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Centre for Forensic Behavioural Science and Justice Studies

Annual Report 2012-2013



UNIVERSITY OF
SASKATCHEWAN



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Centre for Forensic Behavioural
Science and Justice Studies

Annual Report 2012-13

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Message from the Director

Welcome to the second “official” Annual Report of the Centre for Forensic Behavioural Science and Justice Studies. Having been approved by University Council on May 19, 2011, 2012-13 marked the first full year of operation as a University Centre. This followed two years of planning and development, and our rookie partial year in 2011-12. Although not yet acquired the status of seasoned veterans, the Centre has established itself on the University of Saskatchewan campus as an active and fully operational Centre with a diverse collection of programs and activities under its belt. Below are just a few of the highlights from 2012-13.

Two public events contributed significantly to the presence of the Centre in the criminal justice, academic and local communities. The 14th Biennial Symposium on Violence and Aggression, took place June 3 to 5, 2012 (page 17) thanks to both planning and financial support from the Correctional Service Canada. For the first time, the University of Saskatchewan campus provided the venue, and the response, both in terms of attendance and delegate feedback, was positive. The move proved to be a prudent one in that attendance, as expected, continued in the downward trend that we have seen at this and other conferences over the last decade. However, we were encouraged by the appreciative delegation of 120 correctional administrators, clinicians, policy makers and front line workers in attendance. We now look forward the 15th symposium in 2014.

A second public event was a successful half-day Forensic Centre Forum entitled Mental Health and Justice in Saskatchewan (page 17). We were very fortunate to have Justice Richard Schneider (Ontario) as keynote speaker. Dr. Schneider played a vital role in the development of Toronto’s mental health court, where he presided for many years. The forum also offered an opportunity to showcase the recently completed needs assessment of offenders with mental health problems (page 10), as spearheaded by Dr. Arlene Kent-Wilkinson of the College of Nursing. The event attracted a wide array of lawyers, judges, academics, correctional administrators and graduate students. It nicely illustrated how the Centre is uniquely positioned to stimulate and support research, policy development and public education on important justice-related issues as it coincided with local interest in developing a mechanism for addressing mental health problems in court.

The Centre continued to work with both the public sector and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) on a wide variety of justice-related matters. At the governmental level, our principle partners have been the Correctional Service Canada, the Saskatchewan Ministry of Justice and the RCMP. The Centre continues its efforts to provide expertise, consultation, research and training in the three principle institutions of justice, namely police, courts, and corrections. In the last year, governments asked the Centre to conduct three literature reviews and surveys, in a very expedient manner, on topics that were pertinent to ongoing deliberations in their respective organizations. The Centre has also maintained its close working relationship with NGOs and voluntary sector agencies including the Rotary Club of Saskatoon (page 13) and STR8UP, an anti-gang initiative also in Saskatoon (page 14). As reflected in this Annual Report, the number of projects that the Centre has undertaken in the last year has increased dramatically.

The Centre's core programs continued through 2012-13, with 3 graduate student scholarships being granted, 1 new graduate student research project supported and 4 faculty proposals being funded (pages 14-15). In all, over \$77,000 was awarded to faculty and students in 6 different departments and colleges. I wish to extend my congratulations to all recipients and my sincere gratitude to all of the adjudicators that sat on the respective approval committees.

After two years of development, the Postgraduate Degree Specialization Certificate in Corrections program was approved by University council in June, 2012 (page 16). The program was designed to bring senior correctional administrators and clinicians to a forum that will assist them in the development and implementation of evidenced based correctional programs. It got under way with our first student, an employee of the Saskatchewan Ministry of Justice, Corrections and Policing, being admitted in January, 2013.

None of the above could have been accomplished without the necessary human and financial resources which support the Centre. I am particularly pleased to announce that two new full time research staff joined the Centre in January, 2013. Lisa Jewell (PhD) and Carolyn Camman (MA), both of whom are graduates of the Applied Social Psychology program, bring numerous skills to the Centre. They include expertise in program evaluation, quantitative and qualitative methodology, meta-analysis, interview and survey research, and data collection. Together, they complement existing staff, Chad Nilson (PhD), Inaugural Research Fellow, and Ronda Appell (MHA), Centre Coordinator. With their added presence in the Centre, we have been able to take on the numerous new initiatives described herein, while maintaining our involvement in other multi-year projects.

