

The University of Western Ontario

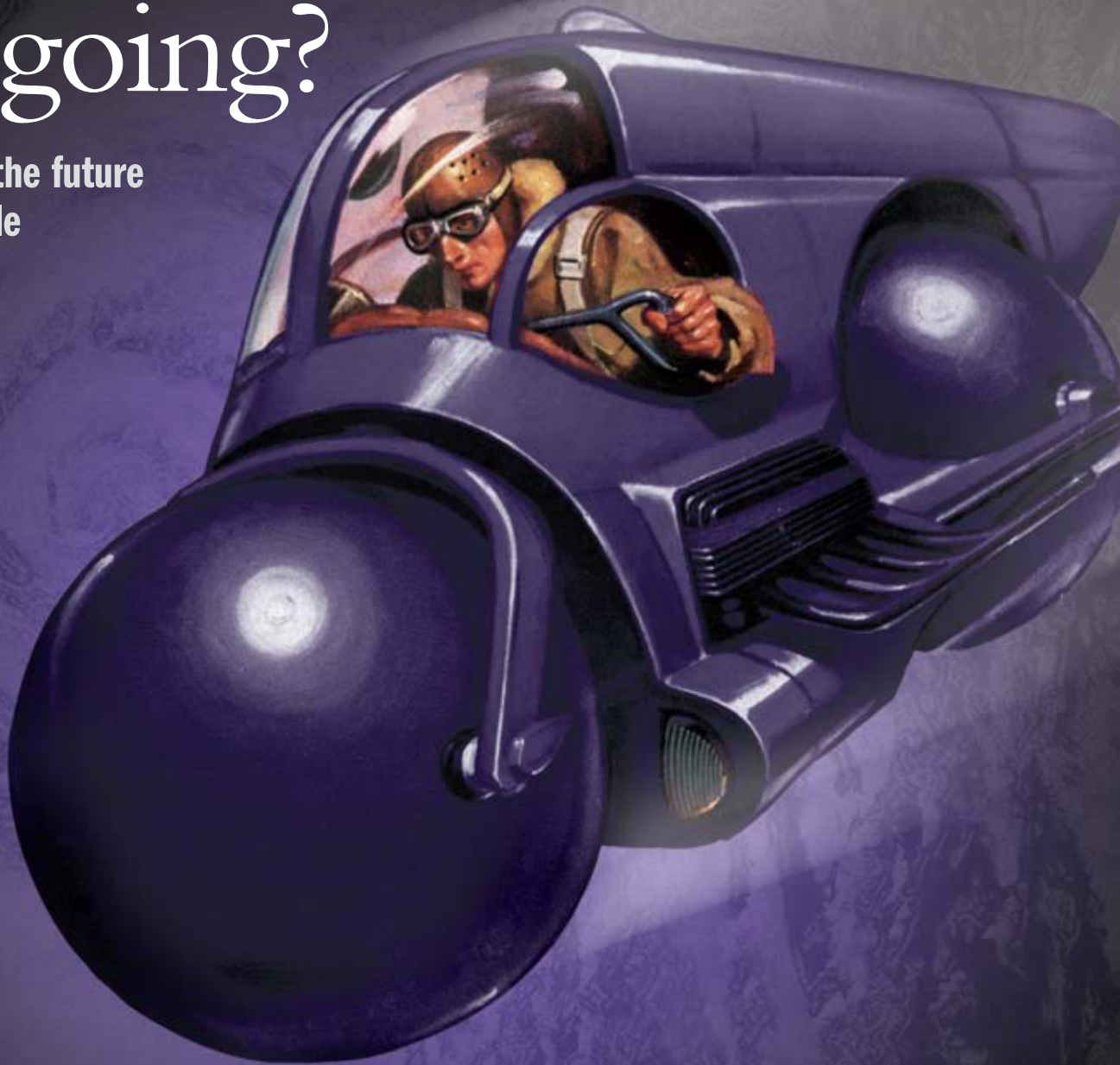
Western

fall 07

ALUMNI GAZETTE

Where are we going?

**A look into the future
Western style**



• TOMSON HIGHWAY IN POLAND

• CLIMATE CHANGE CENTRAL

• ALUMNAE STAR IN MVP

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www.alumnigazette.ca



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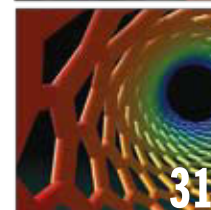
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On the cover: This futuristic illustration "Westernized" by Art Director Terry Rice was inspired by the cover graphics from a 1936 issue of *Modern Mechanics & Inventions Magazine*, courtesy of Charles Shopsin of ModernMechanix.com.



Moving toward tangible future

Welcome to the future – or at least to an issue devoted to that theme. Will all magazines in the future be published in cyberspace? We've put one foot in that direction by populating www.alumnigazette.ca with more stories than you can find in the print version. We have alumni contacting us regularly, telling us they read their magazine online and requesting to be taken off the mailing list to save trees – and that's great!

But it still won't convince me to read a book online. There is something about sitting down with a good book in your favourite chair and leaving it on the coffee table with a bookmark in it when you're done that is an appealing and relaxing ritual. Good old fashioned books are part of *Alumni Western presents: London Reads* back for the fifth year and designed to get city residents reading Canada's best authors (see page 8).

Our journey to the future starts with *London Free Press* humour columnist and alumnus Ian Gillespie who offers a cross-faculty glimpse into the future when he taps into some Western experts' visions of where their areas of research are headed. Put on your imagination toque and strap yourself in for this multi-lane conceptual trip to tomorrow.

The hope created by the concept of "the future" drives us forward – as renowned scientist and broadcaster David Suzuki explains in his honorary degree acceptance speech at Trois Pistoles – and helped prehistoric humans move out of caves and begin their dominance of the planet.

Alumnus Ron Johnson explores and explains three of Western's ahead-of-their-time facilities: The Claudette MacKay-Lassonde Pavilion ("The Green Building"), The Biotron and the Institute of Catastrophic Loss Reduction. Western is well-positioned to be a world leader in climate change for years to come.

Educational guru and alumnus Tim Crawford does not let 'no' stand in his way. His positive and optimistic vision of the potential reach education can make in 30 years might strike some as far-fetched. But rather than restrict himself with limitations he envisions the possibilities – maybe with a little help from Bill Gates and Oprah Winfrey.

History assistant professor William Turkel teaches digital history and speculates about how we document the "here and now" for future generations when information is being rapidly "born digital." Is it possible to capture and document all pertinent data?

