



# THE ASSOCIATES OF THE I.H. ASPER SCHOOL OF BUSINESS

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2018-2019 Annual Report



**University  
of Manitoba**

# THE ASSOCIATES OF THE I.H. ASPER SCHOOL OF BUSINESS

## 2018 - 2019 ANNUAL REPORT

The generosity of the Associates of the I.H. Asper School of Business continues to transform and enhance learning opportunities for business students. Resources, including: competitions, conferences, and awards provide today's students with the tools needed to become tomorrow's industry leaders. The following report outlines how the Associates' philanthropic support played a key role in the I.H. Asper School of Business during the 2018-19 academic year.

### COMPETITIONS AND NETWORKING EVENTS

#### Jeux du Commerce (JDC) West Competition: January 2019

JDC West is the largest student-run business competition in Western Canada, attracting teams from 12 universities each year. Over 500 students from 12 of Western Canada's top universities unite annually to compete in this competition that is solely organized by and for business students.

Held in January this year at Simon Fraser University, the three-day event involved academics, athletic challenges, debates, a social competition and a charity drive. About 50 students represented the Asper School on Team Toba, which received second place in business technology management, and charity hours; and third place in human resources, and participation. At the team building skit night, the Asper team placed second for its retelling of JDC West with the music of Queen. Team Toba co-captain Christine Sheppard said, "Seeing the growth in every competitor along the way, from tryouts to competition, was incredible."

#### Stu Clark Investment Competition: March 2019

In March 2019, 16 teams of graduate students from across North America competed in the 15th annual **Stu Clark Investment Competition**. Dr. Clark served as a championship round judge along with numerous Associates judges, including:

- Silvia De Sousa - championship round judge
- Al Babiuk - idea pitch judge
- Colin Ryan, Associates Chair - idea pitch judge

- Charlene Rocke - semi-final business plan presentation judge
- Deanna Traa - semi-final business plan presentation judge
- Evelyn Jacks - semi-final business plan presentation judge
- Grant Suderman - semi-final business plan presentation judge
- John Proven - semi-final business plan presentation judge
- Lindy Norris - semi-final business plan presentation judge
- Thomas Kormylo - semi-final business plan presentation judge
- W. Joe Funk - semi-final business plan presentation judge

The winning team was Winter Innovations, LLC from the University of Tennessee. Its product, EasyWhip, is a patent pending surgical tool that improves the speed and consistency of orthopedic reconstruction procedures. Winter Innovations, LLC has continued to win numerous competitions over the past few months including 1st place at the Brown-Forman Cardinal Challenge hosted by the University of Louisville as well as a \$25,000 Louisiana Startup Prize.



Dr. Clark with Investment Competition Winners, Winter Innovations, LLC



### **Bachelor of Commerce First-Year Reception: September 4, 2019**

The annual Bachelor of Commerce First-Year Reception marked its 11th anniversary with a dinner at the Fairmont Hotel, welcoming nearly 250 new student attendees to the Asper School of Business. The dinner provided a warm and celebratory welcome to new students who experienced the immediate benefit of meeting their peers and mentors in a casual setting outside of the classroom environment.

This year's keynote speaker was Kim Ulmer, RBC Regional President for Manitoba, Saskatchewan and North Western Ontario, who inspired the students to immerse themselves in their community. Ms. Ulmer emphasized the importance of experiential learning and the role of mentorship in building personal and professional relationships. Ms. Ulmer also focussed on the importance of diversity and inclusion in the workplace as well as resilience in career development.

Dean Gady Jacoby's address spoke to the evolution of experiential learning and innovation at the Asper School of Business with the introduction of mandatory classes on entrepreneurship.

Other attendees included members of the Associates, staff, alumni and members of the Commerce Student Association.

### **CSA Business Banquet November 8, 2018**

The Commerce Students' Association (CSA) celebrated its 52nd annual Commerce Business Banquet, which connects top Asper students with Winnipeg's leading business leaders. This is the largest student-run corporate networking event in Western Canada. The 2018 theme, "LIMITLESS", encouraged students to think about how being limitless changes the way they live and interact. Keynote speaker, Ben Nemtin, focused on how students should be going outside their comfort zone and taking chances in life personally and professionally. Nemtin is a #1 New York Times bestselling author and co-founder of The Buried Life movement, which has been featured in major media including The Today Show, Oprah, CNN, FOX, NBC News, and more.

### **ASSOCIATES EXECUTIVES-IN- RESIDENCE**

**The Associates Executives-in-Residence program** features successful business leaders who have

established and proven experience in public and private sectors. Participating executives share their experience with students through public presentations, lectures and mentorship.