On the financial side, the Centre successfully negotiated a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the RCMP F Division (Saskatchewan), which went into effect in September, 2012. We now have a range of policing research to consider, some of which is already under way (page 12). I am also delighted to advise that the Centre received a research grant in the amount of \$79,690 from the Homelessness Partnering Secretariat of Human Resources and Skills Development Canada for a project entitled, "An Examination of the Implementation of Housing First Initiatives for Individuals with Concurrent Mental Disorders: Outcomes and Community Perspective" (page 13). Although not directly "forensic," this project illustrates our position that the Centre is not simply a justice institute, but is concerned with and involved in a number of issues that affect the justice system or contribute to crime prevention in a more general way.

Looking ahead, we hope to maintain our momentum, offering programs, services and consultation to our numerous stakeholders in academia and the justice system.



J. Stephen Wormith
Director, Centre for Forensic Behavioural Science & Justice Studies

Centre for Forensic Behavioural Science and Justice Studies

WHO WE ARE

The Centre for Forensic Behavioural Science and Justice Studies was established at the University of Saskatchewan in 2011 to foster interdisciplinary research, education and community engagement related to crime, justice and corrections. Drawing on a wealth of expertise spread across the Colleges of Arts and Science, Law, Medicine and Nursing, and in unique partnership with the Correctional Service Canada, the Saskatchewan Ministry of Justice – Corrections and Policing, and the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, F Division, the Centre is a gateway to information, knowledge and inquiry into the vast and multi-faceted social, justice and health-related issues that impact the criminal justice system and that influence the care, treatment and rehabilitation of offender populations including but not limited to aboriginal peoples, women and youth.

Centre Staff

The Centre is led by Stephen Wormith, Ph.D., Professor, Department of Psychology and former Research Chair in Forensic Psychology (1999-2005). Dr. Wormith's research interests pertain to the assessment and treatment of offenders, including particular offender groups such as young offenders, sexual offenders, and gangs. He consults with corrections departments in Saskatchewan, Ontario, and Canada, serves in court as an expert witness on matters of offender assessment and treatment, and conducts training of offender risk assessment in Canada and internationally.

Dr. Chad Nilson, B.S. and M.A. in Criminal Justice and M.S. and Ph.D. in Political Science, joined the Centre in 2012 as the Inaugural Research Fellow. He is actively involved in a number of the Centre's research and evaluation activities, including playing a key role in the development of process and output indicators for the Community Mobilization initiative in Prince Albert and the province's Building Partnerships to Reduce Crime strategy. Chad has a diverse history of research, evaluation and program development for Federal, Provincial and First Nations government.

In January, 2013, Dr. Lisa Jewell, Ph.D. in Psychology and Carolyn Camman, M.A. in Psychology, joined the Centre as Research Officers. Collectively they bring rich experience in conducting community-based research and evaluation across the academic, public and private sectors. Both actively contribute to a variety of the Centre's research and evaluation activities in collaboration with its various funding partners.

Ronda Appell, M.H.A., as the Centre Coordinator provides management, research and administrative support for all Centre activities. She brings a wealth of experience working in a variety of complex environments including academia, health services, and government.

Centre Members

Centre members are recruited from faculty and/or other researchers within the University of Saskatchewan community who are actively involved in justice and forensic-related research and practice. Government and community partners are also welcome to hold Centre membership and participate in Centre activities and events, although only University of Saskatchewan faculty are able to elect members and hold positions on the Centre Executive Committee.

The Centre is thus proudly comprised of members representing the Departments of Psychology and Sociology (College of Arts and Science), the Colleges of Law, Medicine, and Nursing, the Schools of Public Health and Public Policy, as well as several community members who have current and/or former ties to the University of Saskatchewan. The breadth of its membership is a testament to the vast array of expertise that exists at the University of Saskatchewan and in the community and to the strong potential for meaningful interdisciplinary engagement and collaboration.

