

# MBA Alumni Newsletter

Master of Business Administration

## MBA alum Marvin Romanow named Canadian CFO of the Year



Marvin Romanow

TORONTO - Marvin Romanow, Executive Vice-President and Chief Financial Officer of Nexen Inc., has been chosen as Canada's CFO of the Year™ for 2007. Mr. Romanow was honoured at a gala dinner on April 18 in Toronto.

Canada's CFO of the Year Award is presented annually by PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP, Financial Executives International Canada (FEI Canada), and The Caldwell Partners International. The award honours and recognizes

the quality, insight, direction and leadership of Canada's senior financial leaders.

"Now in its fifth year, Canada's CFO of the Year Award is awarded annually to an outstanding financial professional who, operating in a complex and demanding environment, makes a significant contribution to Canadian business," says Chris Clark, FCA, CEO and Canadian Senior Partner of PricewaterhouseCoopers.

Selection for this year's award was made by an independent committee composed of some of Canada's most prominent business leaders. The criteria by which nominees were judged centered around five key attributes: vision and leadership, corporate reporting and performance, social responsibility, innovation, and business complexity.

A native of Canora, Saskatchewan, Mr. Romanow holds a Master of Business Administration degree and a Bachelor of Engineering degree with Great Distinction, both from the University of Saskatchewan.

"There are many concepts that I studied in my MBA program that I still use today," Mr. Romanow explained when asked how his experience at the University of Saskatchewan has directly impacted his career.

Mr. Romanow, who considers the U of S MBA program "highly valuable and practical," now has more than 25 years of experience in the oil and gas industry. He is a director of the Canadian Energy Research Institute and the Private Sector Sponsors of CERI and is Nexen's representative on the board of directors of Canexus Income Trust and the Syncrude oil sands venture.

Mr. Romanow is active in his community and was Calgary co-chair of the University of Saskatchewan's capital campaign.

For more information about the CFO of the Year program, visit: [www.cfoy.ca](http://www.cfoy.ca).

## Asian Development Bank promotes Rajat Nag



*Rajat Nag*

### MANILA, PHILIPPINES

– In November 2006, the Asian Development Bank (ADB) appointed Rajat M. Nag as its new Managing Director General. Mr. Nag moved from his position of Director General of ADB’s Southeast Asia Department, where he also acted as Special Advisor to the ADB President on Regional Economic Cooperation and Integration.

As Managing Director General, Mr. Nag will be engaged in high-level coordination and synthesis of work among ADB’s four Vice-Presidents, under the overall guidance of the President.

A Canadian with 30 years of professional experience, Mr. Nag joined ADB in 1986 as Project Economist in the Agriculture Department. He started his professional career at the Bank of Canada, where he worked for five years as an Economist/Financial Analyst.

Mr. Nag has degrees in Engineering (Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi and University of Saskatchewan, Canada), and Economics (London School of Economics, United Kingdom). He completed his Master of Business Administration from the University of Saskatchewan in 1974.

The ADB aims to improve the welfare of the people in Asia and the Pacific. Asia and the Pacific is home to two thirds of the world’s poor. ADB’s vision is a region free of poverty. Its mission is to help its developing member countries reduce poverty and improve quality of life.

## Jason Pollock appointed Agribition’s CEO/GM

REGINA - Canadian Western Agribition (CWA) President Herb McLane announced in April the appointment of Jason Pollock of Qu’Appelle, Saskatchewan as the new Chief Executive Officer/General Manager of Canadian Western Agribition.



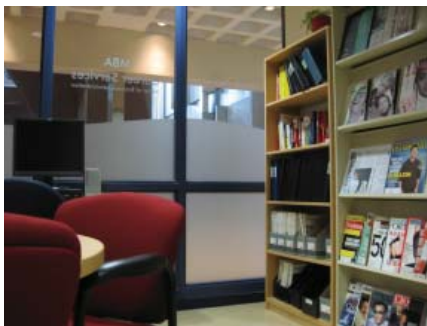
*Jason Pollock, photo by Roy Antal*

“Agribition welcomes another strong leader,” said McLane. “We are confident that [Jason’s] training and experience, strong reputation for positive leadership, and practical financial and project management background will all be great assets to our organization.”

Mr. Pollock holds a Master of Business Administration degree from the University of Saskatchewan. Attributing his credibility as a business professional to the educational foundation he built at the U of S, he says that the letters MBA “truly represent a deep understanding of business.” He has found his graduate education experience has opened many doors, providing a “wealth of opportunity” throughout his career. The position with Agribition is his “second opportunity to sit at the helm of an organization” since completing his degree in 1994.

Canadian Western Agribition is Canada’s premier international livestock show and marketplace. The 37th edition of Agribition will be held November 19 to 24 at IPSCO Place in Regina.

## MBA Career Services update



Current MBA candidates enjoy access to job postings and various other resources through MBA Career Services. But, these services are not only for students; alumni are welcome to take advantage of our offerings as well.

One such service is the employment board, a source of job postings obtained through ongoing contact with our local and national employers and with MBA alum.

