

# **Forensic Behavioural Sciences and Justice Studies Initiative**

**Annual Report 2010-2011**

**Prepared for:  
Saskatchewan Ministry of  
Corrections, Public Safety  
and Policing**



**Saskatchewan  
Ministry of  
Corrections, Public  
Safety and Policing**



**UNIVERSITY OF  
SASKATCHEWAN**

# **Annual Report 2010-11**

**pursuant to the  
Memorandum of Understanding  
between the University of Saskatchewan  
and the Saskatchewan Ministry of Corrections,  
Public Safety & Policing**

**May 2011**

## **Steering Committee for Research, Scholarships and Professional Training**

### **Dr. J. Stephen Wormith**

Acting Director, Forensic Behavioural Sciences and Justice Studies Initiative  
Professor, Department of Psychology  
College of Arts and Science  
University of Saskatchewan

### **Dr. Brian Rector**

Director, Program Development and Therapeutic Services  
Ministry of Corrections, Public Safety and Policing  
Government of Saskatchewan

## **Annual Report 2010-11**

A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the University of Saskatchewan and the Saskatchewan Ministry of Corrections, Public Safety and Policing was signed at the University of Saskatchewan on October 29, 2010. Official signatories were University President, Peter MacKinnon, University Secretary, Lea Pennock, and Government of Saskatchewan Minister of Corrections, Public Safety and Policing, the Honorable D.F. (Hogi) Huyghebaert. Attendees included Government of Saskatchewan Minister of Advanced Education, Employment and Labour, Rob Norris, Minister of Justice and Attorney General, Don Morgan, Q.C., as well as numerous university, government and community representatives.

Spanning a ten year period from 2010-11 to 2019-20, the MOU provides an annual allocation of funds in the amount of \$150,000 to the University of Saskatchewan, through the Centre for Forensic Behavioural Sciences and Justice Studies, as well as a framework for the parties to work together towards enhanced research, education and training in the areas of forensic behavioural sciences, justice and corrections, in the interest of advancing and promoting community safety. The following report summarizes progress that has been in each of the following areas:

1. Development of a Post-Graduate-Degree Specialization Certificate in Corrections
2. Building Research and Training Capacity
3. Establishing a Centre for Forensic Behavioural Sciences and Justice Studies
4. Office Space and Requirements

Due to the mid-year signing of the MOU, this report describes activities which occurred over the five month period between October 29, 2010 and March 31, 2011. Work in this initial period has been largely developmental in nature in keeping with the status of the proposed Centre, hereafter called the 'Initiative'.

## **1. Development of a Post-Graduate-Degree Specialization Certificate in Corrections**

A Notice of Intent was submitted on December 10, 2010 to the Planning & Priorities Committee of University Council, University of Saskatchewan, regarding the intended development of an applied training program leading to a Post-Graduate-Degree Specialization Certificate in Corrections. This proposed program, designed for senior corrections professionals, has as its underlying goal to enhance correctional effectiveness and community safety by ensuring participants are equipped with the advanced knowledge and skills that will support the consistent and effective application of evidence-based corrections programming and practices, as well as active leadership in ongoing evaluation, research, and knowledge translation related to corrections. A half-day working session involving two key faculty from the Department of Psychology, University of Saskatchewan, and three Senior Clinical Directors from Saskatchewan Corrections, Public Safety and Policing took place in December, 2010 producing an overview of the proposed program architecture and outline of the 7 anticipated courses. Subsequently, a program proposal, course descriptions and outline of each course was developed through a combination of independent work and two additional working sessions held between January and March, 2011. Consultation meetings with the Departments of Psychology and Sociology at the University of Saskatchewan, as well as with Information Technology Services, University Library and the Registrar's Office also took place in March, 2011. Refinement of the program proposal and clarification of program logistics will continue in the first part of 2011-12 in preparation for formal review and approval by the College of Graduate Studies and Research, and the Academic Programs Committee of University Council.