Executive Committee

The Centre Executive Committee consists of the Centre Director and three individuals elected from and by University of Saskatchewan faculty members of the Centre. The Centre Executive Committee works with the Director to develop and implement strategies to foster interdisciplinary research, promote public awareness, engage external partners, encourage faculty and student involvement, as well as to approve processes related to internal programs, and oversee Centre budget and finances.

Current (Inaugural) Executive Committee members include:

- **Glen Luther, Q.C., Associate Professor, College of Law.** Professor Luther has extensive practice experience as a criminal lawyer and has argued cases throughout Alberta and Saskatchewan at all levels of courts including the Supreme Court of Canada. His academic interests include police powers, the Charter of Rights and Freedoms, criminal law and sentencing, trial procedure, evidence, and Law and Psychiatry.
- **Mark Olver, Ph.D., Associate Professor, Department of Psychology, College of Arts and Science.** Dr. Olver is a Registered Doctoral Psychologist with the Saskatchewan College of Psychologists. His research interests include risk assessment and treatment (e.g. sex offenders), psychopathy, sexual deviance, and the evaluation of offender change.
- **Cindy Peternelj-Taylor, R.N., M.Sc., Professor, College of Nursing.** Professor Peternelj-Taylor has extensive experience in professional role development for students and nurses who practice with vulnerable populations in forensic mental health and correctional settings. Her research interests include issues that emerge within the therapeutic relationship. She is also Editor of the Journal of Forensic Nursing.

Advisory Board

Established during 2011-12, the Centre Advisory Board consists of invited University and non-University representatives and is Chaired by the Vice-Dean, Division of Social Sciences, College of Arts and Science, as designate of the Vice-President Research, University of Saskatchewan. The Board provides input and advice on a range of issues fundamental to the long-term viability of the Centre, including but not limited to research and programming initiatives, policies and partnerships. During 2012-13, the Centre welcomed a number of new Board members including Mr. Eric Michael, Correctional Service of Canada, Mr. Dan Paulson, City of Saskatoon, and Dr. Winona Wheeler, University of Saskatchewan.

Board members for 2012-13 include:

- **Dr. Olajide Adelugba**, Psychiatrist and Director of Research, Regional Hospital, Regional Psychiatric Centre (Prairies), Correctional Service Canada
- **Dr. Shirwan Kukha-Mohamad**, Clinical Professor, Dept. of Psychiatry, College of Medicine
- **Ms. Cynthia MacDonald**, Regional Administrator, Assessment and Interventions, Prairie Region, Correctional Service Canada
- **Mr. Eric Michael**, Executive Director, Willow Cree Healing Lodge, Correctional Service Canada
- **Mr. Bob Mills**, Superintendent, F Division, Operations Strategy Branch, Royal Canadian Mounted Police
- **Mr. Dan Paulson**, Chief, Saskatoon Fire and Protective Services, City of Saskatoon
- **Dr. Brian Rector**, Executive Director, Clinical and Rehabilitative Services, Saskatchewan Ministry of Corrections, Public Safety and Policing
- **Dr. Winona Wheeler**, Head, Department of Native Studies, University of Saskatchewan

WHAT WE DO

The Centre seeks to foster and facilitate interdisciplinary collaboration across three domains: *Research and Evaluation*, *Education and Training*, and *Community Engagement*. A summary of Centre activities over the past year within each of these domains is provided below.

Research and Evaluation

Projects Sponsored by Correctional Service Canada

Environmental Scan of Canadian and International Institutional Security Frameworks

During February and March, 2013, the Centre conducted a literature review for the Correctional Service Canada Evaluation Branch, focusing on the nature and impact of dynamic security approaches used in correctional institution settings, and a related environmental scan of security approaches employed in correctional institutions in Canada and a number of International jurisdictions. This work was completed in support of CSC's own internal evaluation efforts which will provide important information for ongoing organizational policy development, resource allocation and related decision-making.

