



FALL EDITION

VOLUME 3 2016

Boozhoo! Tansi! Hello! Bonjour!

The summer months flew by with students completing field placements across Canada and around the world. We are so grateful to our exceptional placement partners who hosted our students and contributed so significantly to their learning. And now, the fall semester is well under-way. In a variety of ways students, staff and faculty have been engaged in innovative and exciting opportunities, highlights of which you'll find included here. We are continuously appreciative of our tremendous faculty, who from 17 different departments across the university, engage in MDP.

Enjoy the winter season, happy solstice and holiday season!

Miigwetch! Ekosi! Merci! Thank you!

Claire Reid, Director MDP

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STUDENT ENGAGEMENT

2016 MDP Symposium



MDP Symposium: Doing Development Differently: Students returned from their field placements and shared their experiences at the MDP Symposium on Friday, September 9th, 2016.

Students are required to complete both a Canadian and an International field placement during the program, and represent important opportunities to learn “on-the-ground” about challenges and opportunities of Indigenous development. The Symposium is an event that is open to the public and is held annually in the first week of fall term classes. To learn more about the 2016 field placement organizations go here: <http://www.uwinnipeg.ca/mdp/program/field-placements/index.html> and <http://mdpuw.blogspot.ca/>

Together: A Workshop on Global Development



Co-hosted by the Aga Khan Foundation Canada (AKFC) and the MDP program on September 22, 2016, this workshop explored the concept of global citizenship. Participants from across the university engaged with AKFC presenters Savannah Hallworth and Fawad Akbari and MDP students Aliraza Alidina and Gabriela Jimenez. This presentation provided important space to debrief around student experience with the mobile, interactive AKFC Together Exhibit, designed to explore how Canadians are driving positive global change.

MDP Students at ICSD 2016



For the 4th year, the annual International Conference on Sustainable Development (ICSD) was held at Columbia University, New York City on September 21-22th, 2016, co-hosted by the Master's in Development Practice Global Association (MDP) and the Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN).

Three UWinnipeg MDP students, Sarah Wood, Jasmin Winter and Esther Awotwe, were selected through a competitive application process to present their research, and in the case of Sarah and Esther, insights from their recently completed MDP field Placements. Notably, Jasmin's paper was selected as one of the top student papers presented at the conference.

MDP Student at Int'l Summit of Cooperatives

Stephen Penner, a 2nd year MDP student, participated at the International Summit of Cooperatives in Quebec City, October 9-14, 2016. He presented a feasibility paper entitled "**Gathering Circles for Indigenous Ecopreneurship among First Nations Communities of Southern Quebec**" which includes a toolbox for creating an Indigenous Food Co-op Distributor and explains the community supports that a co-op can offer Indigenous communities across North America. The paper was co-authored by Stephen, Dr. Simon Berge, Business Chair of Co-operative Enterprises at the University of Winnipeg, and Ryan Paul Rice, an Aboriginal Entrepreneur from Kahnawake Territory of the Mohawk Nation.

"It was incredible to be here with Dr. Simon Berge presenting on a sustainable Indigenous Food Co-op model. The reception to the presentation was wonderful and the teachings and learnings that I have experienced from around the globe have been amazing. Being in an atmosphere of development practitioners who work with their communities is an experience in itself." Stephen

2016 Emerging Professionals Networking Event

This event brought together MDP students and organizations engaged in Indigenous Development, including organizations from the private, public and not for profit sectors. For our students, this was an ideal opportunity to learn about the many potential career opportunities that exist within the broad area of Indigenous development and offered them the occasion to showcase their skills and interests with prospective employers. Likewise, the event cast our community partners as professional mentors, generously sharing their experiences and insight as practitioners.

Many thanks to all participants for making this event such a huge success!

COLLABORATIVE RESEARCH

Through a variety of collaborative, university- community research projects, students enhance their research skills, deepen their knowledge and learn directly from the mentorship provided by UWinnipeg faculty members and community leadership. The following are examples of some of the research projects in which MDP students have recently been or currently are engaged;

- Perceptions of the co-operative business model in remote and rural Indigenous communities of Manitoba. (Dr. Simon Berge, Chair of Co-operative Enterprises, Business Development)
- Mite Achimowin (Heart Talk) First Nations Women's Expressions of Heart Health: A community-based digital storytelling study (Dr. Lorena Fontaine, Indigenous Studies)
- The Kanata Indigenous Performance, New and Digital Media Art Project.(Dr. Julie Nagam)
- Newcomer and Refugee Youth Education (Dr. Jan Stewart)

Collaborating with Norway on the High North



A new partnership between The University of Winnipeg and the Norwegian University of Science and Technology draws on complementary expertise involving technologies, governance frameworks, and evaluation methodologies for sustainable energy systems in the High North.