## **2. Building Research and Training Capacity**

The Steering Committee for Research, Scholarships and Professional Training, established under the MOU, met in February, 2011 to discuss opportunities for research and training collaboration for the coming year and to establish priorities for use of funds pursuant to the categories described in the MOU. The following activities and related expenditures were approved:

- Recruitment of a Post-doctoral Research Fellow, based at the Centre for Forensic Behavioural Sciences and Justice Studies, to develop and lead a broad research agenda related to criminal justice, corrections and public safety. The amount budgeted for this is \$80,500 (\$70,000 plus 15% mandatory benefits) for the period September 2011 through August 2012. Should the successful candidate be eligible for and receive post-doctoral funding from the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council, the amount contributed from MOU funds would be correspondingly reduced and be made available for other MOU-related initiatives.
- Support in the form of a \$1,500 honorarium paid to the Applied Social Psychology program for one student practicum to be completed with Saskatchewan Corrections, Public Safety and Policing during 2011.
- Support for one student scholarship valued at \$18,000 for the 2011-12 academic year to be awarded to a graduate student from a relevant program of study whose research interests fall within the domains of the forensic behavioral sciences and justice.
- Contribution to an increase in work hours of existing Centre administrative/research support, to a maximum expenditure of \$10,000 per year beginning in April, 2011, in recognition of additional workload related to the development and delivery of the proposed Post-Graduate-Degree Specialization Certificate and various research support activities.

### **3. Establishment of a Centre for Forensic Behavioural Sciences and Justice Studies**

A Letter of Intent for the proposed establishment of a Centre for Forensic Behavioural Sciences and Justice Studies was submitted to the University of Saskatchewan Subcommittee on Centres in March, 2010. Following this submission, a series of consultation meetings with a wide variety of University stakeholders was held between March and August, 2010 and a proposal to create the Centre for Forensic Behavioural Sciences and Justice Studies was prepared and finalized over the months of July and August, 2010 for submission to and review by the Subcommittee on Centres in September, 2010.

Subsequent to review by the Subcommittee on Centres and updates to the proposal based on the Committee's input and feedback, the Centre proposal was then reviewed by the Directors of the Office of Integrated Planning and Assessment in January, 2011, the Advisory Committee to the Provost's Committee on Integrated Planning (PCIP) and PCIP itself in February, 2011 and the Planning & Priorities Committee of University Council in March, 2011. Based on these reviews and recommendation from the Planning & Priorities Committee, University Council review and approval of the Centre proposal is expected to take place in May, 2011.

#### **4. Office Space and Requirements**

Since February, 2010, the Forensic Behavioural Sciences and Justice Studies Initiative has operated out of an office suite on the main floor of the Arts Building at the University of Saskatchewan, in space contributed by the College of Arts and Science. In February and March, 2011, with funds allocated in the MOU for this purpose, the office received an electrical and technical (network access) upgrade and new furnishings, in order to provide a total of 4 shared work areas for ongoing use by faculty and/or student members of the Centre, a common meeting area, and dedicated workspaces for the Coordinator and a Research Fellow. Total cost of the office improvement is estimated at \$28,500 of which \$25,107 was spent during the 2010-11 fiscal year.

Overall a total of \$150,000 in expenditures was budgeted for 2010-11, of which \$44,671 was actually spent and another \$75,893 committed to be spent during 2011-12 as detailed in Appendix A. As per the MOU, unexpended funds from 2010-11 will be carried forward for use in the subsequent year.

## APPENDIX A: Summary of Budgeted and Actual Expenditures

### MOU between University of Saskatchewan and Saskatchewan Corrections, Public Safety & Policing

	2010-11			
	Budgeted	Actual	Committed	Carry forward
<b>Budgeted Expenditures</b>				
Office set-up/furnishing	\$ 30,000	\$ 25,107	\$ 3,393	\$ 1,500
Research Personnel <sup>1</sup>	\$ 71,250	\$ -	\$ 47,000	\$ 24,250
Program Development	\$ 8,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 8,000
Research/Admin Assistant <sup>2</sup>	\$ 10,000	\$ -	\$ 10,000	\$ -
Student/Faculty Research Support <sup>3</sup>	\$ 11,186	\$ -	\$ 15,500	\$ (4,314)
University Overhead	\$ 19,564	\$ 19,564	\$ -	\$ -
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 150,000</b>	<b>\$ 44,671</b>	<b>\$ 75,893</b>	<b>\$ 29,436</b>

Notes:

1. Committed amount represents salary and benefits for Reserch Fellow Sep 2011-Mar 2012
2. Committed amount resrepresents contribution to Centre research/admin support salary Apr 2011-Mar 2012
3. Committed amount represents \$14,000 for Graduate Student Scholarship Sep 2011-Mar 2012 and \$1,500 honorarium for one student practicum