Literature Review of Self-Harm in Women Offenders

During February and March, 2013, the Centre completed the first part of a two-part literature review on self-harm in women offenders, focusing on the definition, types and prevalence of self-harm reported in Canada and internationally. This work, conducted for the Regional Psychiatric Centre, Correctional Service Canada, will be continued in 2013-14 focusing on evidence-based approaches to preventing and responding to self-harm behaviour in correctional settings. In collaboration with staff, clinicians and researchers at the RPC, additional work in this area is anticipated over the next year.

Needs Assessment of Forensic Mental Health Programs and Services for Offenders in Saskatchewan

A Needs Assessment and Environmental Scan of Forensic Mental Health Programs and Services for Offenders in Saskatchewan was conducted between February, 2010 and December, 2011 by the Forensic Interdisciplinary Research Saskatchewan Team (FIRST) on behalf of the Centre. Based on interviews with family members of offenders and an on-line survey completed by a wide variety of government and community service-providers, the Needs Assessment/Scan provided a baseline of information on the needs of offenders with mental disorders, the programs and services presently available, and offered a number recommendations in response to its findings. A condensed version of

the final report was released at the Forensic Centre Forum held in Saskatoon on December 3, 2012 (see below) and is available on the Centre's website.

Projects Sponsored by Saskatchewan Ministry of Justice

Building Partnerships to Reduce Crime/Community Mobilization Prince Albert

The province of Saskatchewan's "Building Partnerships to Reduce Crime" initiative is a new integrated approach to crime reduction in Saskatchewan that recognizes the need for partnership across all parts of the justice and human service systems and community-led intervention strategies in order to effectively address the complex issues facing children, youth and families and successfully reduce crime and victimization. Throughout 2012-13, the Centre continued to support these efforts by working closely with the Community Mobilization Prince Albert initiative to help identify a set of risk factors for situations requiring multi-agency intervention, and other data collection and analytical considerations related to monitoring process outputs and supporting outcomes-focused evaluation. Under the direction of the Ministry of Justice, the indicators developed in Prince Albert will help to inform data collection needs for other community-led, collaborative crime reduction initiatives being developed elsewhere in the Province.

Review of Cultural Programs and Services in Saskatchewan Correctional Facilities

During 2012-13, in partnership with the Saskatchewan Ministry of Justice – Corrections and Policing, the Centre continued its review of cultural programs and services offered within Saskatchewan correctional facilities. The review involved interviews and focus groups with Cultural Coordinators, Cultural Advisors, Aboriginal Elders, and Ministry Staff, as well as the development and piloting of a program monitoring system in the majority of adult and youth facilities in the province. The review culminated in a number of observations and recommendations for improving access to consistent and effective cultural programs in provincial corrections facilities.

Saskatchewan Primary Risk Assessment Validation

The Saskatchewan Primary Risk Assessment (SPRA) tool is a validated instrument used in adult corrections to predict the likelihood of future generalized re-offending. Results are used to guide management decision-making related to risk management and risk reduction strategies. A project to re-examine the predictive ability of the Saskatchewan Primary Risk Assessment (SPRA) instrument was initiated in late 2011 at the request of the Ministry of Justice – Corrections and Policing, and completed in 2013. Based on data from a recent sample of adult offenders, the project confirmed the psychometric qualities and predictive validity of the instrument in terms of the relationship between criminogenic needs and the likelihood of re-offending as measured by the SPRA, and provided empirical support for the creation of a "very-high risk" category that will enable

the Ministry to further refine its allocation of resources and more effectively address the needs of those offenders at greatest risk.

Scan of Canadian and International Police and Corrections Training and Research Models

Following a restructuring/re-alignment which took place in 2012-13 between the Saskatchewan Ministry of Justice and the Ministry of Corrections, Public Safety and Policing, the Centre was recruited to conduct a scan of models of training and research employed in the fields of policing and corrections both in Canada and internationally. Information was collected on the governance structures of given training models; the timing, approach, and providers of basic/recruit training; and the nature of in-service/advanced training for mid-career professionals. Governance structures related to research were also examined, as were specific areas of research focus, and whether there was any interrelationship between research and training. It is expected that this information will be used to inform future planning and decision-making as it pertains to training and research across the policing and corrections domains in Saskatchewan.

