



October 2009

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Don't forget to change your clocks back 1 hour on November 1!

FACETS



President's Message:

As I reflect on what our association has accomplished during this past two years, I am in awe of the time and dedication that our very amazing and capable members have invested to get us to this point. As I look forward to the upcoming two years, I realize the amount of work that still needs to be done to complete our transformation and to make it real...easy to see, hear, say, taste, touch and smell.. to each of our members and to those we encounter and impact on a daily basis.

As the new board sets their goals and strategies and puts them into action, I strongly encourage you to play a role... let your voice be heard, your face be seen and your hands get a little dirty in some of those actionable items that will move our profession forward. While uncharted territory may seem daunting at first, the

journey is one of growth, both personally and professionally. It is filled with exciting challenges, new friendships and many new opportunities as horizons unfold to bring new light, focus and strength to our path association.

It has been a pleasure to serve as your president for the past two years and I look forward to my role as past president where I can continue to work on fulfilling some of our goals on a few projects. I would like to thank the members of the executive, board and provincial and branch committees for your creativity, enthusiasm and loyal support during this time of renewal for our association.

All the best,
Myrna Grahn, PHEc

MAHE Board of Directors 2009-2010

Just as the Association has changed over the last year, so has the MAHE Provincial Board of Directors. Here's a brief look at some of the changes coming into effect as of our October 2009 AGM.

As required by our Act, the Board is still comprised of 12 members plus the Registrar. However, due to the change in the Branch structure of the Association, the Executive and the Board Members are no longer tied to Branches. As a result, the Executive and other committees no longer rotate from one Branch to another, and Board members are no longer called "Branch Representatives". Instead, there are now five new Director positions in addition to the more traditional executive positions as shown below.

President

President-Elect

Past President

Finance Director

Secretary

Director of Public Relations

- leading a campaign to build a public voice for PHECs

Director of Internal Affairs

- leading policy and procedure, practice review, IPHE Program, Investigations and Discipline

Director of Membership Recruitment

- leading admissions and a member recruitment campaign

Director of Communications

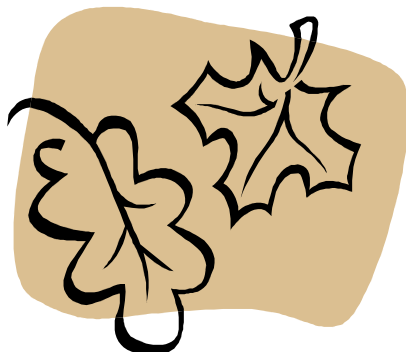
- leading effective communication via social media, newsletter and website

Director of Member Relations

- leading a campaign to foster learning, networking and celebrating opportunities for PHECs

Government Representative (2)

Registrar (Ex Officio)



Important Note: Directors are not expected to do everything on their own. They are simply the leaders/champions for their respective campaigns and help coordinate the efforts of amazing volunteers such as Charlene Vandembosch (newsletter editor), the Southwest Branch (2010 Celebrations), the Winnipeg Branch (IPHE program), Janet Menec our guru on reciprocity, etc.

Removing the official connection to Branches is still very new to all of us. It means that technically Branches do not have to put forward a representative to sit on the Provincial Board of Directors. However, because representation across the province is so important to all of us, it's critical that we have a good mix of rural and urban Board members. So, whether recommended by a Branch or simply volunteering as an individual, we welcome any MAHE member from any area of the province to consider serving on the Board of Directors.

Having a Board and Executive made up of individuals from across the province is not as challenging as one might think. In fact, the Executive has been using this model for the last few years very effectively. Teleconferencing has enabled us to meet regularly and ensure we have a good handle on the business of the Association. The addition of three in-person meetings (at the October AGM, the February Board meeting and the May Strategic Planning Board Meeting) ensured we had good camaraderie and the opportunity to hash out any difficult issues. Over the next year, we anticipate this routine (monthly phone calls and three in-person meetings) will continue.

The good news is our slate of officers is filling up nicely. While we already have several energetic and enthusiastic professionals on board, we are looking for a couple more members to round out our Board. If you'd like to get in on the action, either as a full Board member or a committee volunteer, please call Getty Stewart at (204) 475-1245 or email her at getty@gettyanddarryl.com. There has never been a better or more exciting time to become part of the MAHE Provincial Board than right now. Are you in?

PARKLAND BRANCH

Have you heard the news?

Parkland Branch has been busy planning the 2009 Provincial Conference. Join us in Russell on October 16 & 17 for *What's Making Headlines? Connecting Home Economics to the News*. The headlines include:

- *Savvy Consumers
- *Food Trends
- *Changing Climate of Design
- *Coping in the Recession
- *Folic Acid Fortification

For full details see the attached conference brochure. Conference fee is \$70. Contact Jan Murray at 204-773-2745 or email aljan@mts.net. We look forward to seeing everyone in Russell!



