Studies in Agriculture, Law, and the Environment. Karla Radloff and Angela Wagner are the first recipients of scholarships under the SSHRC grant. Student researchers Jill McKenzie and Julie Gibbings work on Centre projects this term. Student researcher Sara Shymko is awarded a co-op internship in Kampala, Uganda. Luke Sather joins the Centre for a three-week internship in the library. Other student researchers supported this year are Stephanie Boissard, Laura Patterson, Greg Wagner, Kim McKechney, and Michelle Kowalski.

Two new Centre Scholars, Rob Norris and Brian Olesen, join our ranks.

#### Management Advisory Board, 2002-2003

- Lynne Pearson, College of Commerce, chair
- Herb Carlson, Federated Co-operatives Limited, vice-chair
- Ernie Barber, College of Agriculture
- Hans Michelmann, College of Arts and Science
- Dan Ish, College of Law
- Gary Storey, Department of Agricultural Economics
- Bob Effa, Co-operators, CUMIS, Co-op Trust
- Ferne Nielsen, Saskatchewan Wheat Pool
- Karl Baumgardner, Credit Union Central
- Bryon Burnett, Government of Saskatchewan

#### Faculty and Staff, 2002-2003

- Brett Fairbairn, Centre Fellow (History), director, Centre for the Study of Co-operatives
- Lou Hammond Ketilson, Centre Fellow (Commerce)
- Murray Fulton, Centre Fellow (Agricultural Economics)
- Michael Gertler, Centre Fellow (Sociology )
- Cristine de Clercy, Centre Fellow (Political Studies)
- Nora Russell, publications and communications
- Roger Herman, research officer
- Cindy Hanson, research officer
- Carol Shepstone, librarian
- Patty Scheidl, office manager
- Karen Neufeldt, administrative assistant

## Annual Report, 2003-2004

Under the leadership of Brett Fairbairn, the co-operative studies concentration within the interdisciplinary program was approved in May 2004 and the uptake of students has been remarkable. The Centre currently has three doctoral and three masters students, with two more doctoral students beginning in January. The Centre marks a number of significant milestones this year. The first is twenty years of successful collaboration with the sector, the university, and the government of Saskatchewan. The Centre also celebrates a renewed five-year funding commitment from its sponsors. We are particularly pleased to note the record number of graduate students attracted to the Centre by the newly approved Interdisciplinary Concentration in Co-operative Studies.

Lou Hammond Ketilson is welcomed as acting director and Brett Fairbairn steps down to become the head of the Department of History. We lose Carol Shepstone to the Main Library on campus. Allison Muri comes and goes, replacing Carol Shepstone as administrator for the SSHRC grant before being nabbed by the English Department. Karla Radloff, our first SSHRC scholarship recipient, defends her MA thesis on government policy and co-operatives in the Canadian North.

New students and student researchers to the Centre this year are Jason Heit, Juanita Bacsu, and Kim Brown.

The Centre hosted visitors from across Canada and the United States as well as from Australia, The Netherlands, Brazil, Chile, England, Japan, Wales, China, and South Africa. We also hosted visitors from Co-operatives Secretariat, the Canadian Co-operative Association, the Co-operators, and Co-op Trust.

### Management Advisory Board, 2003-2004

- Lynne Pearson, College of Commerce, chair
- Herb Carlson, Federated Co-operatives Limited, vice-chair
- Ernie Barber, College of Agriculture
- Hans Michelmann, College of Arts and Science
- Dan Ish, College of Law
- Gary Storey, Department of Agricultural Economics
- Bob Effa, Co-operators, CUMIS, Co-op Trust
- Ryan Anderson, Saskatchewan Wheat Pool
- Karl Baumgardner, Credit Union Central
- Denise Haas, Saskatchewan Industry and Resources