Projects Sponsored by Royal Canadian Mounted Police, F Division

Evaluation of the RCMP Aboriginal Community Cadet Corps Program

The Aboriginal Community Cadet Corps (ACCC) is an RCMP-supported program that operates in 13 communities in Saskatchewan, providing youth with pro-social extracurricular activities and life skills development training. During 2012-13, in collaboration with the RCMP F Division, the Centre undertook an evaluation of the program with the aim of better understanding of the processes, outputs, and measureable outcomes of the ACCC program in Saskatchewan, identifying successful strategies for program implementation and sustainability, and examining the perceived effects of the program on its participants, their communities, and on community-RCMP relations.

RCMP Air Services Needs Assessment

During 2012-13, the Centre conducted a review of air services use and an assessment of the air service needs of the RCMP in Saskatchewan. Based on an examination of RCMP data and documentation, a review of published and grey literature on air services, and consultation/interviews with key law enforcement stakeholders and subject matter experts in Saskatchewan, Alberta, Manitoba and Ottawa, the report identified a number of issues affecting current and potential air services use in Saskatchewan and offered a number of considerations for the Division with respect to further assessing its infrastructure needs.

Other Projects

Development of a Mental Health Support and Supervision Strategy

During 2012-13, two Centre faculty members, Glen Luther from the College of Law and Mansfield Mela from the College of Medicine, were active in efforts led by the provincial judiciary to develop and implement a mental health support and supervision strategy for the provincial court in Saskatoon. Intended for individuals with mental health or other complex issues who come into frequent contact with the criminal justice system, the strategy is in keeping with the recommendation made by FIRST in its Needs Assessment for Mentally Disordered Offenders (see page 10) to establish a mental health or problem-solving court targeted to this population. As such the Centre is committed to supporting further work in this area and providing advice and planning support as needed for research and evaluation of this developing initiative.

Examination of the Implementation of Housing First Initiatives for Individuals with Concurrent Mental Disorders

Funded by the Homelessness Partnering Secretariat of Human Resources and Skills Development Canada, the Centre was awarded a grant during 2012-13 to examine the implementation of supportive housing programs, including but not limited to Housing First, for individuals with concurrent mental disorders, with a view to determining key preconditions, common barriers, and factors that improve the likelihood that a program will become successful over the long term, and to provide information that will be useful for replicating these programs on different scales. The project will examine existing supportive housing programs in Vancouver, Winnipeg and Regina, as well as the need for and feasibility of implementing supportive housing for ICMDs in Saskatoon. Work on the project was initiated during 2012-13 and will be completed by March, 2014.

Process Evaluation of the Restorative Action Program

The Restorative Action Program (RAP) is a community-driven initiative developed in 2003 by members of Saskatoon Rotary clubs in Saskatoon, in response to issues of bullying, violence, crime, and other forms of conflict within the youth population. The program is delivered via RAP Workers located in seven high schools across Saskatoon, who provide conflict resolution training and services, as well as leadership and life skill development for high school youth. During 2012-13, the Centre continued its work on the process evaluation of RAP, focusing on the development and implementation of a program monitoring tool that will help program staff and stakeholders to assess consistency of program activities with program theory and objectives, and provide critical information for use in program planning, development and evaluation.

Process Evaluation of the STR8UP Program

STR8UP is a gang intervention and prevention program located in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan. It provides support to young men and women who wish to exit gang life, and activities aimed at preventing other youth from becoming involved in gang activity. At the request of program operators, the Centre for Forensic Behavioural Science and Justice Studies completed a process evaluation of the STR8UP program with a view to examining the program's activities and services in relation to its goals and objectives as well as in relation to existing theory, research and evaluation on gang intervention programs and services that exist elsewhere. Semi-structured interviews with STR8UP staff, members, and community and government stakeholders provided further information with which to guide program improvement/development and offered insights into the need for ongoing program monitoring and future outcomes-focused evaluation.