Other non-future features include a story on CBC's hockey drama *MVP* recently shot in London and starring Western alumnae Deborah Odell and Louise Pitre; and a report on Days of Canadian Culture at University of Silesia in Poland in May with First Nations Studies instructors Dan and Mary Lou Smoke and award winning author, playwright and alumnus Tomson Highway as keynote speakers and presenters.

We wrap things up with a view of social science versus hard science and how that plays out in modern-day Afghanistan from renowned *Maclean's* columnist and alumnus Paul Wells stationed for the time being in Paris, France.

Takin' care of business

We want your original business stories! The Spring 2008 Alumni Gazette is devoted to the entrepreneurial spirit of Western alumni across all faculties. Do you have a unique successful business you created? Did you fill a niche that didn't previously exist? More information available at: www.alumnigazette.ca Deadline: February 1, 2008

Have a safe and happy upcoming holiday season – in the near future!

David Scott
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Americans got rid of evil regime

(Re: Letters, Summer 2007)

After reading the two letters pounding Michael Duever I would like to add the following.

One thing, Mr. Duever, your liberal critics don't get: Any weapons in the hands of evil ARE weapons of mass destruction. The Americans found plenty of weaponry, some in torture chambers. The Americans got rid of an evil regime. We are all better off for it.
Edra Bayefsky, MLIS'90

Letter writers need to lighten up

Oh my goodness, Michael Duever (*Gazette letters, Spring '07*) and now Ethel Bond-Fielding (*ibid Summer '07*) on Wm. Clinton. Madam Bond-Fielding is correct on the Duever letter. But let not the pot call the kettle black. From their letters Duever sounds like the ill-defined entity – the neocon; and Bond-Fielding as if she is an absolutist (so called “left winger”). The absolutist believes in his/her right to rule (no – not govern) by unnecessarily high taxation and regulation. This is accomplished by spin and propaganda to control academe, the entertainment industry and the now fast fading “mainstream media”. Bond-Fielding makes a vain attempt to glorify the Clinton attack on Islamic terrorism. He ordered a rocket attack on a pharmaceutical plant in Khartoum.

(Actually, this plant never produced ‘weapons of mass destruction’; in fact, it was the only producer of Viagra for the entire Middle East. All right, I know – destruction of the plant led to a steep decline in the Arab fecundity, and infuriated them).

And then of course, the affair of Monica Lewinsky. These are the episodes from the lifetime of Wm. Clinton that are memorable. Both the Deuver and Bond-Fielding letters are weird. You are both much too serious. I picture both your faces as longer than that of Richard Nixon at the height of Watergate. Oh, do please lighten up and enjoy yourselves. Bond-Fielding questions the UWO credentials of Duever. Ethel, m'dear it would be very kind of you to be a volunteer chief

veter for the Gazette.

Allan Ramsay, BA, MD'48

Some waiting for treatment are more 'equal' than others

(Re: Boomers jump hospital queues..., Summer 2007)

Being an active Boomer and having just injured my knee and now in need of remedial care that will most probably entail surgery, I read with great interest the above article. I am becoming aware of how our system operates today. I can only say that if any other industry provided a similar level of service to their customers they would be bankrupt.

That many Boomers can afford private health care is true and it is also true that our present public healthcare system does not provide the services demanded in a timely or efficient manner. If this was not reality there would be no demand or support for what is termed “medical tourism.”

I find the quote of Dr. Jeffery Nisker to be more of the same elitist state-controlled monopoly approach to healthcare delivery. He implies that our system has no tiers and that Big Brother should presumably prevent the rich Boomers jumping the queue even if that is outside placing any demands on Canada's system.

At the costs quoted of \$8,000 for a knee or hip replacement I would hardly term this the playground of the “rich.”

As I line up in this healthcare system of ‘equals’ I find WCB claimants, RCMP, military, politicians and no doubt many others jumping ahead in the queue. These ultra-equals often jump to private providers at the discretion of the elites running the system, while the rest of the public is denied the same options.

Does Dr. Nisker really think we are so naive as to believe that he would stand in the same queue as the masses given his contacts in the profession? He is a high-ranking member of the medical fraternity that are the gatekeepers, the elite that largely determine who gets what care, when and by whom. I can only wish that my name was Dr. Jeffery Nisker for the next few months as that would put me at the head of the line for treatment by my close associates and friends in the medical

profession. Equal indeed!

Barry E. Harper, MBA'71

King's College missing from map

(Re: The changing face of Western, Summer 2007)

As a graduate of King's University College, I was quick to notice that you chose to leave King's off your map of campus on pages 10-11. I also noticed that you did include baseball diamonds and football practice fields. If these two things were important enough to recognize, why then was King's not? I realize that King's is off the main campus a bit, but so is Brescia and it is on your map. I think King's deserves more than “To King's University College” in small print at the bottom of the page.

Adam Cunningham, BA'02 (King's)

Why not run King's as inset on map?

(Re: The changing face of Western, Summer 2007)

Just got my copy of the summer edition of the Alumni Gazette and I have got to ask a question. Why every time the university uses a map of campus in a publication, does King's University College become a mere arrow off the map, rather than an inset to show our campus? I have to tell you that it bothered me when I was a student and I finally got the USC to change the day-timers, and here I am seven years later as an alumna and I have to ask again.

It seems only fair since my degree is from Western that my part of campus be included like Brescia & Huron have been.
Shelley Pirie, BA'01 (King's)

Faculty of Music deserves better performance space

(Re: The changing face of Western, Summer 2007)

I was extremely disappointed to notice that a proposed recital hall for the Faculty of Music did not make it into the summary of building plans in the Summer 2007 issue. I am hoping that this is just an oversight on the Gazette's part and not the Board of Governors.

Surely, after close to 40 years, growth to become the second largest Faculty of Music in Canada, and dozens of world-famous graduates, the Don Wright Faculty of Music will finally be getting a performing

space to reflect that? If not, it is time to face-the-music people up the hill! For the final ensembles' concert of the year, there were at least twice as many Londoners, willing to drive two hours, in rush hour, to Toronto to hear the performance done in a proper recital space, than any other concert I have ever been a part of in London, FOM concert or not.

The renowned National Youth Orchestra of Canada took this University embarrassment to a completely new level recently with a performance in Alumni Hall. A popular comment of the evening by audience members and performers alike: not that the orchestra was wonderful, it was, but that the hall was horrendous and did them no justice at all! I urge the music alumni to start making some more noise on this issue -- write the Board of Governors and share how this lack of fulfilled necessity negatively impacted your time at Western.

Heather Hutchison, BMus'08, BA'09

Alumna disappointed in coverage of Allen Philbrick's passing

I was most surprised that the Summer '07 Alumni Gazette allotted only 10 lines to recognize the incredible contribution that Dr. Allen Philbrick made to the Geography Department, to the Western Mustang Football team, and to UWO school spirit.