### Faculty and Staff, 2003-2004

- Lou Hammond Ketilson, Centre Fellow (Commerce), acting director, Centre for the Study of Co-operatives
- Brett Fairbairn, Centre Fellow (History)
- Murray Fulton, Centre Fellow (Agricultural Economics)
- Michael Gertler, Centre Fellow (Sociology)
- Cristine de Clercy, Centre Fellow (Political Studies)
- Nora Russell, publications and communications

- Roger Herman, research officer
- Cindy Hanson, research officer
- Carol Shepstone, librarian
- Patty Scheidl, office manager
- Karen Neufeldt, administrative assistant

## Annual Report, 2004-2005

Lou Hammond Ketilson became the Centre's acting director in June 2004, a position that was formalized into the directorship in April 2005. During that time she was also acting co-director of the Community-University Institute for Social Research (CUISR). After working for us on a half-time basis for several years, Karen Neufeldt became a full time employee in September 2005. The Centre welcomed librarian, Lorraine Salt, to fill the position left vacated by Carol Shepstone over a year ago.

This year has been one of significant achievement. The Centre's Interdisciplinary Research Concentration in Co-op Studies, now in its second year, continues to attract high-quality students, as well as a grant that allowed five of them and two faculty to go to Mongolia for a month's internship. The Centre's record of publication, student supervision, teaching, and procurement of research grants and project funding was at an all time high. Research projects of both a theoretical and practical nature abound. This year marks the completion of the SSHRC-funded Social Cohesion project headed by Brett Fairbairn. On it's heels, Lou is thrilled to announce major new funding from the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC) for a project that will explore the social economy in Canada. At \$1.75 million, this is the largest SSHRC grant ever received at the University of Saskatchewan, attesting to the high regard in which the Centre has come to be held by major funding agencies. The project, titled "Linking, Learning, Leveraging: Social Enterprises, Knowledgeable Economies, and Sustainable Communities", will investigate how social economy enterprises, including co-operatives, help build respectful relationships within communities, with the environment, and among stakeholders.

Student Rob Dobrohoczki wins both the Norm Bromberger Research Bursary and the Dennis Lyster Leadership Bursary, while Nancy Allan wins the F.J.H. Fredeen Memorial Scholarship.

The Centre hosted visitors from across Canada and the United States as well as from Australia, The Netherlands, England, Japan, China, Mongolia, and Kyrgyzstan.

### Management Advisory Board, 2004-2005

- Lynne Pearson, College of Commerce, chair
- Karl Baumgardner, Credit Union Central, vice-chair
- Ernie Barber, College of Agriculture
- Lawrence Martz, College of Arts and Science
- Dan Ish, College of Law
- Gary Storey, Department of Agricultural Economics

- Herb Carlson, Federated Co-operatives Limited
- Bob Effa, Co-operators, CUMIS, Co-op Trust

#### Faculty and Staff, 2004-2005

- Lou Hammond Ketilson, Centre Fellow (Commerce), director, Centre for the Study of Co-operatives
- Brett Fairbairn, Centre Fellow (History)
- Murray Fulton, Centre Fellow (Agricultural Economics)
- Michael Gertler, Centre Fellow (Sociology )
- Cristine de Clercy, Centre Fellow (Political Studies)
- Nora Russell, publications and communications
- Roger Herman, research officer
- Lorraine Salt, librarian
- Patty Scheidl, office manager
- Karen Neufeldt, administrative assistant

#### **Annual Report, 2005-2006**

This was a landmark year for the Centre as it was awarded the largest Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC) grant ever received at the University of Saskatchewan. The grant of \$1.75 million will support research activities in the Northern Ontario, Manitoba, and Saskatchewan Node of SSHRC's Social Economy Suite.

The Centre's work has increasingly taken on an international focus. Projects in China and Mongolia have provided enriching opportunities for students and faculty. A significant amount of time has been devoted to mobilizing the Centre's Social Economy research project.

Cris de Clercy leaves the Centre to take up a faculty position at the University of Western Ontario.

The Centre hosted visitors from across Canada and the United States as well as from China, Mongolia, Korea, and the United Kingdom.

