

## MEDIA RELEASE

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## One-Stop Shop: UWinnipeg Opens New Student Info Kiosk To Serve Record Number of Students

WINNIPEG—The University of Winnipeg officially opened a new one-stop shop for student information and services while at the same time announcing record-setting enrolments. "Our Spring/Summer enrolments are up three per cent, we anticipate a four per cent increase in the year's overall enrolment, our Aboriginal student population has grown by over five per cent, we have attracted more students straight from high school, and we have increased our international student population by over seven per cent," said University of Winnipeg President Lloyd Axworthy.

To respond to the growing student population, The University of Winnipeg opened a new \$234,000 Student Information Kiosk, consolidating a variety of student services into one user-friendly and efficient central location with three full-time and one part-time staff members. Officially opened by Minister of Advanced Education & Training Diane McGifford, President Lloyd Axworthy, and Associate Vice-President (Student Services) Rob Bend, the Kiosk is one of several student improvements at the University of Winnipeg this year.

"Last May, the Province of Manitoba reached an agreement with The University of Winnipeg to make significant investments in services available to students," said Minister McGifford. "I congratulate the University in moving so quickly to make dramatic service improvements such as this new Student Info Kiosk. I also look forward," she continued, "to more improvements to student information and technology systems, a wireless campus, and safety and security initiatives with the \$2.9 million grant from the Province of Manitoba I announced earlier this year."

Rob Bend, the University's AVP (Student Services) said UWinnipeg's 8,923 full- and part-time students (up from last year's 8,699 head count) "will now find streamlined services with wait times reduced, access to information simplified and services centrally located." The number of full course equivalents (FCEs) for this year is 29,489 up from 28,813 last year.

Situated just inside Centennial Hall from the Ellice Avenue entry, the Student Information Kiosk provides services such as:

- ➤ information, directions & campus maps
- > electronic fee payment
- >transcripts, confirmation of enrolment letters & other documentation
- >course schedules
- ► locker assignments
- ≻photo ID
- ➤ scholarship trust forms signed
  - ... and much more!

Soon students will also be able to register on-site and access their own student information at self-serve computers. The new Student Information Kiosk is open from 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m., Monday – Friday. Extended hours, including Saturdays, are included in future phases of the project.

Aboriginal students make up just over ten per cent of the University's student population, with approximately 850 students making regular use of the services provided by the new Aboriginal Student Services Centre. With 465 International students—or five per cent of the student population—The University of Winnipeg's International Office is reporting an enrolment increase of seven per cent. International students come to the University from such countries as China, Korea, Japan, Malaysia, Hong Kong, India, Pakistan, and Nigeria.

"What an opportunity for our students," said Bend. "Here they'll discover and celebrate the diversity of cultures, perspectives, and values as they interact with students, faculty, and staff from cities, villages, and farms across Canada and from 50 countries around the world – all exercising their vocation as global citizens."

Located in the heart of downtown, The University of Winnipeg is a compact, diverse, multicultural academic community committed to access and excellence. Ranked by our graduates in Maclean's magazine University Graduate Survey (November 15, 2004) in the Top Ten of all Canadian universities when asked about their "Entire Educational Experience." UWinnipeg is home to more than 8,900 full- and part-time students.

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