



January 5, 2006

University of Lethbridge Provost named chair of research body

Calgary... A leading Alberta educator has been named as the chair of Alberta's Informatics Circle of Research Excellence (iCORE). Dr. Seamus O'Shea is Vice President (Academic) and Provost of the University of Lethbridge, and has served on the board of iCORE since 2000.

"iCORE plays an extremely important role in research and innovation in Alberta," said Victor Doerksen, Minister of Innovation and Science. "The organization has grown from strength to strength, most recently under the outstanding leadership of Dr. Roger Smith, former Vice President of Research at the University of Alberta. I look forward to working with Dr. O'Shea in his new role as Chair of iCORE as it continues building a powerful ICT research community in Alberta."

Established in 1999 by the Government of Alberta, iCORE supports world-leading university-based research in information and communications technology. Its goal is to position Alberta as a research leader in computer science and computer engineering, by fostering top research teams. The Ministry of Innovation and Science commits \$10.62 million and the Ministry of Advanced Education contributes \$2.0 million a year to support iCORE.

"iCORE has been very successful in attracting top international scientists and students to Alberta. Their research is offering new solutions and providing economic value to a range of industries. I look forward to helping iCORE to achieve new milestones," said O'Shea, adding that he's excited about his new role.

A clear focus, based on the information and communications technology strategy developed by government in 1998, has led to successful targeted investments by iCORE. "Dr O'Shea's background in Alberta's post-secondary system, and his commitment to furthering technology in Alberta, position him as an excellent chair for iCORE's future," said Dr Randy Goebel, President and CEO of iCORE. "We are looking forward to continued success with his direction."

iCORE partners with industry, universities and government agencies, including the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada and Alberta Ingenuity Fund to advance the application of leading-edge information and communications technology in the province.

For more information, visit www.icore.ca

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Editor's Note: O'Shea's biography is attached

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Dr. Seamus O'Shea

Dr. Seamus Francis O'Shea is a Professor of Chemistry, Vice-president (Academic), and Provost at the University of Lethbridge.

Dr. O'Shea has served at the University of Lethbridge since 1977, and is a professor in the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry. His research deals with mathematical and computer modeling in chemistry, particularly computer simulation of gas, liquid and solid phases composed of simple molecules and the transitions among these phases.

He has served as Vice President (Academic) since 1991, and has been active in the implementation of information technology for academic and administrative purposes. He supervised the Information Technology department in the 1990s when the University was among the first to deploy pervasive broadband communications technologies to support its academic mission. He supervised the development of teaching and research programs involving information technology in the sciences, social sciences, humanities and fine arts.

Dr. O'Shea has served on the Board of iCORE since 2000, and has been involved in many provincial initiatives dealing with the development of research capabilities in Alberta and in the development of the Alberta post-secondary system.

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