



THE UNIVERSITY OF WINNIPEG

M E D I A R E L E A S E

May 16, 2007

For Immediate Release

University of Winnipeg Spring Convocation 2007: New Graduates & Award Recipients Celebrated, Honorary Degrees Awarded to Joyce Milgaard, Steven Schipper, James Eldridge, Randall Moffat

WINNIPEG— Graduation is a time for celebrating outstanding achievements. The University of Winnipeg will once again join family, friends, and the public in celebrating its latest class of successful graduates at the eighty-third convocation on **Sunday, June 3, 2007**. Chancellor H. Sanford Riley, President & Vice-Chancellor Lloyd Axworthy, the University's Board of Regents and Senate and the Alumni Association extend congratulations to the graduates as they join more than 40,000 University of Winnipeg alumni around the world.

Sunday, June 3, 2007

10:00 a.m. Morning Convocation – Degrees conferred in Education and Science

3:00 p.m. Afternoon Convocation – Degrees conferred in Theology and Arts

Duckworth Centre (Ellice Avenue Entrance)

Spence Street at Ellice Avenue

The University of Winnipeg

As part of both convocation ceremonies, UWinnipeg will honour a number of outstanding individuals with awards and honorary degrees. The winners are listed below with further background on each recipient attached:

MORNING CONVOCATION, 10:00 A.M.:

- Degrees will be conferred in **Education and Science**
- **Bob Bector, B.Sc., M.Sc.** will be awarded the Clifford J. Robson Memorial Award for Excellence in Teaching.
- **Dr. Roger Kingsley, BA (Hons.), MA, PhD** will be awarded the Clarence Atchison Award for Excellence in Community Service.
- **Joyce Milgaard** will receive an Honorary Doctorate of Laws.
- **Steven Schipper** will receive an Honorary Doctorate of Letters.

**University of Winnipeg
Spring Convocation 2007... cont'd**

- **J.F. Reeh Taylor, QC, LLB** will be admitted as a Fellow of The University of Winnipeg
- **Douglas Storey, B.Sc. (Hons.)** (Class of 2007) will offer the Valedictory Address to the graduands at the morning ceremony.

AFTERNOON CONVOCATION: 3:00 P.M.

- Degrees will be conferred in **Theology** and **Arts**
- **Dr. Craig Cooper, BA (Hons.), MA, PhD** will be awarded the Robin H. Farquhar Award for Excellence in Contributing to Self-Governance.
- **James Eldridge, BA, MA** will be awarded an Honorary Doctorate of Laws by The University of Winnipeg.
- **David Martin, BA (Class of 1983)** will receive the Distinguished Alumni Award
- **Randall Moffat, (Collegiate '61) C.M.** will be awarded an Honorary Doctorate of Laws by The University of Winnipeg.
- **Dr. Reginald Skene, BA, M.Ed., MA, PhD** will be admitted as a Fellow of United College.
- **Dr. Mary Young, BA, PBCE, M.Ed., PhD** will be awarded The Marsha Hanen Award for Excellence in Creating Community Awareness.
- **Susan Taylor, BA (Hons.)** (Class of 2007) will present the Valedictory Address to the graduands at the afternoon ceremony.

Following each ceremony, **a reception will be held on Spence Street** (between Portage and Ellice), which will be closed to traffic for the day. All are welcome to attend.

Located in the heart of downtown, The University of Winnipeg is a compact, diverse, multicultural academic community committed to access and excellence. Home to more than 9,200 full- and part-time students, UWinnipeg has been ranked by our graduates in the Top Ten of all Canadian universities when asked about their "Entire Educational Experience" (Maclean's Graduate Survey, June 2006). The Globe & Mail 2006 Report Card gives The University of Winnipeg an overall 'A' grade in the areas of quality of education, teaching quality, class sizes, faculty-student interaction, and the availability of faculty outside classroom hours. Find out why. Visit www.uwinnipeg.ca

- 30 -

For more information, please contact:

Ilana Simon, Acting Director of Communications & Marketing
The University of Winnipeg

T: 204.786.9872 C: 204.782.3279 E: i.simon@uwinnipeg.ca

For University of Winnipeg campus and area parking maps, please visit
<http://www.uwinnipeg.ca/index/maps>

BACKGROUNDER

Honorary Degree and Award Recipients The University of Winnipeg 83rd Convocation, Sunday, June 3, 2007

Morning Convocation, 10:00 a.m.

Degrees will be conferred in Education and Science

- **Bob Bector, B.Sc., M.Sc.** Instructor in Mathematics & Statistics, will be presented with the **Clifford J. Robson Memorial Award for Excellence in Teaching**. Bector is considered the “consummate professional” for presenting well-prepared and well-organized lectures, well-designed and extremely fair tests and providing excellent support to his students and his colleagues.
- **Dr. Roger Kingsley, BA (Hons.), MA, PhD** Assistant Professor in Mathematics & Statistics will be honoured with the **Clarence Atchison Award for Excellence in Community Service**. An active community member, Kingsley has devoted much of his volunteer time and service to Scouts Canada and the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada on the local, provincial and national levels over the past 30 years. As Chair of Scout Canada’s Audit Committee, Kingsley helped restore the fiscal health of the organization. As well, he served as a board member of the Interfaith Marriage and Family Institute (now Aurora) giving of his skills and commitment to the governance of the Institute.
- **Joyce Milgaard** will receive an **Honorary Doctor of Laws** for her contributions as a role model, and her ability to overcome the tragedy of her son David Milgaard’s wrongful conviction and accomplish a public-spirited pursuit of justice for the wrongfully convicted. Milgaard has been named to the *Macleans*’ Magazine Honour Roll and was awarded the Canada 125 Anniversary Medal for “significant contribution to fellow citizens, their community or Canada.” She remains involved with the John Howard Society and is regional director of the national organization the Association in Defense of the Wrongfully Convicted. She frequently speaks at schools and universities in Canada and the U.S. in defence of the wrongly convicted. She appears frequently on television on various community issues. She currently lives in Petersfield, MB where she works as a Christian Science practitioner, one who helps bring healing to others through prayer.