#### Management Advisory Board, 2005-2006

- Lynne Pearson, College of Commerce, chair
- Karl Baumgardner, Credit Union Central, vice-chair
- Ernie Barber, College of Agriculture
- Lawrence Martz, College of Arts and Science
- Dan Ish, College of Law
- Gary Storey, Department of Agricultural Economics
- Herb Carlson, Federated Co-operatives Limited
- Bob Effa, Co-operators, CUMIS, Co-op Trust
- Denise Haas, Saskatchewan Regional Economic and Co-operative Development

#### Faculty and Staff, 2005-2006

- Lou Hammond Ketilson, Centre Fellow (Commerce), director, Centre for the Study of Co-operatives
- Brett Fairbairn, Centre Fellow (History)
- Murray Fulton, Centre Fellow (Agricultural Economics)
- Michael Gertler, Centre Fellow (Sociology )
- Cristine de Clercy, Centre Fellow (Political Studies)
- Nora Russell, publications and communications
- Roger Herman, research officer
- Lorraine Salt, librarian
- Patty Scheidl, office manager
- Karen Neufeldt, administrative assistant

#### **Annual Report, 2006-2007**

This year marked the beginning of another planning cycle for the Centre for the Study of Co-operatives. This year we hosted a landmark joint conference of the Canadian Association for Studies in Co-operation (CASC), the Association of Cooperative Educators (ACE), and the International Co-operative Alliance Committee on Co-operative Research as part of the larger Congress of the Humanities and Social Sciences held at the University of Saskatchewan in May 2007.

Roger Herman was recognized at the ACE annual meeting for his contributions to the association and was elected president for 2007-08. Lou Hammond Ketilson was elected chair of the ICA Committee on Co-operative Research. Murray Fulton was recognized at the university's Fall Convocation where he received the Distinguished Graduate Supervisor Award. Brett Fairbairn will assume the role of Provost and vice-President Academic at the University of Saskatchewan in July 2008.

Heather Acton joined the Centre in September 2007. She takes the reins of the library from Lorraine Salt who accepted a position at the Saskatoon Public Library. Duy Huong joined us on a part-time basis providing much needed IT support.

The Centre hosted visitors from around the world in addition to those from fifteen countries attending the CASC/ACE/ICA joint meetings in May 2007. Some were part of study tours while others were researchers interested in our library. Most wanted to establish a formal relationship with the Centre. Candido Cervantes, a professor in the Faculty of Economics and Business Studies at the University of La Laguna, Spain, spent six months with us researching economic globalization and co-operativism in Spain.

#### Management Advisory Board, 2006-2007

- Ernie Barber, College of Agriculture, chair
- Karl Baumgardner, Credit Union Central, vice-chair
- Grant Isaac, Edwards School of Business
- Lawrence Martz, College of Arts and Science
- Dan Ish, College of Law

- Marilyn McKee, Federated Co-operatives Limited
- Bob Effa, Concentra Financial, the Co-operators, CUMIS Group
- Dion McGrath, Saskatchewan Ministry of Enterprise and Innovation

#### Faculty and Staff, 2006-2007

- Lou Hammond Ketilson, Centre Fellow (Commerce), director, Centre for the Study of Co-operatives
- Brett Fairbairn, Centre Fellow (History)
- Murray Fulton, Centre Fellow (Agricultural Economics)
- Michael Gertler, Centre Fellow (Sociology )
- Nora Russell, publications and communications
- Roger Herman, research officer
- Lorraine Salt, librarian
- Heather Acton, librarian (taking over for Lorraine)
- Patty Scheidl, office manager
- Karen Neufeldt, administrative assistant
- Duy Huong, Technical Support

#### **Annual Report, 2007-2008**

Lou Hammond Ketilson is appointed as a Commitment Leader on Issues-Based, Interdisciplinary Scholarship under the University of Saskatchewan's Second Integrated Plan. Lou was also honoured with the Co-op Merit Award for Exemplary Contribution to Co-operative Studies. Murray Fulton took up a new role as graduate chair in the newly formed Johnson-Shoyama Graduate School of Public Policy, also situated in the Diefenbaker Canada Centre. Graduate student, Kama Soles, won the Concentra Bursary and the Hantelman Humanities Scholarship.