INTERLAKE BRANCH

Interlake Branch is proud to say that we are growing! An early October meeting is planned. We are looking at what role we can play within the provincial organization.

Submitted by
Thelma Blahey
MAHE Interlake President
and Board Representative

For Your Information...

- October 16 & 17: MAHE Provincial Conference (Russell)
- October 20-22: 2009 Canadian Association of Suicide Prevention National Conference (Brandon). [To register visit www.suicideprevention.ca/2009](http://www.suicideprevention.ca/2009)
- October 23: MHETA SAG & Brandon Teacher's Association LIFT (Winnipeg & Brandon)
- Pork Safety Explained - watch video by Dr. Cate Dewey at http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=92DEyRK2D_A&feature=channel_page
- 2009 is the International Year of Natural Fibres! Visit <http://www.naturalfibres2009.org/> for more information. This website has excellent information on why it is beneficial to use natural fibres and provides detailed information on 15 natural fibres.
- September 2009: Legislation proclaimed implementing nutrition guidelines, banning sale of trans fats in foods in school. For full article visit: <http://www.gov.mb.ca/chc/press/top/2009/09/2009-09-09-135300-6675.html>

In Memory:

U of Manitoba Home Economics Home Management (Practice) House 1939-2009

A familiar sight at 180 Dafoe Road, across from the main bus stop and the Tier Building south exit, what has been known in recent years as Alumni House was originally part of the Department of Home Economics.

Most of those who graduated after the early 1970s may not have heard the stories of this building. But many of those before that time, even those who did not participate in the program, and the ones who followed, learned of the basic history.

*"Built in 1939, the Georgian-style residence was designed by (architect) Ralph C. Ham for the home management and child care programs in the department of home economics. In groups of 14, students in their senior year lived and worked together for a month-long rotation at the Practice House, as it was known. They learned how to plan meals, shop for groceries and soothe a crying child, under the kind but stern tutelage of "house mother" Miss Florence McLaughlin, who ran the program until 1953. After 1945, these students also supervised the first campus nursery school. Following the Second World War, veterans sent their children to the Practice House basement two afternoons a week. Over the years, hundreds of young women and 33 foster babies passed through the Practice House. In 1992, the House was immortalized in the book *The Republic of Love* by Pulitzer Prize-winning author Carol Shields. In the late-1950s, the House was used as a private residence for university vice-presidents and administrative personnel. In 1970, it was converted into an office facility for the university's employee relations division before becoming the home of the Alumni Association a decade later. The approach of having a child live directly in the house was discontinued in the mid 1950s and by the late 1950s the program had moved into the Home Economics building with three apartments created to mimic low income, middle income and upper income households."*

<From OnManitoba August 2009, Alumni Association http://umanitoba.ca/people/alumni/media/OnMB_Aug09.pdf>

The home management apartments on the third floor of the Human Ecology Building were used from 1957 until 1967. (From Faculty of Human Ecology>

In June 2009, the University Board of Governors and the Senate both approved demolition of Alumni House to make way for a new building, the Art Research Technology Lab, which will include the School of Art's *Gallery 1.1.1*. The building was completely demolished before classes began in September 2009.

Before the Alumni Association moved out of the building, *"the University held a reunion on July 23 for students who had spent time in the Practice House in the 1940s and 1950s."* <From The Bulletin July 30, 2009, U of Manitoba <http://myuminfo.umanitoba.ca/Documents/2790/July%2030%202009%20U%20of%20M%20Bulletin.pdf>>

In addition, an event was held *"for members of the university community who wanted to visit the house one last time . . . the invitation to this event was by e-memo to all staff at the university, on the association homepage and on the university's homepage."* <personal communication from Julie Mikuska, Executive Director, Alumni Association Inc, August 24, 2009>

"The House played a unique role in the University's history. Steps are being taken to ensure this chapter of our institution's story is preserved. We are pleased to say that the original dining room table and chairs used by the department of home economics have been returned to the faculty of human ecology. As well, in conjunction with human ecology's centennial celebration in 2010, portions of the House's brickwork and limestone window ledges will be incorporated into a commemorative design near the faculty's campus location. According to Vice-President (Administration) Debbie McCallum more than 75 per cent of the building materials of the House will be reused or recycled. The concrete and walls of the house will be crushed and used as material in future road-paving projects while other materials will go into homes being built locally for underprivileged families. A documentary on the history of the House – much of it as seen through the eyes of its tenant-students who returned to campus to bid their former residence farewell this past summer – was also produced."