Faculty Research Awards

The Centre offers research development grants to faculty members whose research investigates a topic of crime, justice or corrections from a social science, health science, legal, management or interdisciplinary perspective. During 2012-13, the Centre is pleased to have granted awards for the following projects:

- **Award Recipient:** Dr. Laurie Hellsten, Assistant Professor, Education Psychology and Special Education and Associate Dean, Graduate Studies and Research, College of Education
Award Value: \$7,000
Project Title: A Review of Legal Standards and Their Application to Cyberbullying in Saskatchewan

- **Award Recipient:** Dr. Caroline Tait, Associate Professor, Department of Psychiatry, College of Medicine
Award Value: \$9,995
Project Title: Life History Narrative Inquiry with a Male Forensic Patient Population with Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder

- **Award Recipient:** Dr. Mark Olver, Associate Professor, Department of Psychology, College of Arts and Science
Award Value: \$6,250
Project Title: A Multisite Examination of Violence Risk and Therapeutic Change in Youth

- **Award Recipient:** Dr. John Hanson, Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology, College of Arts and Science
Award Value: \$6,221
Project Title: Crime Prevention Among Indigenous Peoples: An Exploration of Opaskwayak Restorative Justice

Education and Training

Graduate Student Research Awards and Scholarships

The Centre for Forensic Behavioural Science and Justice Studies provides two types of support for University of Saskatchewan graduate students whose academic and/or research interests pertain to the areas of crime, justice, and corrections. **Research Awards** provide project-specific funding to help student researchers cover the direct cost of research activities while **Scholarships** provide general educational support for students pursuing graduate studies in an area of relevance to forensic behavioral science and justice. Students in receipt of a Centre Scholarship award must fulfill a work commitment of up to 10 hours per week through which they contribute to a variety of ongoing Centre research projects and activities.

Students granted a **Research Award** during the 2012-13 year are shown in the following table:

Recipient	Amount	Program/Dept.	Research Area
Robert Henry	\$6,000	Ph.D. student, Native Studies	Factors of gang involvement and desistance

Students granted a **Scholarship** during 2012-13 for the 2013-14 academic year are listed below:

Recipient	Amount	Program/Dept.	Area of Research Interest
Storm Lee Sanders*	\$18,000	Ph.D. student, Interdisciplinary Studies	Trans-generational issues and social determinants of offending among indigenous offenders with compromised mental health and/or criminogenic worldviews
Chantal Schafers	\$12,000	Masters student, Clinical Psychology	Risk assessment and treatment of mentally ill offenders
Amy Pilon	\$12,000	Masters student, Applied Social Psychology	Mentally disordered, Aboriginal and women offenders

*due to January admission, Research Assistantship award is for the 2013 calendar year.

Postgraduate Degree Specialization Certificate in Corrections

In collaboration with the Saskatchewan Ministry of Justice – Corrections and Policing (formerly Ministry of Corrections, Public Safety and Policing), the Centre has established a Postgraduate Degree Specialization Certificate in Corrections at the University of Saskatchewan. Targeted to senior managers employed in the field of corrections, this two-year applied training program emphasizes advanced knowledge and professional skill development and evidence-based practice in the areas of offender assessment, case management, clinical supervision, program evaluation and research. Program instruction is shared by Senior Clinical Directors from the Ministry of Justice, as Professional Affiliates of the Department of Psychology, as well as Department of Psychology faculty members. The program was formally approved by University Council in June, 2012, and the first student enrolled in January, 2013.

Aboriginal Justice and Criminology Student Practicum

In May and June, 2012 the Centre for Forensic Behavioural Science and Justice Studies hosted Serene Spence, a student from the Aboriginal Justice and Criminology program (ABJAC) at the University of Saskatchewan, for a practicum placement. The ABJAC program is designed for Aboriginal students who are interested in issues of social justice and criminology, and leads to a Bachelor of Arts degree in Sociology with a concentration in Aboriginal Justice and Criminology. During her 6-week placement, Serene contributed to a number of the Centre's research-related and engagement activities, including updating a journal article library that was donated to the Centre by the Research Unit of the Regional Psychiatric Centre, note-taking during interviews conducted for an evaluation of the Saskatoon Restorative Action Program, and assisting with the organizing of the 14th Biennial Violence and Aggression Symposium, held at the University of Saskatchewan, June 3-5, 2012.