We are joined this year by Catherine Leviten-Reid as postdoctoral fellow. She has added a focus on co-operative models of health service delivery to the Centre's research agenda. Former MA students Kim Brown and Dwayne Pattison returned to work with us as contract researchers to assist with the many projects underway at the Centre. We welcomed three new graduate students – Tsegi Chuluunbaatar from Mongolia and Canadians, Karlah Rudolph and Patricia Elliot. Curtis Stofferahn and Jessica Gordon Nembhard spent time with us as visiting scholars.

Of particular note this year is the progress on the Social Economy research, involving sixty-one projects co-ordinated over a large geographical area and engaging both academic and community partners. This project is also the basis for a vibrant graduate student program in social economy research.

This year the Centre hosted visitors from across Canada and the United States as well as from Bangladesh, Chile, China, England, Malaysia, Nicaragua, Philippines, South Africa, Thailand, and Uruguay.

#### Management Advisory Board, 2007-2008

- Grant Isaac, Edwards School of Business, chair
- Karl Baumgardner, Credit Union Central, vice-chair
- Jo-Anne Dillon, College of Arts and Science
- Graham Scoles, College of Agriculture and Bioresources
- Brent Cotter, College of Law
- Marilyn McKee, Federated Co-operatives Limited
- Bob Effa, Concentra Financial, the Co-operators
- Mary Beckett, Concentra Financial
- Dion McGrath, Saskatchewan Ministry of Enterprise and Innovation

#### Faculty and Staff, 2007-2008

- Lou Hammond Ketilson, Centre Fellow (Commerce), director, Centre for the Study of Co-operatives
- Brett Fairbairn, Centre Fellow (History)
- Murray Fulton, Centre Fellow (Agricultural Economics)
- Michael Gertler, Centre Fellow (Sociology )
- Nora Russell, publications and communications
- Roger Herman, research officer
- Catherine Leviten-Reid, Postdoctoral Fellow
- Heather Acton, librarian
- Patty Scheidl, office manager
- Karen Neufeldt, administrative assistant
- Duy Huong, Technical Support

### **Annual Report, 2008-2009**

This year marks the renewal of the Centre's sixth funding contract with its sponsors and partner organizations. We are marking the Centre's twenty-fifth year of operation with the development of an exhibit that celebrates our province's co-operative past and future. The exhibit showcases the research projects undertaken during the past four years in the context of the Linking, Learning, Leveraging project funded by the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada (SSHRC). The exhibit also highlights co-operative organizations that have made and continue to make important contributions to building community in Saskatchewan, Manitoba, and Northern Ontario. The Centre has partnered with the Diefenbaker Canada Centre in this major undertaking.

The Social Economy project (2005-2010) has been a major focus for Centre faculty, staff, and students over the past several years and we are thankful to have been granted a one-year extension to complete the project. As this project winds down, we are laying the ground work for significant research on the impact of credit unions and housing co-operatives in Canadian communities. The Centre is delighted to be part of the recently announced Community-University Research Alliance (2010-2015) to conduct research on the social, economic, and environmental impact of co-operatives, led by Dr. Sonja Novkovic of Saint Mary's University and John Anderson of the Canadian Co-operative Association.

Kim Brown and Dwayne Pattison, both former MA students and contract researchers, left us for positions with Western Economic Diversification Canada. Michael Chartier defended his MA thesis in March 2009 and in September joined us as a PhD student in the Interdisciplinary Co-op Concentration. We welcome a new student in the InterD Co-op Concentration – Maria Basualdo, formerly the CUISR liaison. MA student Kama Soles received the Fredeen Scholarship for 2009. Other students active during the course of the year are Monica Juarez Adeler, Mitch Diamantopolous, and Rob Dobrohoczki – PhD students in the InterD Co-op Concentration. Former MA student Karlah Rudolph and former PhD student Zhao Jun continue to be involved with research and presentations in association with the Centre. We were delighted to have student researcher Norma Brunanski with us for the summer working on the exhibition of research results for the Social Economy project.

