Campus Digest

President outlines a year dedicated to translation

BY PAUL MAYNE

WESTERN PRESIDENT AMIT Chakma stressed this coming year is about translating aspirations into actionable items during his annual presidential priorities address, presented

last week to university Senate.
"This year, my overarching priority is to ensure appropriate steps are undertaken to implement our recently approved Strategic Plan, Achieving Excellence on the World Stage. By design, this plan is aspirational in nature," said Chakma, adding that translation will require significant attention from his entire leadership team.

The Strategic Plan has four key pillars:

- Raise expectations by creating a worldclass research and scholarship culture;
- Lead in learning by providing Canada's best education for tomorrow's global leaders;
- · Reach beyond campus by engaging alumni, community, institutional and international partners; and
- Take charge of Western's destiny by generating and investing new resources in support of excellence.

Work on the first two pillars is well advanced through the leadership of the vice-presidents, particularly the provost and vice-president

(Research), Chakma said.
"I will continue to focus on these two pillars at a high level. But, by virtue of the external leadership role of my position, I'll be devoting considerable time to the latter two pillars, with a special emphasis on building and strengthening partnerships with both public and private sector partners," he continued. "It is a job that cannot be done without the help of many.

"When we come together, we see great suc-

Chakma mentioned work on priorities from previous years continues as well including:

- · Building Western's capacity to attract the best students through the high quality, innovation, breadth and reputation of our academic programs, research, scholarship and outstanding learning environment;
- Cultivating a more research-intensive culture through continued emphasis on graduate enrolment expansion, development of innovative course-based masters programs and strategic investment in interdisciplinary areas of strenath:
- Strengthening Western's internationalization efforts through increased engagement

with alumni, community and institutional partners in all areas of our teaching, learning, research and service mission;

- Monitoring and contributing to Ontario's postsecondary education policy discussions while anticipating and managing the
- impact of policy shifts that may emerge;
 Playing a leadership role in advocating for greater public support of postsecondary research and internationalization agendas with the federal government;
- Navigating the changing fiscal and education policy environment while pursuing income diversification strategies, with a particular focus on the development of Western's next four-year fiscal plan; and
- Raising Western's visibility through media, communication, public affairs and events activities

NEWS AND NOTES

The incoming chairperson of the Canada Pension Plan Investment Board, a former president of the Canadian Jewish Congress, one of Canada's most influential policy strategists and an award-winning Canadian author will receive honorary degrees when Western hosts its 304th Convocation today and tomorrow. The ceremonies are scheduled for the following days:

Heather Munroe-Blum

10 a.m. Thursday Doctor of Laws, honoris causa (LLD)

Irving Abella

3 p.m. Thursday

Doctor of Laws, honoris causa (LLD)

Thomas d'Aquino

10 a.m. Friday Doctor of Laws, honoris causa (LLD)

Jane Urquhart

3 p.m. Friday

Doctor of Letters, honoris causa (DLitt)

Not sure what to do following graduation? Identify your academic options at the Graduate and Professional School Fair. Hosted by the Student Success Centre, the fair is scheduled for 11 a.m.-3 p.m. today (Oct. 23) in the Western Student Recreation Centre, 4th floor gym.

Visit the event website for details.

Roberta L. Jamieson, LLB'76, LLD'93, has been awarded the David C. Smith Award by the Council of Ontario Universities (COÚ)

Putting ideas on the table for World Food Day Food



PAUL MAYNE // WESTERN NEWS

As a way to commemorate World Food Day on Oct. 16, FRESH (Food Resources and Education for Student Health), in conjunction with Hospitality Services, conducted cooking demonstrations over the lunch hour in the University Community Centre's Centre Spot. "As general food knowledge/food skills tie into food sustainability, security and waste, we thought we'd offer this demonstration to help provide students with an 'experiential' learning opportunity as a way to help students improve their food skills," said Anne Zok, Hospitality Services nutrition manager, pictured here with third-year Social Sciences student Yoav Yau Hua Lai.

for her advocacy of Aboriginal education in Canada, and her dedication to improving access and increasing career success of

"Education facilitates inclusion and it opens many avenues of engagement and success economic, social, cultural and international so it is important that our Aboriginal learners be engaged and supported at our universities," said Max Blouw, COU chair and Wilfrid Laurier University president. "Roberta is an incredible champion for Aboriginal education, and our universities and communities are enriched as a result of her accomplish-

As president and CEO of Indspire, Canada's premier Indigenous-led charity and the largest non-government funder of Indigenous education, Jamieson has increased by five-fold the amount of funding available to Indigenous students to \$10 million in 2013-14. Under her leadership, Indspire also launched an unprecedented \$20 million fundraising campaign in 2013 to support the Building Brighter Futures: Bursaries and Scholarship Awards program, and has extended Indspire's youth career conferences to all regions of Canada.

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