The 2018-19 executives were:

- Judy Mathieson, leadership consultant and supervisor for MBA students working on industry projects
- Dan Torbiak, Chief Tax Appeals Commissioner for Manitoba
- Jeff Strong, corporate actuary for Manitoba Blue Cross, and instructor in the Warren Centre for Actuarial Studies and Research

### **ASSOCIATES SPEAKER SERIES**

The objective of the Associates Speaker Series is to invite external prominent researchers (local, national and international) to provide innovative and leading edge research seminars and workshops and to interact with faculty, graduate research students, Associates and Young Associates.

The Associates Speaker Series has been made possible by a gift from the Associates of the Asper School of Business.

Two speaking events took place over the 2018-19 academic year:

- **June 8, 2018:** Dr. Dipayan Biswas, Professor of Marketing, University of South Florida, who spoke on the effects of food-related ambient scents on children's and adults' product purchases.
- **October 12, 2018:** Dr. Jennifer Carson Marr, University of Maryland, spoke on how perceived self-control protects the legitimacy of high-ranking individuals after status loss.

### **FACULTY AND STUDENT AWARDS**

#### **Student Awards**

Students from all levels of study are supported by the Associates' student awards. The Associates' awards encourage Asper students to maintain a high level of competition in their studies and reward their academic excellence. During 2018-2019, the following promising students received Associates' awards:

### Associates' Student Enterprise Award

- Matthew Thomson

### Associates' Award for Study in the Asper MBA Program (2nd highest GPA)

- Ernest Kwan

### Graduate Student Fellowships

- Zhen Qi
- Peter Pomart

### International Study Awards

Recipients are listed in an appendix to this report.

## FACULTY AWARDS

The I.H. Asper School of Business provided awards to faculty who had publications accepted in journals listed in the Academic Journal Guide (AJG) as AJG 4 or AJG4\* (with 4\* being the highest ranking) from July 1, 2016 to June 30, 2018. With the support of the Associates, \$40,000.00 in awards were disbursed.

These recognition awards were given in the form of research grants. The entire amount of funding was disbursed to the applicants based on the number of publications they had in qualifying journals. The faculty was thrilled to have 16 applicants who published at a higher level.

The following faculty were provided with research grants:

Dr. Sandeep Aurora	\$ 3,368.42
Dr. Namita Bhatnagar	\$ 2,526.32
Dr. Sean Buchanan	\$ 4,210.53
Dr. Brianna Caza	\$ 3,368.42
Dr. Victor Cui	\$ 4,631.58
Dr. Bruno Dyck	\$ 2,526.32
Dr. Sara Hajmohammad	\$ 2,526.32
Dr. Changmin Jiang	\$ 1,684.21
Dr. Lei Lu	\$ 1,684.21
Dr. Kelley Main	\$ 1,684.21
Dr. Raj Manchanda	\$ 2,526.32
Dr. Lucas Neville	\$ 842.11
Dr. Bruno Silvestre	\$ 2,526.32
Dr. Zhenyu Wu	\$ 2,526.32
Dr. Wenlong Yuan	\$ 2,526.32
Dr. Luke (Lei) Zhu	\$ 842.11

Associates' Chair, Colin Ryan, will present the following recipients with a merit award on November 22 for excellence in engagement, research, and teaching to the following faculty:

### Engagement

Dr. Mingzhi Liu, Accounting and Finance  
Dr. Parshotam Dass, Business Administration

### Research

Dr. Bruno Silvestre, Supply Chain Management  
Dr. Steven Zheng, Accounting and Finance

### Teaching

Dr. Namita Bhatnagar, Marketing

## 2019 IDEA AWARD

Since 1984, the Associates of the Asper School of Business have presented the International Distinguished Entrepreneur Award (IDEA) to outstanding entrepreneurs who have made an exemplary contribution to global economic life. On May 23, 2019, I.H. Asper School of Business alumnus, Dr. Hartley T. Richardson [BComm(Hons)/77, LLD/04], was presented with the University of Manitoba's 2019 International Distinguished Entrepreneur Award.



Dr. Hartley Richardson at the 2019 IDEA Award Gala

"Hartley Richardson is a living example of what IDEA stands for and recognizes in individuals," said Arni Thorsteinson, Chair of the IDEA Committee and President of Shelter Canadian Properties Limited. "He sets an example for all of us through his dedication and passion for his work, and he is truly influential in business and philanthropy throughout Canada."

In commemoration of Dr. Richardson's 2019 IDEA honour, Mr. Thorsteinson and Mr. Sandy Riley spearheaded a fundraising initiative to create the Hartley T. Richardson Student Support Fund for students in the Asper School of Business. During the IDEA dinner event, Mr. Riley announced that the campaign exceeded expectations, raising \$3.5 million. The fund will provide entrance bursaries and travel opportunities for commerce students in the Asper School.

## STUDENT GROUPS AND ASSOCIATIONS

The Asper School is well known for its robust **student organizations** that offer support, peer mentorship, networking, and opportunities for students to practice skills they are developing in the classroom. During the 2018-2019 academic year, the following associations actively engaged in supporting their memberships.