The Centre hosted Visiting Professors Dr. Jessica Gordon Nembhard of the City University of New York, and Dr. Marie Bouchard of the University of Quebec at Montreal.

#### Management Advisory Board, 2008-2009

- Grant Isaac, Edwards School of Business, chair
- Karl Baumgardner, SaskCentral, vice-chair
- Jo-Anne Dillon, College of Arts and Science
- Graham Scoles, College of Agriculture and Bioresources
- Brent Cotter, College of Law
- Marilyn McKee, Federated Co-operatives Limited
- Mary Beckett, Concentra Financial
- Tony Baumgartner, Enterprise Saskatchewan

#### Faculty and Staff, 2008-2009

- Lou Hammond Ketilson, Centre Fellow (Edwards School of Business), director, Centre for the Study of Co-operatives
- Brett Fairbairn, Centre Fellow (University Provost and VP Academic, History)
- Murray Fulton, Centre Fellow (Johnson-Shoyama Graduate School of Public Policy)
- Michael Gertler, Centre Fellow (Sociology )
- Nora Russell, publications and communications
- Roger Herman, research officer
- Catherine Leviten-Reid, Postdoctoral Fellow
- Heather Acton, librarian
- Patty Scheidl, office manager
- Karen Neufeldt, administrative assistant
- Duy Huong, IT specialist

## Annual Report, 2009-2010

A major highlight of the year was the launch of the exhibition titled Building Community: Creating Social and Economic Well-Being. Staff at the Centre, in partnership with the Diefenbaker Canada Centre, worked countless hours creating this magnificent exhibition that has enabled students, teachers, and the public to experience how co-operatives and social enterprises help build and sustain communities. Though the exhibition concluded its six-month run in Saskatoon, the entire exhibit has been made available online on the Centre's website. Plans are underway to have the exhibit travel to interested communities and to be showcased at upcoming events over the next few years and particularly during the United Nations International Year of Co-operatives in 2012.

Postdoctoral Fellow Catherine Leviten-Reid left us for a position at Cape Breton University. PhD student in the Co-op Concentration, Monica Juarez Adeler, won the 2010 Fredeen Scholarship. Rochelle Smith and Zhao Jun successfully defended their PhD dissertations. MA Student Kama Soles defended her thesis. PhD Student Maria Basualdo is spending the year in Bolivia where she will undertake field work for her dissertation. Last year's summer student, Norma Brunanski, who assisted in preparing materials for the Building Community Exhibit, returned to the Centre briefly to help gather and prepare artifacts. We have a new PhD student in the Co-op Concentration – Annette Johnson.

Dr. Ann Hoyt, a professor in the Department of Consumer Science at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, spent time with us during March and April of 2010 as a visiting scholar. Dr. Jessica Gordon Nembhard returned twice to the Centre for follow up work with Centre colleagues.

### Management Advisory Board, 2009-2010

- Karl Baumgardner, The Co-operators, acting chair
- Jo-Anne Dillon, College of Arts and Science
- Mary Buhr, College of Agriculture and Bioresources
- Brent Cotter, College of Law
- Brooke Dobni, Edwards School of Business
- Marilyn McKee, Federated Co-operatives Limited
- Mary Beckett, Concentra Financial
- George Keter, Affinity Credit Union
- Tony Baumgartner, Enterprise Saskatchewan

### Faculty and Staff, 2009-2010

- Lou Hammond Ketilson, Centre Fellow (Edwards School of Business), director, Centre for the Study of Co-operatives
- Brett Fairbairn, Centre Fellow (University Provost and VP Academic, History)
- Murray Fulton, Centre Fellow (Johnson-Shoyama Graduate School of Public Policy)
- Michael Gertler, Centre Fellow (Sociology )
- Nora Russell, publications and communications
- Roger Herman, research officer
- Catherine Leviten-Reid, Postdoctoral Fellow

- Heather Acton, librarian
- Patty Scheidl, office manager
- Karen Neufeldt, administrative assistant
- Duy Huong, IT specialist

## Annual Report, 2011–2012

After six years as director, Dr. Lou Hammond Ketilson went on sabbatical leave in January 2011 and Michael Gertler was appointed as acting director for a one-year term.