- **Steven Schipper** will be awarded an **Honorary Doctor of Letters** for his outstanding contribution to theatre and the arts in Manitoba. Schipper, a graduate of the National Theatre School, has had a long and distinguished career as a director in theatres across Canada. Since 1989, he has served as artistic director of the Manitoba Theatre Centre and has been credited with bringing financial stability and artistic success to MTC. His theatrical triumphs include world premieres including local writer Maureen Hunter's *Transit of Venus* (1992-93) and *Atlantis* (1995-96). In 1995, Schipper brought Hollywood actor Keanu Reeves to Winnipeg to play Hamlet, and has throughout his tenure cast extensively from the local acting community. Under his leadership, MTC has been called "the most successful regional theatre in the Canada," balancing artistic risks with classics and attracting an estimable list of theatre artists creating "an artistic renaissance."
- **J.F. Reeh Taylor, QC, LLB** will be admitted as a **Fellow of The University of Winnipeg**. Taylor, Senior Counsel with Taylor McCaffrey LLP, served as UWinnipeg's long-time legal counsel and has contributed greatly to The University of Winnipeg and general communities. A great supporter of the arts, Taylor was co-founder of Virtuosi Concerts Inc. and the Manitoba Chamber Orchestra, and has served on the board of Virtuosi Concerts for a decade. Taylor, was acknowledged by the Manitoba Bar Association with its Distinguished Service Award in 1993. Another achievement of Taylor's was founding the Canadian Association of University Solicitors where he served as its first president. He is described as "a true Renaissance man...a gentleman of distinction and culture...who has created for all of us a better place to live."

Afternoon Convocation, 3:00 p.m.

Degrees will be conferred in Theology and Arts

- **Dr. Craig Cooper, BA (Hons.), MA, PhD** Associate Professor, Chair of Classics and Acting Chair of Philosophy, will be awarded the **Robin H. Farquhar Award for Excellence in Contributing to Self-Governance**. His exemplary work in the area of self-governance is demonstrated by his collegial, effective and dedicated service to more than 40 University and faculty committees including as Chair of the Faculty Council of Arts & Science nominating committee, President of the Faculty & Staff Club, Member and Chair of the Chairs' Caucus, Senator and Board of Regents member.

- **James Eldridge, BA, MA** will receive an **Honorary Doctor of Laws** in recognition of his dedication to Manitoba and Canada and for his tireless efforts to ensure harmonious relations between the federal and provincial governments. Eldridge's career in the Manitoba public service spans 37 years—serving under six premiers and creating the first department of intergovernmental affairs in 1982. Throughout his career, which included serving as Deputy Minister of Intergovernmental Affairs and as Clerk of the Executive Council, Eldridge has demonstrated commitment to the highest levels of integrity and professionalism. Eldridge retired in 2004 but continues to serve as an advisor on intergovernmental relations and as an advisor to the Manitoba Business Council.

- **David Martin (BA '83)** will receive the **Distinguished Alumni Award** for his work championing, advocating on behalf of and improving the lives of people with disabilities. Martin worked for the Manitoba League of Persons with Disabilities for 17 years. In addition to acting as a spokesperson during his time with the League, Martin was active in the development of many government policies and programs which support those with disabilities. For four years he continued that work at Ten Ten Sinclair Housing, Inc., an organization that helps disabled individuals make the transition to independent living. Since 2004, he has served as Executive Director of the Province of Manitoba's Disabilities Issues Office. His community involvement includes the Community Health Advisory Council for Seven Oaks/Inkster, the Muscular Dystrophy Association of Canada, Equal Rights Advisory Committee, Court Challenges Program of Canada and Council of Canadians with Disabilities.

- **Randall Moffat, (Collegiate '61), C.M.**, founding director of The University of Winnipeg Foundation will be awarded an **Honorary Doctor of Laws** for his inspiring philanthropy, his community involvement and his commitment to helping young people and the socially and economically disadvantaged members of our society. Former president of Moffat Communications, Moffat championed the advancement of women in the broadcasting industry through the Women's Television Network and its Foundation. Moffat gained national attention in 2001 when he and his family gave a \$100 million contribution to The Winnipeg Foundation to enrich the lives of children and their families.

- **Dr. Reginald Skene, BA, M.Ed., MA, PhD** will be admitted into **Fellowship in United College** for his vision and leadership in establishing The University of Winnipeg's Department of Theatre and Drama in 1982. Under Skene's guidance which including chairing the department and the committee which developed the present pre-professional program, the Department of Theatre & Drama flourished and gained respect as one of Canada's premiere theatre programs. Currently Senior Scholar at UWinnipeg, Skene retired in 2002 after nearly 40 years. During his career, Skene held leadership positions in The University of Winnipeg Faculty Association for 15 years and also sustained a multi-faceted professional career as a productive scholar, writer, reviewer and director.

- **Dr. Mary Young, BA, PBCE, M.Ed., PhD**, Director of the Aboriginal Students Services Centre, will receive the **Marsha Hanen Award for Excellence in Creating Community Awareness**. Young has served as a voice for Aboriginal peoples and education at The University of Winnipeg and in the community. The issues she addresses range from healing the residential school experience, combating racism and discrimination, incorporating the wisdom of Elders into modern society and ensuring the survival of Aboriginal languages. She has worked diligently to reconnect many Aboriginal young people with their home communities, culture and languages.