The purpose of this project is to establish a partnership on Sustainable Energy System Design, Evaluation and Governance education, research and development. The team is developing teaching and research collaborations, including a MDP Summer Institute, student and faculty exchanges, and potential research partnerships.

CELEBRATING STUDENT SUCCESS

MDP scholarship winners for 2016-2017

The Master's in Development Practice Program would like to congratulate 7 MDP students for winning 4 different competitive scholarships:

Manitoba Graduate Scholarship (Jasmin Winter)

University of Winnipeg Graduate Studies Scholarship (Cassandra Szabo, Stephen Penner, and Barbara Gardner)

Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Scholarship (Nana Araba Asaam and Aliraza Alidina).

Northern Science Training Program Award (Sarah Wood)

MDP student Vanessa Tait attends Universities Canada Homecoming 2016 in Ottawa



On October 25th, Universities Canada hosted a signature event, "Homecoming 2016", to demonstrate the amazing students attending Canadian universities. Four Queen Elizabeth Scholars, from across Canada including MDP's Vanessa Tait, had the opportunity to network with researchers, university presidents, and members of parliament.

University of Winnipeg President Annette Trimbee, Universities Canada President Paul Davidson and QE Scholar Vanessa Tait
Photo Credit: @QEScholars, Twitter



2016 MDP Fall Graduates

Adesuwa Ero, Leah McDonnell, Busola Olaniyan and Anna Huard (not pictured)

CANDO (Council for the Advancement of Native Development Officers) 12th National Youth Panelist- Sarah Wood



The National Youth Panel showcases Indigenous youth from across Canada who have been selected by CANDO based on their strengths, initiatives, accomplishments, entrepreneurial spirit and participation within their communities.

(Photo credit Archbould Photography)

Alumni Spotlight

Rachel Bach- MDP Alum 2014



Rachel is an Indigenous woman of Ktunaxa (too-nah-hah) and German/English decent. She is from Akisq'nuk First Nation in British Columbia and primarily grew up in rural Manitoba. Rachel is part of a big and beautiful blended family and is the second oldest of 6 children. She moved to Winnipeg to complete her Bachelor of Arts with honors in psychology at the University of Manitoba prior to completing the Masters in Development program. Since graduating in 2014, Rachel spent a little over a year working as a Policy Analyst at the First Nations Health Authority (www.fnha.ca) in Vancouver – the first province-wide health authority of its kind in Canada focused on transforming the health and wellbeing of First Nations living in BC. Rachel has since returned 'home' to Winnipeg, and is excited about her newest role at Ka Ni Kanichihk (www.kanikanichihk.ca). As the Program Coordinator for the Heart Medicine Lodge program, Rachel supported Ka Ni Kanichihk in its work to develop and launch the first culturally based and Indigenous-led program in Canada for Indigenous women who have experienced sexual assault and sexual violence. This work came out of the 'Winnipeg Safe City' initiative – a partnership with UN Women that supports innovative approaches to preventing and reducing harassment and sexual violence against women and girls in public spaces. Rachel sits on the Winnipeg Safe City Steering Committee.

Faculty Spotlight- Dr. Jaime Cidro



How did you hear about the MDP program, and what motivated you to become an affiliated member to the program?

I was told about the MDP program soon after I was hired as a faculty member in anthropology. The applied research that I do in Indigenous health and the research methods that I employ were in line with the goals of the MDP program. I was asked to teach the Indigenous health courses and the research methods courses and have been doing so over the last five years.

What are some of the most meaningful initiatives in which you've been engaged?

I think the most meaningful work I've done is in maternal child health in northern Manitoba.

This work is meaningful because I think the health of the mother is directly related to the health of her infants, and the better supported they are in the early stages of pregnancy and infancy, the better health outcomes there are for the family and community. When health interventions are grounded in local culture and families have access to the services they require, then families are strengthened. Communities know what they need, and our job as researchers is to support those communities in pulling together meaningful evidence to support their needs. As a mother myself, I recognize how challenging it is when you have a child who is facing health issues. At the end of the day, First Nations children and families deserve better access to health care. I hope the work I do helps work towards more equitable health care for First Nations children and families.

MDP: INDIGENOUS DEVELOPMENT

For more information about the program please contact us at: +1 (204) 258.2998
FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION :

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