In my days at Huron College in the 1960s nobody missed a football game! The stands were full, the game was exciting, and we all looked forward with great anticipation to see "Big Al" run the track when the Mustangs scored a touchdown!

Since then my family has followed the Western team both at university stadiums and on television. Dr. Philbrick was always a special part of these events. I have thanked him personally at a number of these games, and now I do it publicly. Thank you "Big Al" for helping to make Western football such a happy memory.

Gail (Hubbard) Varey, BA'69

Member of the Huron University College Alumni Board

Editor's Note: *When the Alumni Gazette received news of Prof. Allen Philbrick's passing the magazine was in late stages of design and set to go to the printers. We held off sending the magazine to print for a day so we could*

alter the Campus Journal page and include a photo and brief story on Prof. Philbrick. We directed readers to a more complete online story of his life and achievements.

More generations uncovered by MBA alumnus

(Re: Talkin' 'bout my generation, Summer '07)

The US economist Harry S. Dent calls the generation preceding the Boomers, the "Bob Hope" generation, born from 1909 to 1921. The parents of the Bob Hopes he calls the "Henry Ford" generation.

The Bob Hope generation returned from World War II and drove the demand for housing in the 1950s and 1960s, the growth of the auto industry, highway construction, the move to the suburbs, the home appliance boom, television, Madison Avenue, and the space program.

The Bob Hope generation and the Echo Boomers are conformist, civic-minded and collective thinkers, as Dent applies the generational research of Strauss and Howe. The Henry Fords, Baby Boomers and (presumably) the Echo Boomers' children, on the other hand, are individualistic and change-oriented entrepreneurs.

Gray Hammond, BA'77, MBA'80

Alumnus thinks Mulroney 'great choice' for honorary degree

(Re: Honorary degree for Brian Mulroney, Summer '07)

I was delighted to learn that Western has honoured the Right Honourable Brian Mulroney with an Honourary Degree.

Brian Mulroney is recognized all around the world as an outstanding statesman. He helped Canada build excellent relations with vastly different governments in all parts of the globe. He introduced important policies not always because they were popular at the time, but because they were important and essential for Canada for the future. His ideas showed great vision and leadership in the areas of international trade, progressive taxation, competitive economic initiatives, strong Government social programs, and constitutional reforms - unanimously supported by all Premiers at the Meech Lake Conference.

Great choice.

James H. Langstaff, BSc, MHSc, MBA'06

Alumni band tours Europe in encore performance

A London band affiliated with Western visited some new horizons this past summer after playing five free concerts in three European countries.

More than 50 members of the University of Western Ontario Don Wright Faculty of Music New Horizons Band travelled to Paris, Vimy Ridge, Brugge, and Amsterdam from July 2 to 12 to play a selection of tunes and to spread the word about how adults can have fun as members of a concert band. This was the band's second tour of Europe, having played in Vienna, Budapest and Prague in the summer of 2005.

The New Horizons Band members, who are Western alumni, also had time to tour sites in the cities where they played and are already thinking ahead to 2009 for another tour. New Horizons is open to adult musicians of any skill level, including absolute beginners, but those who played in Europe tended to have five or more years musical experience.

The band practises Saturday mornings from September through June and anyone wishing to join should contact Sarah Smith, NHB Coordinator at ssmith23@uwo.ca

Mark Kearney, BA'77

(For more information on the New Horizons Band and their recent trip, please visit: www.alumnigazette.ca)

Gazette keeps alumna connected to Western

I graduated from Western; BA'72, BEd'73 (as did both of my children in 2000 and in 2001). Although that was 34 years ago (Yikes...where DO the years go!) I continue to receive the Alumni Gazette faithfully, three times a year.

I so very much appreciate opening my mailbox and finding the Gazette waiting for me. Although it seems a lifetime ago and I see few names which I recognize, I always appreciate receiving and retaining that special connection to the past and the present.

A huge thank you for each day your (and previous) Alumni Gazette staff have brightened for me. I speak for thousands...

Elaine Hunter, BA'72, BEd'73

She'll grow into her dream.



Bachelor of Arts (Visual Arts) 2027

We'll grow with her.

Through Foundation Western, alumni are laying the groundwork for students of today and tomorrow to achieve their dreams. Our endowment fund provides the stability Western needs to support student aid, program enrichment, research, and learning tools – forever!

Investing today for Western's tomorrow.

www.foundation.uwo.ca 519-661-3140 fw@uwo.ca





Photo by Bob Klanac

Kevin Newman on UC Hill

Good news at Western

Broadcaster Kevin Newman BA'81, had The University of Western Ontario as his television studio on Friday, September 28 when he anchored the Global National newscast from the bottom of University College hill. During the broadcast the Western graduate quipped that the Canadian dollar hadn't been valued so highly "since I was a student here." Newman followed the broadcast with a trip up UC Hill to Somerville House where he was presented with an Award of Merit by the Western Alumni Association during the 33rd Annual Alumni Awards Dinner on the Friday night of Homecoming weekend.

Western number one again

From its libraries and residences to the campus atmosphere and quality of teaching, Western has again scored high marks in the sixth annual *Globe and Mail* University Report Card.

Consistently earning praise from students for combining a great campus life with a top-notch education, Western earned an A or greater on 44 of 78 categories surveyed.

Overall, Western was tops among the survey's large universities, defined as having an enrolment of more than 22,000.

"Our number one ranking for the sixth year in a row is entirely due to all the faculty, staff and students here at Western," says President Paul Davenport. "Our faculty work hard both inside and outside the classroom."

Davenport lauded the staff as well as University Students' Council as key players in Western's success. More than 43,000 students from 53 schools were surveyed for this year's report card, up from last

year's 32,700 students and 49 schools.

Western was given the highest possible mark, an A+, in attractiveness of campus, faculty members knowledge of subjects, availability of off-campus housing, overall university atmosphere and sense of personal safety/security.

For more information:
<http://communications.uwo.ca/reportcard>



Photo by Shawn Simpson

Beryl and Richard Ivey

Beryl Ivey named to Order of Canada, new donation to business school

Western and longtime London-area philanthropist Beryl Ivey has been appointed as a Member of the Order of Canada. Richard, HBA'47, DLL'79 and Beryl Ivey, BA'47, DLL'97 through the Ivey Foundation and their own personal funds, have provided Western with more than \$50-million in gifts over the past 50 years.

At Homecoming this year, celebrating 60 years as alumni -- along with their family, the Iveys have asked that \$3 million be committed to an unrestricted endowment, to be matched by an additional \$3 million in unrestricted gifts from alumni and others to the Richard Ivey School of Business.