Another service, the Executive Dialogue Series, is a shining example of the program’s connection with the business environment. Our alumni are an important part of the continued success of the U of S MBA program. Get involved! To participate in the Executive Dialogues Series and to share your experiences with current students and fellow colleagues, contact MBA Career Services at ross@commerce.usask.ca or by phone at 306 966 2586.

# Scotiabank Master of Business Administration Bridging Initiative introduces interested students to the University and its community



*Back row: Warren Weir (Indigenous Management Specialization Chair, MBA), Robert Daniels, Gord Beatty, Dale Worme, Nathan Ballantyne, and Brian Porter (District Banking Manager, Scotiabank).*

*Middle row: Shelley Lavallee, Francine Stocken, Josephine McKay, Nola Buhr (Associate Dean, College of Commerce), and Bertha Thunderchild.*

*Front row: Leanne Bellegarde (Director of Aboriginal Initiatives, College of Commerce), Sharon O'Keewehow, Catherine Laliberte, and Arlene Goulet.*

*Missing: Ken Bear*

SASKATOON - The University of Saskatchewan hosted the first annual Scotiabank Master of Business Administration Bridging Initiative candidates in May. Twelve potential MBA students attended the one-week session, enjoying informative discussions and talks, tours of the university and the city, various events, and GMAT preparation courses.

Monday, May 14, Leanne Bellegarde, Director of Aboriginal Initiatives for the College of Commerce, welcomed the candidates to the University, and the event progressed from there. Throughout the week, 20 hours of GMAT preparation were delivered by Brent Hanneson from Renerte Centre, Calgary.

Many of the candidates and some staff took part in a Sweat at a sweat lodge on Whitecap Dakota/Sioux reserve, with elders Maria and Walter Linklater Tuesday evening.

Thursday afternoon, candidates toured the city, visiting various places of business, including: the First Nations Bank of Canada, the Saskatchewan Indian and Gaming Authority, and the Aboriginal Human Resources Development Council of Canada (AHRDCC). Warren Weir, MBA Indigenous Management Specialization Chair, led the tour. The candidates were pleased to have the opportunity to meet College of Commerce alum Keith Martel, Wendy Lerat, and Deb Fortosky, among others in the organizations they visited.

Before celebrating completion of the Scotiabank Master of Business Administration Bridging Initiative, candidates had the opportunity to meet with either the Program Director or Admissions Officer to discuss the application process for the MBA program.

Friday afternoon, a ceremony was held in the foyer of the PotashCorp Centre in celebration of the week's successes.

Leanne Bellegarde acted as master of ceremonies and Elder Kate Poundmaker offered the opening and closing prayers for the event. Nola Buhr, Associate Dean of the College of Commerce presented opening remarks and welcomed guests before Brian Porter, District Banking Manager at Scotiabank, made his comments about the importance of the Initiative and his pride in the success of the first annual event. Nola Buhr and Brian Porter then presented certificates to each candidate.

An overall sense of achievement and excitement about the U of S MBA were the overarching themes of the week. This year's candidates share various outstanding traits, and their ability to connect so effortlessly with each other assisted in making the event a success.

The 2007 MBA Students Society cordially invites you to attend the

## *2nd Annual Alumni Golf Tournament*

Friday, August 10, 2007  
Willows Golf Club

**Register now!** For registration and/or sponsorship information, contact MBA candidate Sarah Schuster at [sarah.schuster@usask.ca](mailto:sarah.schuster@usask.ca).



## Green light given for proposed modifications to the MBA program



SASKATOON - The Master of Business Administration program is pleased to announce a step toward the vision of greater accessibility. After a process of consultation with

our stakeholders (students, alumni, faculty, and the business community), it has been determined that the option of taking MBA classes on a part-time basis would provide more flexibility for Saskatchewan students and employers alike.

The first stage of approvals for the modifications to the MBA program has been secured, and we are anticipating a move toward a modular-based program, with each course being offered over one, two, or three weeks.

Students will still be able to complete the MBA program full-time in one year, but they will now have the option of studying part-time while working and can take up to three years to complete the program.

A few valuable additions could entice greater participation in the program. One of the exciting additions we're offering is an international study tour,

where students will travel to a chosen destination to take part in a variety of meetings with trade commissioners, industry leaders, and other members of the University's global community. Other enticing add-ons include a professional skills development program and a management consulting project.

It is the mandate of the MBA program to be responsive to market needs. With that, we strive to provide the best possible MBA experience for our students. Increased access is a key feature of these modifications, and we look forward to keeping you involved and up-to-date regarding our evolution.

## *Share your news!*

We are always interested to hear from our alumni about new jobs, degrees earned, promotions, awards, etc., and we would like to include your good news in this newsletter. Please send your alumni news to [uofsmba@commerce.usask.ca](mailto:uofsmba@commerce.usask.ca), or call (306) 966-8678. Also, please forward us any contact updates (both personal and business), including change of address, phone number, and email address so that we can keep you in the know.