- Asper MBA Student Association (aMBAsa)
- Asper Master of Finance Association of Students (AMFAS)
- Asper School of Business Accounting Association (ASBAA)
- Asper Students' Co-op Association (ASCA)
- Association of International, Economics, Science and Commerce Students (AIESEC)
- Association of International Management Students (AIMS)
- Beta Gamma Sigma (BGS)
- Collegiate Entrepreneurs' Organization (CEO) Manitoba
- Commerce Students' Association (CSA)
- CSA First Year Committee
- Jeux De Commerce West (JDC)
- Management Information Systems Association (MISA)
- University of Manitoba Actuarial Club (UMAC)
- University of Manitoba Finance Organization (UMFO)
- University of Manitoba Human Resource Association (UMHRA)
- University of Manitoba Indigenous Commerce Students (UMICS)
- University of Manitoba Investment Group (UMIG)
- University of Manitoba Leadership Organization (UMLO)

- University of Manitoba Marketing Association (UMMA)
- University of Manitoba Supply Chain Organization (UMSCO)

The **Asper Master of Finance Association of Students (AMFAS)** was formed in May 2018. This new student group provides leadership and career opportunities for first year Master of Finance students. Founding President, Meer Farhan Shahriar highlighted his experience in starting this new group. "One of our biggest successes was launching the first M.Fin Mentorship program which matches students with finance professionals much like in the MBA program. We realized this gave much needed exposure to the financial sector and allowed students to learn from the experience of mentors which is quite significant and this was their first chance to establish a professional network."



AMFAS Founding Members (from left to right: Meer Farhan Shahriar, President; Kendra McKechnie, Treasurer; and Huzair Kausar, General Secretary)

Last year, the Asper School of Business Commerce Students' Association (CSA) was named **Most Outstanding Business Student Association** by the Canadian Association of Business Students (CABS). This prestigious national award recognizes a high level of execution in a business student association and its executive team.

To earn this recognition, the association undertook a complete overhaul of its constitution and governing documents, and restructured the portfolios of its executive team to create greater capacity for growth. It also oversaw the renovation of its offices into a more inviting space for students.

Shona Grewar, 2018-19 President of the Asper Commerce Students' Association, received the Canadian Association of Business Students' President of the Year award, based on member-initiated nominations and votes. Former Asper School CSA President Matthew Thomson won the same award last year.

## CAREER DEVELOPMENT CENTRE

The **Career Development Centre (CDC)** offers students and alumni a range of professional development services, programs, and resources. It has recently created an online directory of executive mentors for the MBA Executive and Master of Finance programs, and an MBA Resume Book of students and recent alumni. The book is available to employers seeking Asper talent, and also gives students and alumni direct access to employers.

Through the generous support from the Associates for the Career Development Centre, the centre was able to attain the following professional development in support of students for the following events:

### 1. Celebrating Co-op – January 2019

Hosted at the RBC Convention Centre, an audience of approximately 250 guests attended and networked as well as recognized outstanding co-op employers and students. Great-West Life Assurance won Asper Co-op Employer of the Year while Hilary Ransom, who completed her co-op program at Birchwood Automotive Group, won Asper Co-op Student of the Year.

### 2. Graduate Programs Power Lunch — April 2019

MBA and Master of Finance students gathered at the James W. Burns Executive Education Centre on Lombard Ave. to hear presenter, Janice Gair, Principal at the EI Advantage, speak on Emotional Intelligence. Attendees left the event with a better understanding of the key role emotional intelligence plays in effective leadership and career success.

### 3. MBA and MFIN Business Etiquette Lunch – May 2019

Over 90 MBA and Master of Finance students attended this luncheon to hear presenter, Courtney Feldman, Principal at High Style Consulting, speak on business etiquette. Proper dining etiquette as well as tips on

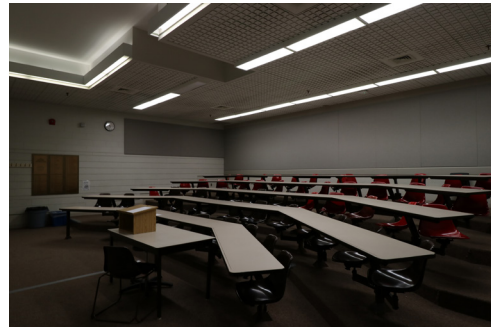
presenting a professional image, both in person and through social media, were the focus of the presentation.

### 4. Graduate Programs Power Lunch - October 2019

MBA and Master of Finance students met at the James W. Burns Executive Education Centre to hear Amy Oliver speak on workplace mental health. The session focused on building a better understanding of burnout as a mental health issue and its impact on the workplace. Participants learned the factors and risks that may lead to burnout, signs and symptoms, how it can affect the health and performance of employees and workplace and organizational factors that contribute to burnout. Participants developed an awareness of prevention strategies, strategies for overachievers, strategies to support recovery at work and to stay well.