"We are absolutely thrilled for Beryl's recognition," says Ted Garrard, Western's Vice-President (External). "It is long overdue and is a testament to the extraordinary work she has done as a volunteer and a philanthropist."

The Order of Canada is the country's highest civilian honour, recognizing outstanding achievement and service in various fields of endeavour. The Member honour marks a lifetime of distinguished service for a particular community, group or field of activity. Beryl Ivey has given of her personal

time, counsel and financial resources since her earliest associations with the university. A wide range of causes have benefited from her support including theatre, the arts, wildlife preservation, environmental awareness and advanced medical research.



Left to right: London Mayor Anne Marie DeCicco-Best, Carolyn Young, Delilah Deane Cummings, Ted Garrard.

London Reads spotlight on top books

Back for the fifth year is *Alumni Western presents: London Reads* which recently unveiled a high-profile book list designed to get city residents reading Canada's best books. New this year is \$2,000 in financial support from the City of London's Creative Cities Committee to assist in promotion of the program so more Londoners can discover the program. London Reads was first launched as Western Reads as part of Western's 125th anniversary celebrations in 2003 and has since been reflagged to offer a city-wide platform for promoting literacy and Canadian authors. Modeled after CBC Radio's Canada Reads, the program invites the entire community to read along with and engage local celebrity panelists as they deliberate over the merits of Canadian fiction.

The final debate will take place in March. The winning book will be announced on World Book Day, April 23, and the author will be invited to visit the Wolf Performance Hall at the Central Library to read from and discuss the novel in May. London Reads partners are Alumni Western, the Book Store at Western, London Public Library, and the City of London. For more information visit: www.londonreads.uwo.ca



Elizabeth Macdougall-Shackleton & Chris Guglielmo with a Passive Integrated Transponder detector that scans birds.

The FLIER takes flight

They say birds of a feather flock together – and thanks to an innovative laboratory on wheels, Western researchers can join the migration. Complete with custom-made MRI body composition scanner, ultrasound, animal room, and lab equipment, the Western FLIER (Field Laboratory for Integrative Ecological Research) is presenting endless possibilities in the study of breeding and migrating birds and bats.

The inaugural trip to Ottawa saw graduate student Liam McGuire travel to a mine to study bats and how they prepare for breeding and hibernation, followed by fellow graduate student Chad Seewagen visiting New York in late September to study migrating birds that stop in urban settings and how they refuse to continue onwards.

The custom-designed RV was manufactured by Strathroy-based Glendale RV and is giving researchers and students the ability to conduct comprehensive physiological, biochemical, genetic and immunological studies previously done in the physical lab.

Western biology professors Elizabeth Macdougall-Shackleton and Chris Guglielmo are leading the project and while the testing is still in the early stages, each can't wait to put the high-tech gear through its paces. "This gives us the chance to go places and really find out how the ecosystem (birds and bats) rely on is changing and how they're adapting," says Guglielmo. "Having this RV means we can literally go wherever we want. If there's a road, then we can get there."

Macdougall-Shackleton says everything from fat content and oxygen levels to the bird's molecular ecology and susceptibility to diseases can be analyzed in the FLIER.

The biggest change is not bringing the animals into captivity, says Guglielmo.

Fulbright Scholar chooses Western

An Anthropology graduate from Princeton University has been awarded a prestigious Fulbright Scholarship to study at the Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry at Western. Irit Rasooly is one over 1,300 Americans to receive funding to study abroad for a year through the Fulbright U.S. Student Program, and one of 17 attending Canadian universities.

Rasooly is now at the Centre for Studies in Family Medicine, working with Dr. Stewart Harris, Associate Professor in Family Medicine, Epidemiology & Biostatistics and Endocrinology. The Centre features an interdisciplinary team of researchers whose over-arching goal is to enhance family medicine and primary health care.

"I am interested in learning about how medical interventions can be adapted to particular cultures and communities," says Rasooly. "Western offers a wonderful opportunity to explore this in the context of diabetes/obesity interventions designed for First Nations, under the direction of Dr. Stewart Harris."

Rasooly wants to see the different ways diabetes prevention and treatment is approached in different communities, how treatment guidelines have been adapted for particular settings, and which elements of these programs contribute most influentially to their success. "The approaches taken to studying diabetes in First Nations are likely to provide an important model for tackling the epidemic affecting communities across North America," adds Rasooly. She is also interested in learning how the Canadian health care system operates, especially as it relates to preventative medicine. Fulbright recipients are selected on the basis of academic or professional achievement, as well as demonstrated leadership potential in their fields.



David Cechetto spearheaded collection of more than 30 computers for shipment to Rwanda.

Stronger Rwanda ties forged with Western

Continuing its support of Rwanda's Kigali Health Institute, a number of Western's top administrators, including President Paul Davenport, will travel to the east-central African country later this year.

David Cechetto of the Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry has spearheaded collection of more than 30 computers for shipment this fall to the Kigali Health Institute (KHI) in Rwanda. Ted Hewitt, Vice-President (Research & International Relations), along with Davenport, deans Franco Berruti (Engineering), David Wardlaw (Science) and Carol Herbert (Schulich) will be in Rwanda to review the progress and build on existing initiatives in the area of health care.

While in Africa, the university's expertise has also been sought directly by Rwandan President Paul Kagame and his senior government ministers, who visited Western's campus in April.

"We will also be looking to establish new collaborative projects with colleagues in Rwanda in areas including environmental remediation, renewable energy, and conflict resolution," says Hewitt. The university would also like to expand the Western Heads East project, now active in Kenya, to Rwanda, to strengthen what has become a beneficial relationship for Rwanda and its institutions as well as to Western.

Research Western
Visit: www.uwo.ca/research

How much further?



Media expert Tim Blackmore says in the future we might view movies, like *Blade Runner* pictured in this eye, through signals to the inside of our retina.

The future within our grasp

By Ian Gillespie, BA'87

According to Albert Einstein, the future “is only a stubbornly persistent illusion.”

Perhaps. But anyone who's ever shopped for a mortgage, bought a lottery ticket or bet on a football game might disagree. Because although it's true we're all heading toward the future at the same rate - and that, according to C.S. Lewis, is exactly 60 minutes per hour - it's also true that a little knowledge about what lurks round the corner can be a lucrative asset. Knowing what will - or might or could - happen in the future helps us plan for it in the present. Plus, gazing into a crystal ball is fun.

So, a dozen Western experts were asked to slip into their prognostication pants, stroll down the road of time and predict how we're going to be living in the near future.