The international co-operative movement celebrated a milestone with the United Nations declaring 2012 the International Year of Co-operatives. The Centre's activities included a special seminar series featuring presentations from co-op sector leaders, the reconfiguration of our Building Community exhibit for travel to small communities in Northern Ontario, Manitoba, and Saskatchewan, and a major conference — Co-operating to Build a Better West — which attracted more than three hundred people from across western Canada.

Roger Herman left the Centre for a position with the College of Arts and Science and was replaced by Audra Krueger, who worked most recently with the International Centre for Northern Governance and Development on campus. Roger received a Co-operative Contribution Award at the Co-op Merit Awards in October 2011.

Gayle Broad, our partner in the Linking, Learning, Leveraging project from Algoma University, spent a week with us in January as a visiting scholar.

PhD candidate Mitch Diamantopoulos successfully defended his dissertation in July 2011 and graduated at fall convocation. PhD candidate Monica Juarez Adeler was elected to the Association of Cooperative Educators' board as well as to the board of the Canadian Association for Studies in Co-operation; she also developed and delivered a course in the management of co-ops at the University of Winnipeg. PhD candidate Patricia Elliott completed a documentary film on underground journalism in Burma called *Breaking Open Burma*. PhD student Annette Johnson attended the European Summer School on the Social Economy in Bertinoro, Italy. Jannie Wing-sea Leung, an MSc candidate studying fair trade coffee co-operatives in Nicaragua, won the Fredeen Scholarship. And three students joined us as contract researchers: Maxim Gertler-Jaffe, Cornelius Christian, and Carolyn Camman.

The Centre began a major digitization project this year with the support of Saskatchewan History Online, an organization that is helping to increase the availability of free online access to the province's cultural and historical record. We have begun to upload photographs, pamphlets, and artifacts from our historical collection. The site will eventually house a complete archive of the Centre's valuable holdings, including many print items too fragile for regular use.

The Centre underwent a review of its programs and operations in late 2010 and received the report in March 2011. The examiners were strongly positive in their evaluation.

The Diefenbaker Building, which houses our offices, underwent a major renovation during 2011. As part of the new look in our hallway, we commissioned new cabinets to display co-op memorabilia, theses, and publications.

We appointed a dozen new people as Centre Scholars, some of whom had previous links to the Centre, while others represent new connections. We also continued to explore possibilities for hiring additional.

There were a number of transitions on our Management Advisory Board. Dean Beth Bilson, board chair until June 2011, was replaced by incoming Dean of Law, Sanjeev Anand. Chairing duties passed to Mary Buhr, Dean of the College of Agriculture and Bio-resources. Dean Jo-Anne Dillon completed her term in the College of Arts and Science and was replaced on our board by incoming Dean, Peter Stoicheff. Also new to the board are Ken Sherwin of SaskCentral and Dean Daphne Taras of the Edwards School of Business.

#### Management Advisory Board, 2011-2012

- Beth Bilson, College of Law, chair
- Karl Baumgardner, The Co-operators, vice-chair
- Sanjeev Anand, Dean of Law
- Tony Baumgartner, Enterprise Saskatchewan
- Mary Beckett, Concentra Financial
- Mary Buhr, Dean, Agriculture and Bioresources
- Herb Carlson, Federated Co-operatives Limited
- Ken Sherwin, SaskCentral
- Peter Stoicheff, Dean, Arts and Science
- Daphne Taras, Dean, Edwards School of Business