## CAPITAL PROJECTS

Ongoing renovations continue to take place at the I.H. Asper School of Business. Drake 140 was completed this summer. It was upgraded with new furniture, ceiling, flooring, painting, lighting and technology. The project's estimated cost is \$460,000.



Drake 140- Before



Drake 140- After



The following renovations are expected to be completed by the end of 2020:

- The Stu Clark Graduate Centre development on the 5th Floor is currently undergoing renovations. Goals include refurbishing one classroom to a theatre style classroom with permanent audio/visual (AV) capabilities, three classrooms to active learning facilities with permanent AV, and a small classroom to a PhD Thesis Defence Room. Plans are also in place to refurbish administration offices, four graduate breakout rooms and three break out booths, three PhD offices (with up to four students per office), and renovate the gendered washrooms to become shared gender neutral washroom.
- Room 104 will be upgraded to a traditional theatre style classroom.
- Upgrade all gender washrooms on the lower level (1st floor), main floor (2nd Floor) and 3rd floor to become a shared gender-neutral washroom.
- Sessional staff offices will be renovated to include sit/stand work stations and new chairs.
- A Health and Wellness initiative is in place to upgrade all fluorescent lights in the Drake Centre to LED to create a more vibrant, active learning environment.

## DEAN'S INITIATIVES

The Dean's Special Project Fund gives students, staff, and faculty opportunities that would not be possible otherwise. Thank you for providing the flexibility to create the experiences described below:

- The Associates' Achievement Awards Reception, an annual luncheon accompanied by the presentation of awards to outstanding faculty.
- Sponsorship of ANEW (Asper Network of Empowered Women) to attend SHEday 2019. Faculty advisor, Wendy Schultz and 14 student members participated.
- Sponsorship of Ya Gao (Academic), CFA Level II Registration
- Sponsorship of Case Writing Workshop
- Funding for framing of AACSB and Beta Gamma Sigma certificates

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**Thank you for your commitment to the I.H. Asper School of Business and to our students and faculty. Your contribution continues to make a positive and meaningful impact.**

# University of Manitoba Business School Foundation

## International Study Awards- 614134

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### ENDOWMENT CAPITAL UPDATE FOR 2018/19

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<b>Principal Donations and Contributions</b>	<b>\$ 322,125.87</b>
Principal Market Value	\$ 458,711.93
Capitalized Unspent Income Market Value	\$ 18,699.22

### ENDOWMENT CAPITAL ACTIVITY FOR APRIL 1, 2018 TO MARCH 31, 2019

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New Gifts and Contributions	\$ 0.00
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### ENDOWMENT CAPITAL UPDATE FOR 2018/19

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<b>Available Spending Allocation</b>	<b>\$ 18,544.81</b>
Gifts and Contributions to Spending	\$ 0.00
Actual Expenditures	\$ (22,625.00)
Transfers from Capitalized Unspent Income	\$ 4,080.19
<b>Balance at Year End</b>	<b>\$ 0.00</b>

### ENDOWMENT SPENDING FOR APRIL 1, 2019 TO MARCH 31, 2020

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<b>Spending Allocation</b>	<b>\$ 19,585.63</b>
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# University of Manitoba Business School Foundation International Study Awards

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Prepared for: Associates of the Asper School of Business

Account #: 614134

In 2018-2019 your fund supported the following students. On behalf of these individuals, thank you for your generous support.

Student Name	Faculty	Program
Kara Thorvaldson	I.H. Asper School of Business	Honours
Stephanie Sheedy	I.H. Asper School of Business	Honours
Cole Corlett-Hedley	I.H. Asper School of Business	Red River College Joint Program
Russell Hewlett	I.H. Asper School of Business	Honours Co-op
Kristi Perrin	I.H. Asper School of Business	Honours Co-op
Mackenzie Collette	I.H. Asper School of Business	Honours Co-op
Emily Lee	I.H. Asper School of Business	Honours
Keaton Ostir	I.H. Asper School of Business	Honours
Jessica Vong	I.H. Asper School of Business	Honours Co-op
Kirsten Holle	I.H. Asper School of Business	Honours
Kellie Verwey	I.H. Asper School of Business	Honours
Felipe Garcia Recio	I.H. Asper School of Business	Honours Co-op
Jonathan Gingera	I.H. Asper School of Business	Honours
Jack Lawrence	I.H. Asper School of Business	Honours
Janella Andres	I.H. Asper School of Business	Honours Co-op
Nicole Dudeck	I.H. Asper School of Business	Honours Co-op
Myles Hunker	I.H. Asper School of Business	Honours
Brennan Siemens	I.H. Asper School of Business	Honours Co-op