On the global stage, one university expert foresees rising social unrest as the gap widens between the haves and have-nots, particularly in the Middle East. “There is a building expectation that the kind of wealth that's produced by oil

ought to be resulting in better lives, which it hasn't,” says Michael Lynk, associate professor with the Faculty of Law. “That can only create, I think, a kind of powder keg that will explode there and elsewhere if justice is not brought.”

We're also likely to see changes on the national political landscape. And according to one observer, that includes the secession of Alberta. “I don't think Canada will look too much like what it looks today,” says political science professor Robert Young, who also holds the Canada Research Chair on multi-level governance. “Sooner or later, the federal government is going to do something that hurts Alberta. And we saw with the taxing of income trusts how volatile opinion is out there.” But Young pooh-poohs any suggestion the rest of Canada might join its powerful neighbour to the south. At least, not any time soon. “Not in the next 20 years, (but) maybe in the next 80 years,” he says. “But many Canadians presume the Americans would want us. And that's not obvious. To begin with, no Republican administration would want it because Canadians would overwhelmingly vote Democrat.”

Let's just hope there'll be enough people alive to vote. Because as sociology professor Rod Beaujot points out, an aging population and decreasing fertility rate will bring some profound and costly demographic changes. “By about 2020, there will be more deaths than births,” says Beaujot. “And there are health costs associated with dying. The last months or year of life are particularly expensive in health terms.”

And at least one expert believes those costs - and indeed, the costs of living - will be better borne by men than women. “I think women will continue to make less money than men for decades to come,” says Monda Halpern, adjunct professor with Western's department of history. “Although the disparity between males and female earnings is closing, numbers don't necessarily signal changing attitudes. In a patriarchal culture women's paid labour is valuable, but their unpaid labour is invaluable.”

It's even possible that cash itself may vanish. Darren Meister, an associate professor of business at the Richard Ivey School of Business, says consumers in Hong Kong routinely use a plastic “octopus card” to pay for

small transactions. And there's no reason to think that trend won't spread. "The move to a cashless society has a lot of potential," says Meister. "Canadians have been leading adopters of debit cards, so I'd expect us to be leading adopters of that sort of technology, too."

But whether we'll actually be swiping our plastic cards at a mall – or any kind of public place – is a question raised by Jeff Hopkins, associate professor of cultural geography. Hopkins says that during the past 20 years, we've seen the growing demise of public spaces as we spend more time in automobiles and less time interacting with others in public areas. "There's also a really interesting blurring of public and private space," says Hopkins, citing the use of cell phones and iPods. "So, you can actually be in a public space physically, but you're occupying a private mental space... What was private is going public."

Yet another expert believes public – or at least a semi-private version of it – is the direction transportation may go. Doug Leighton, an associate professor with the history department at Huron University College, specializes in the social implications of the automobile. And he says concerns about traffic gridlock and air quality will drive us to public transit – as long as designers tweak it a bit. "The problem with public transport is it's public," says Leighton. "But if public transport can somehow combine the need for privacy with public efficiency, they've got it made. Something like the old-fashioned British railway carriage with its separate compartments might work...so you're not in a box with 60 other people."

Increased public transit would reduce the number of private vehicles on our roads. And that should reduce the number of drunk drivers. But Robert Solomon, a law professor who is also national director of legal policy with MADD (Mothers Against Drunk Driving), says technological advances may also reduce that risk. "To be socially acceptable, the technology will have to be passive," says Solomon. "There might be a scanning device that, when your thumb or your hand was on the steering wheel, would be able to determine your

blood-alcohol level from tiny amounts of sweat. "I see that coming in 20 years," he says. "It's one of the things we can be optimistic about."

Sadly, optimism is in short supply when Charles Trick talks about our oceans. "One can't be optimistic about the future of the ocean," says Trick, a biology professor and oceanographer. "It's going to be one of the sadder stories of humanity." Trick says over-fishing and toxic pollution have profoundly altered the sea's chemistry and jeopardized its valuable food chain. "Every major study right now is pointing to the fact that the big fish are gone and the little fish are at risk," says Trick. "And that's just not sustainable. "I would say in 10 years we will be faced with a major moral decision," he adds. "(Because) the only way to get past this is to basically stop fishing."

Stopping fishing is a daunting challenge, but it may be easier than putting the brakes on technology. One Western expert says that within 20 years, very few of us will be getting our news like we do today. But that doesn't mean we won't be getting the news. "We're not consuming less (news)," says David Spencer, a professor in the Faculty of Information and Media Studies.



Cash might be replaced by Octopus cards.

"We're consuming it differently...But I think anyone who predicts newspapers are going to die is crazy." Spencer predicts even small-town newspapers are here to stay; they just won't look the same. "Most media today – including television, newspapers, magazines and books – depend so much on production of hard copy," he says. "And that's where I see fundamental changes...The electronic form will be the primary form and the paper form will be secondary, which is precisely the opposite of what we have now."