#### Faculty and Staff, 2011-2012

- Michael Gertler, Centre Fellow (Sociology ), acting director
- Lou Hammond Ketilson, Centre Fellow (Edwards School of Business)
- Brett Fairbairn, Centre Fellow (University Provost and VP Academic, History)
- Murray Fulton, Centre Fellow (Johnson-Shoyama Graduate School of Public Policy)
- Nora Russell, publications and communications
- Audra Krueger, research officer
- Heather Acton, librarian
- Maria Basualdo, exhibit co-ordinator
- Patty Scheidl, office manager
- Karen Neufeldt, administrative assistant
- Duy Huong, IT specialist

## Annual Report, 2012

Lou Hammond Ketilson returned from her year of administrative leave and took up the reigns of director once again.

Two thousand twelve was a remarkable year for the co-operative sector, with the eyes of the world focussed on the many exciting and inspirational events and outcomes of the International Year of Co-operatives. The Centre sponsored a number of special events to bring increased understanding of co-operatives to new audiences. These included partnering with the Edwards School of Business in the Dean's Speaker Series to feature the CEOs of four of Canada's largest co-operatives. The Building Community: Creating Social and Economic Well-Being exhibit was reconfigured into smaller components, which toured Northern Ontario and Manitoba, while the main exhibit was on display in Montreal and two venues in Saskatchewan. Our feature event for 2012 was the Co-operating to Build a Better West Conference held in Saskatoon in early November, organized in partnership with the co-operative sector of Saskatchewan.

The Centre has a number of research initiatives on the go. One ongoing project, part of a larger Canada-wide study titled Measuring the Co-op Difference and led by the Canadian Co-operative Association, examines the impact of credit unions on their communities. This research revealed the importance of credit union reinvestment in the local economy through community development initiatives, profit sharing, and use of local services. It also highlighted significant leadership in the areas of poverty reduction, leadership development, and improved financial literacy.

We are pleased to be partnering with the Canadian Co-operative Association once more in a new research initiative, this time in the East African nations of Uganda, Tanzania, and Rwanda, as well as with our Canadian research partner, Arctic Co-operatives Limited. Our research will be examining several co-op development models with an eye to best practice and transferability in striving towards sustainable livelihoods.

The past year saw completion of a new strategic plan for the Centre inspired by the positive input received from the 2011 External Review. Building upon the Centre's strong foundation, 2013 will see a new partnership with the Johnson-Shoyama Graduate School of Public Policy and a new initiative in distance delivery of graduate courses.

Karl Baumgardner and Mary Beckett stepped down from the management advisory board and were replaced by Barb Turley-McIntyre from The Co-operators and Loretta Elford from Concentra Financial.

Recent PhD graduate Mitch Diamantopoulos received the 2012 Norm Bromberger Research Bursary. PhD student Patricia Elliott helped create a video titled *This Is Us: Voices from the Street*, part of a project researching drug use in Regina. PhD student Maria Basualdo accepted a position at the University of Ottawa but continued to work part-time for the Centre. MA student Tsegi Chuluunbaatar went to Mongolia to conduct field research for her thesis. Scott Kim, an MA student from Eastern Mennonite University in Virginia, joined the Centre for a six-month practicum. And School of

Public Policy student Marion Hewitt Pollock joined us as a summer researcher; she is also the new executive assistant to the CASC Secretariat.

#### Management Advisory Board, 2012

- Mary Buhr, dean, College of Agriculture and Bioresources, chair
- Karl Baumgardner, The Co-operators, vice-chair
- Sanjeev Anand, dean of Law
- Herb Carlson, Federated Co-operatives Limited
- Loretta Elford, Concentra Financial
- Ken Sherwin, SaskCentral
- Peter Stoicheff, dean, Arts and Science
- Daphne Taras, dean, Edwards School of Business
- Barbara Turley-McIntyre, The Co-operators Group