Community Engagement: Fostering Academic and Public Dialogue

Inside-Out Workshop

In May, 2012, the Centre sponsored a workshop and discussion led by Simone Davis, visiting faculty at the University of Toronto, on the Inside-Out prison exchange program. Originally developed at Temple University in the United States, and now available at several universities in Canada, the program brings a single semester university course into a prison setting for university students to learn as peers alongside incarcerated offenders. A working group at the University of Saskatchewan is looking to bring the program to Saskatchewan. Attendees at the workshop, held to generate discussion and consideration of program requirements in the local context, included interested faculty

from the departments of English, Native Studies, Sociology, Women and Gender Studies, the Colleges of Law and Nursing, and a number of community members, leaders and Elders.

14th Biennial Violence and Aggression Symposium

Each year, the University of Saskatchewan, in conjunction with the Regional Psychiatric Centre, Correctional Service Canada, hosts either the Violence and Aggression Symposium or the International Custody and Caring Conference. These alternating conferences bring together researchers and professionals working in the criminal justice, health, and mental health fields, and provide opportunities to explore current theories, research and practice related to the care, treatment and rehabilitation of offenders and issues unique to working in forensic and correctional environments.

From June 3-5, 2012, the 14th Biennial Violence and Aggression Symposium was held on the University of Saskatchewan campus in Saskatoon. Featuring both plenary and concurrent sessions on a range of topics related to corrections, criminal justice, mental health and Aboriginal justice, keynote speakers included A.G. Ahmed, Associate Chief, Forensics, Royal Ottawa Health Care Group, Kelley Blanchette, Director General, Women Offender Sector, Correctional Service Canada, Joel Dvoskin, Clinical Psychologist, University of Arizona Medical School, and William L. Marshall, Director, Rockwood Psychological Services. Conference attendees included representatives of the Correctional Service Canada, Saskatchewan Ministries of Justice (formerly Corrections, Public Safety and Policing) and Health, Regional Health Authorities (Mental Health and Addiction Services), Saskatchewan First Nations communities, non-governmental agencies, and University of Saskatchewan faculty and students.

Forensic Centre Forum: Mental Health and Justice in Saskatchewan

In December, 2012, the Centre hosted its first Forensic Centre Forum on the topic of Mental Health and Justice in Saskatchewan. The event featured key findings of a Needs Assessment of Forensic Mental Health Programs and Services for Offenders in Saskatchewan and highlighted recommendations for further action. Also featured was a presentation by the Honorable Mr. Justice Richard D. Schneider, Chairman of the Ontario Review Board, who pioneered Canada's first mental health court. Attendees included representatives of the Ministry of Justice, Correctional Service Canada, regional Mental Health and Addiction Services, Legal Aid Saskatchewan, Saskatoon Prosecutor's and local law offices, non-governmental organizations, and the University of Saskatchewan.

FUNDING

Summary of 2012-13 Revenues and Expenditures

The Centre receives financial support through a 5-year Memorandum of Agreement with the Correctional Service Canada (2009-10 to 2013-14), a 10-year Memorandum of Understanding with the Saskatchewan Ministry of Justice (2010-11 to 2019-20), a 5-year Memorandum of Understanding with the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, F Division, (2012-13 to 2016-17) and an annual contribution from the College of Medicine. The Centre also receives support from the College of Arts and Science in the form of office space, IT support, and a financial contribution to the Department of Psychology for teaching relief for the Centre Director.

The following table summarizes Centre revenues and expenditures over the period April 1, 2012 to March 31, 2014.

April 1, 2012 to March 31, 2013	
Revenues	
Correctional Service Canada	\$ 120,000
Saskatchewan Ministry of Justice	\$ 150,000
Royal Canadian Mounted Police	\$ 75,000
College of Medicine	\$ 20,000
Total Revenue	\$ 365,000
Expenses	
Research Personnel	\$ 114,827
Admin/Management Support	\$ 39,877
Centre Operations - non-salary	\$ 5,207
Graduate Student Research Support	\$ 84,181
Faculty Research Support	\$ 25,272
Conference/Workshop Support	\$ 5,111
University Overhead	\$ 22,111
Total Expenses	\$ 296,586
Balance of Revenues Less Expenses	\$ 68,414