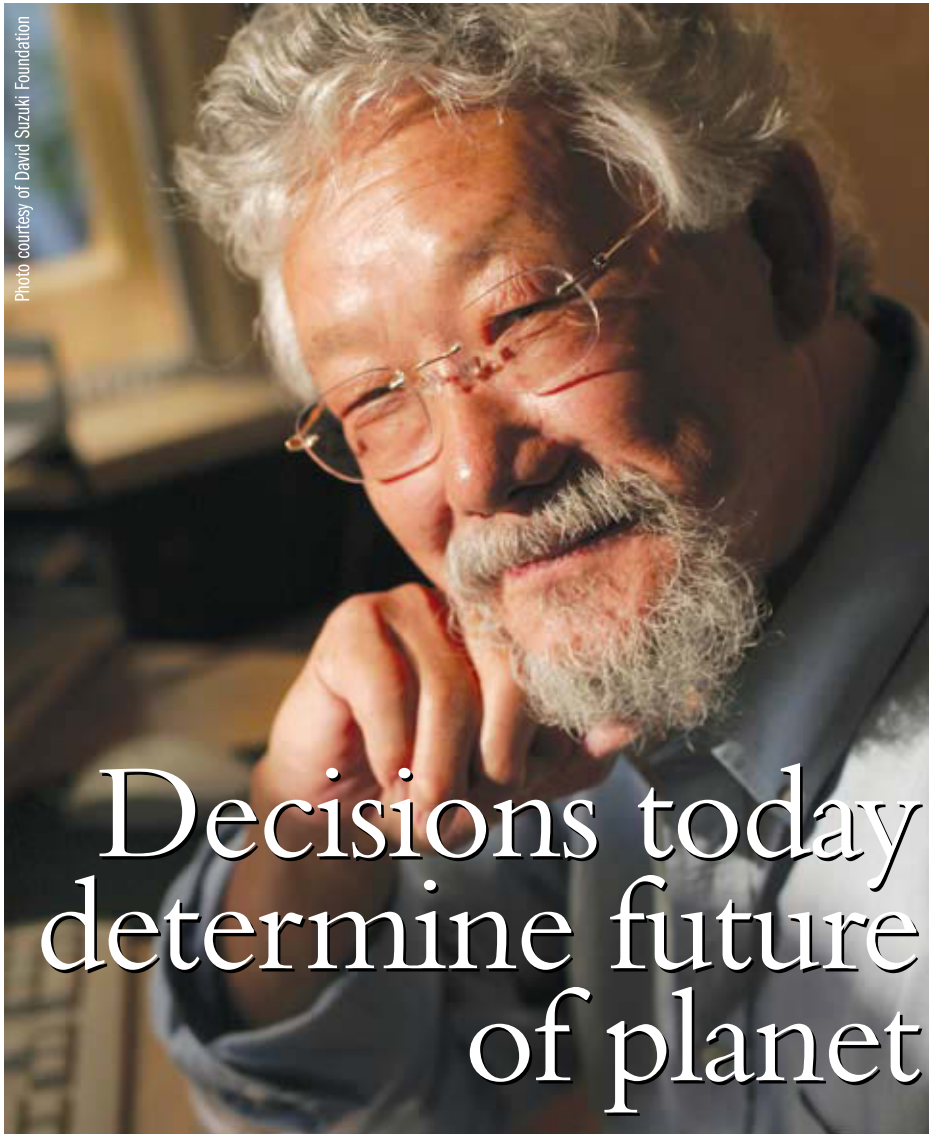
But reading the news or watching a movie online is one thing; literally absorbing it is another. "Within 30 years, you'll be able to peel off something like a band-aid and stick it on the back of your neck," predicts Tim Blackmore, associate professor in the Faculty of Information and Media Studies. "And the data will go through your skin and stream toward your optic nerve and then essentially play on the inside of your retina."

But at least one expert believes the classics from our past will still be part of a hi-tech future. "It's difficult for me to imagine people won't continue to go back to things like Shakespeare and Milton and T.S. Eliot," says English professor David Bentley. "Unless there's some fundamental change in human nature, which has never happened, we'll remain human beings with the same concerns, the same worries, the same doubts and problems and aspirations. And literature marvelously speaks to that."

If all this soothsaying has got you down, don't worry. One expert predicts that in 20 years or so, scientists may have definitively shown a belly-laugh a day keeps the doctor away. "The popular implication seems to be that if you laugh a lot, you'll be healthy," says psychology professor Rod Martin. "But can people really modify the amount they laugh in their daily life? Or are you born with certain genes that pre-determine your mood level? "We don't really know," adds Martin. "But I think we'll see some good, solid research on what exactly humour does physiologically." And if scientists prove humour is healthy, we may end up having lessons in laughter. "In the school system, maybe there'll be greater awareness of how important it is for children to develop a good sense of humour," says Martin. "And teachers would be promoting that."

In the end, of course, it's all speculation. But as author John M. Richardson Jr. said, "When it comes to the future, there are three kinds of people: those who let it happen, those who make it happen and those who wonder what happened."

It's safe to say a lot of Western experts will fall squarely into that second category. ☺



Decisions today determine future of planet

David Suzuki

Suzuki's words of wisdom to Trois Pistoles grads

Acclaimed environmentalist and broadcaster David Suzuki received an honorary degree August 10 at a special convocation ceremony at the Trois-Pistoles campus of The University of Western Ontario in Quebec as the French Immersion School celebrated its 75th anniversary.

*Suzuki is host of the long-running CBC television show *The Nature of Things* and author of more than 40 books. Born in Vancouver, Suzuki attended Central Secondary School in London. He was a professor at the University of British Columbia in Vancouver from 1969 until his retirement in 2001 and a professor emeritus with UBC's Sustainable Development Research Institute.*

Suzuki has received numerous awards recognizing his science, his teaching, his broadcasting, writing and civil rights activities.

By David Suzuki, LLD'07

I am doubly thrilled and honoured to receive this degree today. I grew up in London, so I feel this degree from Western comes from my hometown, and to receive it in Quebec, allows me to thank Quebecers for the support they gave to us at the Kyoto Conference in 1997 and for providing leadership on the environment to the rest of Canada.

Thank you for this honour.

Have you ever noticed how people see the world from the perspective of their profession?

Meeting a dentist, they look at your teeth; doctors ask about your health, teachers talk about education.

Well, I'm a geneticist.

As I look out on the students here, I see the results of genetic experiments when a sperm and an egg combined to

start your life. And mom and dad had a lot of fun starting you off.

And now as you sit here, you and your parents must feel pretty good – an experiment well done. Congratulations to you all.

This is a remarkable moment in the history of life on this planet.

Students graduating today will spend their entire lives in a world fundamentally different from the one your parents and grandparents were born into.

You've heard the stories:

- 90 per cent of large fish in oceans are gone
- 35 per cent more carbon dioxide in the atmosphere than 150 years ago
- most of the forests of the world invaded
- toxic pollution in air, water, soil
- species estimated to be disappearing at 50,000 a year

As we watch the inability of politicians to grapple with the crisis of climate change, it is clear, we are at a crucial point where our decisions or failure to act, will determine the fate of humankind and countless animals and plants.

This is the moment.

How did we arrive at this unprecedented moment?

I'm a biologist and I think in evolutionary terms.

Earth was formed about 4.5 billion years ago.

Life arose very soon after about 3.9 billion years.

Humans appeared in Africa about 200,000 years ago – we are an infant species.

Try to imagine what the world was like 200,000 years ago.

- there were still mammoths, saber-toothed tigers and giant sloths
- the plains of Africa were teeming with wondrous creatures when this two-legged, fearless ape – us – appeared.

Thought of this way, we were not very impressive.

- there weren't many of us
- we weren't big, fast, strong
- we didn't have special senses

How could we ever have thought we could take over the planet in only 200,000 years?

Well, of course, one big advantage was a huge brain which conferred memory, curiosity, creativity, and that more than compensated for our lack of physical and sensory ability.

And that brain did something unique – it invented the idea of a future – the future doesn't exist. There is only now and our memory of the past.

“But because we invented the idea of a future, we are the only animal that realized we could affect the future by what we do now.”

If we look ahead, recognize the dangers, see the opportunities, then we could act deliberately to avoid the dangers and exploit the opportunities. Foresight, looking ahead was the critical ability that gave us an advantage – and look where it brought us.

In only 200,000 years, we have occupied every continent on Earth; we are now the most numerous mammal on the planet. There are more of us than all the rabbits, rats or mice.