#### Faculty and Staff, 2012

- Lou Hammond Ketilson, Centre Fellow (Edwards School of Business), director
- Brett Fairbairn, Centre Fellow (University Provost and VP Academic, History)
- Murray Fulton, Centre Fellow (Johnson-Shoyama Graduate School of Public Policy)
- Michael Gertler, Centre Fellow (Sociology )
- Nora Russell, publications and communications
- Audra Krueger, research officer
- Heather Acton, librarian
- Patty Scheidl, office manager
- Karen Neufeldt, administrative assistant
- Duy Huong, IT specialist

### Annual Report, 2013

Lou Hammond Ketilson stepped down as director and was replaced by Murray Fulton. July 1 we entered into a formalized relationship with the Johnson-Shoyama Graduate School of Public Policy, which has facilitated access to additional faculty and students interested in doing research on co-operatives and provided an opportunity for the Centre to enhance its research in governance and public policy. The School also created a new position focused on co-operatives and social enterprises, filled by Dionne Pohler, who became our newest Centre Fellow. We will continue to be associated with the Edwards School of Business and the colleges of Arts and Science, Law, and Agriculture and Bioresources. We will also maintain our close connections with the co-op sector.

Last year also brought a new relationship with long-time funder Federated Co-operatives Limited (FCL), as well as a new supporter, the American agricultural co-op CHS Inc. The FCL funding for what we are calling the Co-operative Innovation Project, opens new research focused on co-operative development in rural and Aboriginal communities,

while our partnership with CHS Inc. offers opportunities for graduate program development and co-op business case writing.

The Centre's library moved from the Diefenbaker Building to Special Collections within the university's Murray Library. We have ensured that the collection remains intact and freely available to the co-op sector, whose history and accomplishments it documents, as well as to the students, faculty, and researchers for whom the collection opens many windows into the co-op world.

Lou received the University of Saskatchewan's Award for Distinction in Community-Engaged Teaching and Scholarship at Spring Convocation 2013. Lou has been a leading scholar, researcher, advocate, and mentor for co-operative businesses and organizations for her entire career. She is known around the world for her skills in reaching out to and building strong relationships with a diverse range of individuals, groups, organizations, and institutions.

Carolin Schröder, a postdoctoral researcher at the Technical University of Berlin, joined us from April to June as a visiting professor. And Christina Cano Ortega, a PhD student from the University of Almería in Spain, spent June to September with us as a visiting scholar

We hired three new employees to handle the Co-operative Innovation Project: Nicole McLaren is the project manager; Wu Haotao is the data analyst; and Dazawray Landrie-Parker is the Aboriginal engagement co-ordinator.

PhD candidate Monica Juarez Adeler successfully defended her dissertation and graduated in May 2013, and MA student Tsegi Chuluunbaatar returned from Mongolia, where she was conducting field research.

We hired several contract researchers: PhD student Sugandhi Wickremaratchi, who worked on the proceedings of the Co-operating to Build a Better West conference; Jaime Nicklas, who worked on the digitization project; and Cornelius Christian, who worked on the impact of co-ops and credit unions project.

#### Management Advisory Board, 2013

- Mary Buhr, dean, College of Agriculture and Bioresources, chair
- Herb Carlson, Federated Co-operatives Limited, vice-chair
- Sanjeev Anand, dean of Law
- Loretta Elford, Concentra Financial
- Ken Sherwin, SaskCentral
- Peter Stoicheff, dean, Arts and Science
- Daphne Taras, dean, Edwards School of Business
- Barbara Turley-McIntyre, The Co-operators Group

Faculty and Staff, 2013

- Murray Fulton, Centre Fellow (Johnson-Shoyama Graduate School of Public Policy), director
- Lou Hammond Ketilson, Centre Fellow (Edwards School of Business)
- Brett Fairbairn, Centre Fellow (University Provost and VP Academic, History)
- Michael Gertler, Centre Fellow (Sociology )
- Dionne Pohler, Centre Fellow (Johnson-Shoyama Graduate School of Public Policy), director
- Nora Russell, publications and communications
- Audra Krueger, research officer
- Heather Acton, librarian
- Patty Scheidl, office manager
- Karen Neufeldt, administrative assistant
- Duy Huong, IT specialist