<From the Alumni Association website <http://umanitoba.ca/people/alumni/71.htm>>

Watch the video » go to this link through the Alumni website above or directly to:

< <http://www.vimeo.com/6131509> >

<continued>

A Controversial Decision?

Whoever said bureaucracies don't move quickly did not see the University of Manitoba in action this summer. In less than two months, a 70-year-old building that was a part of Manitoba home economics history, was deemed to be not needed, had a new-and-improved building approved to take its place, and completely disappeared from its familiar place on the university landscape.

Few people outside the University's administration were aware of these plans and decisions. My personal awareness came when I read a column in the August 14, 2009 *Winnipeg Free Press* (WFP) by Winnipeg writer William Neville, a former city councillor and a current member of the board of directors of Heritage Winnipeg ("*Heritage razed for art?*"). <<http://www.winnipegfreepress.com/opinion/westview/heritage-e-razed-for-art-53215787.html>>

I sent the column by email to several home economists in and out of Manitoba who I thought would have interest in this information. On August 17, I received a phone call from a MAHE member telling me of the story being discussed on CBC Radio (likely as a follow-up to the WFP column) with UManitoba's Vice-President (Administration) Deborah McCallum. E-response came to me from several home economists who were also concerned (and angered) by this action and the apparent rush to move forward on this matter. Several members of the Centennial committee noted that they had been aware of this decision. A home economist friend spoke directly with Ms McCallum, who provided extensive background and referred her to Julie Mikuska at the Alumni Association. I received emailed notes from the conversation, and emailed Julie Mikuska. In her response, she clarified some miscommunication regarding how many graduates were to be notified directly. She noted the page remembering Alumni House in the August *On Manitoba* publication. When it arrived a week or so later, I felt it was inadequate. More information had been in the University's Public Affairs publication, *The Bulletin*, of July 30, which is basically an internal publication with limited circulation. <see reference on prior page>

I left it at that until I was asked by the MAHE executive to prepare some information for the newsletter on the Practice House, and decided to dig into the details further on how this decision came about <as much as I could with information I could access easily>. I felt many others may have questions about the decision. I followed the paper trail.

(Indulge me. Read it. Sources are noted.)

1. 'Project Domino', the \$100-million redevelopment project that is seeing buildings renovated and faculties and schools moved about the campus over five years (2008-2013), seems to be the first step in this action. It was first announced in March 2008 by then President Emőke Szathmáry. One of the major first steps is to move the faculty of music and school of art into Taché Hall. But first, a new residence must be produced – the only new building constructed - built over Pembina Hall and completed in 2011. **Alumni House was not mentioned in this plan.** In fact, the President was reported to have said that the renewal of Taché Hall fit in nicely with **the university's view that its historic buildings should be refurbished for 21st century needs, rather than demolished.** < From The

Bulletin April 3, 2008, U of Manitoba
<http://myuminfo.umanitoba.ca/Documents/1898/April%203%202008%20Bulletin.pdf>>

2. Now, additional space seems to be needed to provide suitable surroundings, in a suitable space, by the School of Art. On May 19, 2009, Associate Vice-President (Administration) Alan Simms sent a request to the Senate Planning and Priorities Committee (SPPC) Sub-Committee on Site Selection that this new space be that currently occupied by Alumni House, in a new building. No details are provided as to those who prepared the request, or what consultations took place. <<http://www.umanitoba.ca/admin/governance/media/bog-open-june09.pdf> pp 120-122>
He connects the request to Project Domino, **(even though it was not originally included/kb)**, and to "*promote the University's cultural profile though siting of the School's public art gallery (Gallery 1.1.1) prominently at the southeast corner of the University's historic quadrangle.*" In addition, he says, "*Commencement of construction of the ART Lab later this year enables immediate progress for parts of the program (Project Domino/kb) that would otherwise be impossible to delivery (sic) prior to at least 2013. (Let's get started!/kb) The ART Lab project commencement this year and its ability to proceed quickly and prior to completion of the new residence later was a major factor*

contributing to a successful application to the federal government's Knowledge Infrastructure Program (KIP). The KIP program will provide \$15 million (or one-half of the financial requirement) towards this project." (i.e. this is what we have to do to get the money./kb)

[KIP: "The Knowledge Infrastructure Program is helping to provide economic stimulus and promote employment by creating jobs for engineers, architects, tradespeople and technicians."<From: Government of Canada: <http://www.ic.gc.ca/eic/site/696.nsf/eng/00461.html> and from The Bulletin July 30, 2009, U of Manitoba <http://myuminfo.umanitoba.ca/Documents/2790/July%2030%202009%20U%20of%20M%20Bulletin.pdf> , p 3 The ART Lab/Taché Hall was not specifically mentioned in the release.]