But we are not rabbits or rats or mice.

Each of us has an enormous amount of technology used on our behalf to deliver our food, water, transportation, clothing, entertainment, etc.

And we have a tremendous appetite for stuff – we love to shop.

So, when you add up our numbers, technology and consumption, you can see how we have become such a powerful force.

So powerful, in fact, that for over 40 years, leading scientists have warned us we are heading along a dangerous path.

Those scientists are using foresight, look ahead, see dangers and opportunities.

Now scientists and engineers have computers, telecommunication, yet we are turning our backs – we say “I don't believe it,” “This is junk science,” “It will ruin the economy,” “It costs too much.”

So, this is the challenge of today's youth who will inherit a greatly changed and poorer world.

You will have to weigh the pros and cons, listen to the discussions and decide on a path into the future.

That's what an education should be doing – providing you with the tools to deal with these challenges.

It's a daunting task but I feel hopeful as I look at the eager faces of today's young people.

Bon chance. Merci. ☺



Recognize an outstanding family member or colleague by nominating them for a prestigious Alumni Award of Merit in the following categories:

- Dr. Ivan Smith Award, Alumni Western's highest honour
- Professional Achievement Award
- Community Service Award
- Young Alumni Award

Awards are presented annually during Homecoming celebrations.

Deadline for receipt of 2008 nominations is Friday, March 28, 2008

For more information, visit www.alumni.uwo.ca/awards or call 1-800-258-6896 or 519-661-2199 or e-mail alumni@uwo.ca

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Welcome to climate change central

Western engineering professor Greg Kopp investigating the devastation of Hurricane Katrina firsthand in 2005, predicted in 2002 says Gord McBean and a 'preventable disaster.'

Research facilities ahead of their time

By Ron Johnson, BA'96

Oh, what a difference a decade makes. Just 10 years ago, research facilities like the Biotron and the engineering department's Claudette MacKay-Lassonde Pavilion, dubbed the Green Building, along with organizations such as the Institute for Catastrophic Loss Reduction were just twinkles in the eyes of University of Western Ontario faculty movers and shakers with an eye to the future. Now, thanks to a political and social climate crying out for help with the challenge of global warming, these leading-edge projects are just months away from opening their doors. So, where do we go from here?

It is called "adaptation," and it is the future of climate change research. Once all the haggling over emissions targets and greenhouse gas reductions finally reaches a conclusion, alternatives and new options will be needed. Adaptation will hold court, and in the decade to come Western is uniquely positioned to be one of, if not the, leading climate change research centres in the world.

"It is fascinating," says Dr. Norm Huner. "I can see it right now, this beautiful Biotron and it is fantastic. I'm really excited to actually, physically see it."

Huner, biology professor and Scientific Director of the new Biotron gazes at the structure taking shape outside the window of his office in the North Campus building on Perth Drive. But he's been visualizing it in his head, and planning it on paper since the late-90s.

By the spring of 2008, the \$30-million

Biotron (a collaborative project with the University of Guelph) will be open, and within the following year, it will be fully operational. On the highest level of 'containment' research scientists will shower and dress in gowns before entering and exiting one of six biomes. Air will be circulated through filter after filter after filter. A marvel of engineering, the research conducted in the Biotron will be unlike anything else on the planet. Here, a virtual United Nations of the scientific community numbering from 100 to 150 people will conduct research and find answers. Answers to one of the most vital issues of the day: How will we live with the now-inevitable impacts of a warming planet?

"The Biotron is an experimental change research facility," says Huner. "All the research done now, the accumulated monitoring of climate change, is very

important. However, there is no way to determine cause and effect relationships.

“The role of the Biotron is to fill that gap and try to understand how biological organisms are effected by climate change, and the capacity to change in response to climate change.”

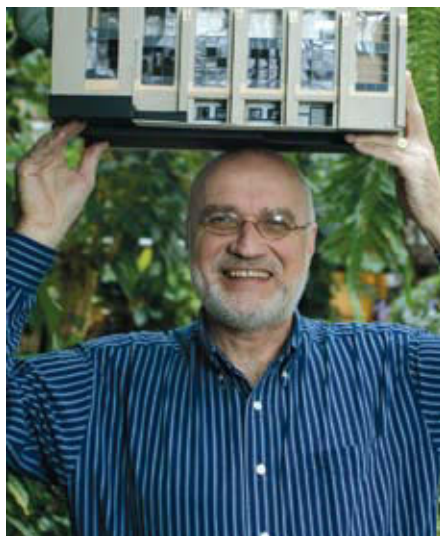
The Biotron has been called a decade ahead of its time, says Huner, because for one reason the facility brings together a range of scientists from molecular biologists and biochemists to ecologists.

“Climate change and its impact on bio-organisms presents such a complex problem that you need input from all these areas and there are very few, if any, facilities around the world that actually allow that to happen,” explains Huner.

The natural environment under the microscope at the Biotron is one side of the global warming coin. The other, is the built environment, and that is where the Department of Engineering's \$22-million, 55,000-sq. ft. “Green Building” enters the University's climate change picture.

Not only is the Green Building a model of energy efficiency and environmental sustainability in its design and construction (seeking LEED – Leaders in Energy and Environmental Design – certification at the Gold Level), the building will also be what Dr. Franco Berruti, Dean of Engineering, calls a “living lab,” with the roof and building being constantly monitored with results displayed in real-time. But the real beauty of the facility is what is going to happen on the inside.

Western Engineering, says Berruti,



Dr. Norm Huner, Scientific Director of the Biotron.

has already developed a major position as a leader in green technologies and products thanks to the pioneering work of Prof. Bergougnou, who has been recognized worldwide for more than 25 years. The Green Building will propel the department to the highest level.

According to Berruti, the upper two floors of the building will be used for research in the field of green technologies, processes and products.

“For example, research in the field of the use of solar energy for water and air purification, in the area of environmentally friendly solvents and materials, in the field of renewable fuels and chemicals produced using agricultural and forestry residues, and research on fuel cells and bio-fuel cells,” he says.

“Much of the research is dedicated to the development of new and innovative technologies to reduce the use of fossil fuels. And, correspondingly, to increase the utilization of carbon-neutral renewable sources of energy and of materials (biofuels, solar and wind energy, fuel and biofuel cells),” explains Berruti.

“We are expecting to develop novel and innovative technologies that will be rapidly commercialized and will benefit Canada and the rest of the world.”

While innovative new alternatives for the natural and built environment are being developed, it is Dr. Gord McBean and his crew at the Institute of Catastrophic Loss Reduction that will need to convince the powers-that-be to take these alternatives seriously. In part, by demonstrating the cost — the environmental cost but also the economic, social and health costs — of ignoring the problem.