Mr. Simms continues: "The site offers high visibility for public art gallery space as well as the opportunity to showcase a visual transition between Manitoba heritage architecture and modern design by a leading architect." Not only that, "The site allows for the ART Lab to become a pivot point for connecting Taché Hall with the Drake/Tier tunnel system and that system, ultimately, with Pembina Hall and Mary Speechly residences (sic)."

He makes a small mention of the existing structure, noting that 'relocation of Alumni House had been estimated to exceed \$1 million' and that the 'prudent financial decision' supported by Alumni Affairs, was to relocate staff, demolish the house, and 'appropriately commemorate the house through use of various components in and around the Faculty of Human Ecology facility'. [No mention was made of alleged asbestos in the house and others mentioned during demolition.]

The summary: 'The backside of Drake, the side elevation of Tier and the east corner of Taché Hall present a jumble of architectural styles bearing down on a small Georgian style house. Appropriate development of this southwest corner of Alumni Lane at Dafoe Road is an opportunity to strengthen the presentation of the southwest corner of the Quadrangle. The Petkau designed ART Lab on this site will take its place as a modern architectural statement. A public art gallery will be a center piece of the project, and the project itself is integral to the transformation of Taché Hall as a new home for the School of Art and the Faculty of Music. The ART Lab project already has secured KIP funding support, which is a major \$15 million contribution towards the advance of Project Domino."

3. On May 21, 2009, the SPPC Space Planning Subcommittee met to review the proposal by

Mr. Simms. The SPPC, chaired by Prof. Norman Hunter (Chemistry), prepared a report, with the recommendation that Senate approve and recommend to the Board of Governors that it approve the proposed site. Senate approved the recommendation at its June 24, 2009 meeting.

< <http://www.umanitoba.ca/admin/governance/media/bog-open-june09.pdf> pp 117-119>

Several of the SPPC report observations could be questioned under a not uncommon practice: state something as factual, and it is likely to be accepted, even with no backup evidence to confirm it.

For example: 'the project is part of Project Domino' – yet it was not identified as such in the original announcement; 'Alumni House has no particular architectural value' – yet in William Neville's column, he notes the opposite: "In addition to its singular history as a university building, it is architecturally appealing. It is the only campus building in the Georgian style and may be one of the very few examples of that style in the city of Winnipeg."

It would appear that the SPPC has agreed that the most important feature of Mr. Simms' proposal is the Alumni House site itself: that the new location for music and art would 'showcase and highlight the project' by its use; that 'a larger and more prominent building' could be a result; and that 'preliminary conceptual design studies hold promise for a truly significant building designed by world-renowned architects'. The funding received was not mentioned in this report, but it was included in the Senate submission to the Board of Governors. That approval took place at its June 16, 2009 meeting, subject to approval by the Senate 8 days later.

<<http://www.umanitoba.ca/admin/governance/bog/motions/961.htm>>

The Faculty of Human Ecology and the Centennial Committee learned of the decision in June 2009.

Though alumni can do nothing now about the building, several of us have concerns about the lack of communication that took place. As one alumna told me 'The University doesn't hesitate to utilize telephone solicitation and letters to request financial support from past graduates, so surely they could do a better job of explaining their decisions and giving graduates of a faculty a chance to see the building one last time. . . it sounds like the staff invitations were a last-minute thought. . .

that Deborah McCallum, who is Vice-President of Administration and Julie Mikuska, Executive Director of the Alumni Association, can't communicate clearly, doesn't reflect well on the University either. Nor does how little communication about the actual decision was provided before they started tearing the building down.'

In the Winnipeg Free Press on September 17, 2009, an article appeared about the U of M prior to an address by President David Bernard: **'The residence and music project forced demolition of the decades-old Alumni House, which produced a backlash of protest from grads and professors who'd used the building.'**

<http://www.winnipegfreepress.com/local/spring-u-of-m-fire-sets-progress-back-59602022.html>

It was not forced.

Kathryn Baranovsky PHEc
kbaranovsky@gmail.com

Join the Team!

The MAHE newsletter team is looking for members who may be interested in helping with the newsletters.

We are looking for representatives from each area so that we can include information from across Manitoba. If you are an individual who enjoys sharing the latest headlines in Home Economics or creating your own headlines contact Charlene at cvandenbosch@pwsd.ca

MAHE Board Members 2008-2009

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Be thankful for what you have; you'll end up having more. If you concentrate on what you don't have, you will never, ever have enough.

~Oprah Winfrey

HAPPY THANKSGIVING!



Questions or comments ?

Please contact MAHE office at 885-0718 or toll free 1-866-261-0707, or email mahe@mahe.ca
Submission for the next Facets Provincial Newsletter can be sent to: Charlene Vandenbosch at email cvandenbosch@pwsd.ca