Originally established by the Insurance Bureau of Canada to focus on how to prevent natural disasters, the ICLR is an independent, not-for-profit research institute originally started by Western alumnus Paul Kovacs. Dr. McBean, was brought over from Environment Canada in 2000 to act as research chair for the organization.

The institute is billed as “a world-class centre for multi-disciplinary disaster prevention research.”

McBean rhymes off a myriad of dire statistics and predictions associated with climate change and its impacts over



Dr. Gord McBean, Institute of Catastrophic Loss Reduction.


the coming decades. Greenhouse gases stay in the atmosphere for a hundred years. There are more than 470 natural disasters per year around the world and that number is expected to increase five or six times over the next 50 years. In the past 30 years, there have been on average eight or nine days with temperatures of more than 30 degrees Celsius, but in 10 years that number could be close to 30 and 60 days by the end of the century. Thirty-five thousand people died in a record heat wave in Europe in August of 2003, and that is going to happen with increasing regularity. What of Hurricane Katrina? McBean says it was predicted as early as 2002, and was a preventable disaster. But how?

“At ICLR we worry about these sorts of things,” says McBean. According to him, the answer, at least in part, is our ability to adapt. We need to adapt in all facets of our lives from the design of our houses, to our water supply, to the crops we plant.

“We need to build in resilience,” says McBean. “We need to rebuild in ways that account for the future, rather than look to the past.”

If you think that trying to convince a politician that we need to start thinking about 50 or 100 years into the future is a tough sell, McBean couldn't agree more.

“It is a difficult issue and a difficult sell,” he says.

“A Minister basically said the same thing to me, and I told him you don't do it for yourself, you do it for your grandchildren.” 

BROADENING of the mind

Tim Crawford has held a number of positions in the field of education over the past 40-plus years: secondary school teacher qualified in business studies, math, history and instrumental music; author of four computer textbooks, a workbook, numerous teacher manuals;

and designer of “learning-type” computer software. While on loan for two years to Queen’s Park he helped design business studies and computer studies curriculum, and helped write a comprehensive Ministry of Education policy on the use of microcomputers in the classroom. As a

result of all his writing, he was called on to give many workshops on business courses and computers across the province as well as across Canada. He gave key note speeches on the future of education, in Switzerland, The Netherlands, Orlando and Dallas.

Education in the year 2037

By Tim Crawford, BA’60, BEd (U of T), and MEd (OISE, U of T)

Will the 21st century be looked upon a millennium from now as being ‘primitive’?

While 1,000 years is too remote to effectively ponder, there are indicators today which could be extrapolated into the near future – like 30 years from now – of the education your grandchildren or great-grandchildren might experience in the “classroom of the future.”

Terra and Pico

Terra is a seven-year-old girl living in the year 2037. In today’s terms she is a prodigy, not just in one area, but in many areas. She is happy and a well-adjusted girl. Strangely, her friends are also prodigies making her just a typical child.

What has happened during three decades to produce such an amazing generation?

Using powerful software and technology, brain researchers, educational and psychological theorists, and humorists created the almost perfect personal teacher. It’s a robot doll with the generic name of Pico.

Pico monitors Terra’s maturation, educational “readiness,” the development of her various aptitudes and talents. It would “probe,” as Marshall McLuhan would say, for a myriad of teachable moments. When each is identified, it presents educational fun-and-games to Terra, to capitalize on that potential.

Pico is the ultimate teacher, mentor, muse and coach. It is always there to help and to encourage. It is always patient, humorous, and understanding. Pico is also a confidant and close friend – an invaluable guide to Terra’s mental health.

Of course, Terra has many human friends with whom she plays. With the exception of a few nations, every child in the world now has a Pico. Impoverished children, including those emotionally impoverished, have a kind, encouraging, patient, robotic friend. What would have been a dismal life three decades ago, is a life full of potential, enrichment and opportunity.

Pico’s massive curriculum is not only in traditional areas, but in types of knowledge and skills, which educators in the early 21st Century could not envision.

Bill and Oprah, Where Are You?

There is currently a bottleneck in the development of Pico. To solve the problem society first needs to develop a mindset that spectacular educational opportunities are possible, then make them a priority. Movers-and-shakers – Bill Gates and Oprah Winfrey come to mind – need to step to the plate.

Public and private financing will create a new sector of human development engineers led by developmental psychologists and educational theorists.

Educational Theories Missing From the Classroom

There are at this time powerful ideas about education that simply are impossible to implement, either in

the home or the classroom. This is an important point: there are currently brilliant thinkers, with profound ideas on education, but their ideas are not implemented for a couple of reasons:

i) the typical classroom teacher is not aware of the theories;

ii) and even if a teacher is aware, faced with 25 or 30 students, that teacher is unable to apply the theories.

There will come a time when educational software will easily apply these theories.

Example Theories:

Benjamin Bloom developed the notion that the mind is capable of seven levels of thinking.

7. EVALUATION
6. SYNTHESIS
5. ANALYSIS
4. APPLICATION
3. INTERPRETATION
2. TRANSLATION
1. MEMORIZATION, rote learning

There is plenty of the lower level thinking taking place in today’s classroom. Likely few of the higher levels are purposefully experienced. Pico coaches Terra into using all levels.

Other theorists worth mentioning include: Piaget – ages and stages of child development; de Bono – types of thinking (divergent and lateral); and Gardner – multiple (7) types of intelligence

This partial list could be challenged, revised, and over the next 30 years, significantly expanded. The point is, there are exciting theories that are not being applied.

Spectacular Curriculum

Consider one subject for one grade. What if the best math teacher in the world applied all the known educational theories, and used highly interactive, game-theory software to deliver Grade 5 math to literally every child in the world? What an achievement!

Expand this to all math curriculum. Extend this to master-teacher curriculum for geography, history, psychology, accounting, and science – all delivered in a highly entertaining way. Now add similar curriculum for music and art. Include coaching strategies in the wide variety of athletics.

Imagine a personal master teacher for each of many foreign languages available to all students. Every child could be multilingual by the critical age of 12.

Monitoring

Almost all actions of the child will be “successful.” The pacing will be “readiness-sensitive.” There will be a balance between concentration and relaxation.

The monitoring could include promoting good mental health, a positive self-esteem, and good interpersonal relationships. The progress up the hierarchy of moral function (Google Kohlberg) will be purposefully developed.

The privacy of the child would be protected. Group results, however, of various lessons and strategies would be collected and analyzed. The software would be refined and expanded to incorporate “new knowledge” about the brain and how children learn.

A profound question: If almost all children in 2030s receive this education what would be the very nature of civilization in the year 2060?

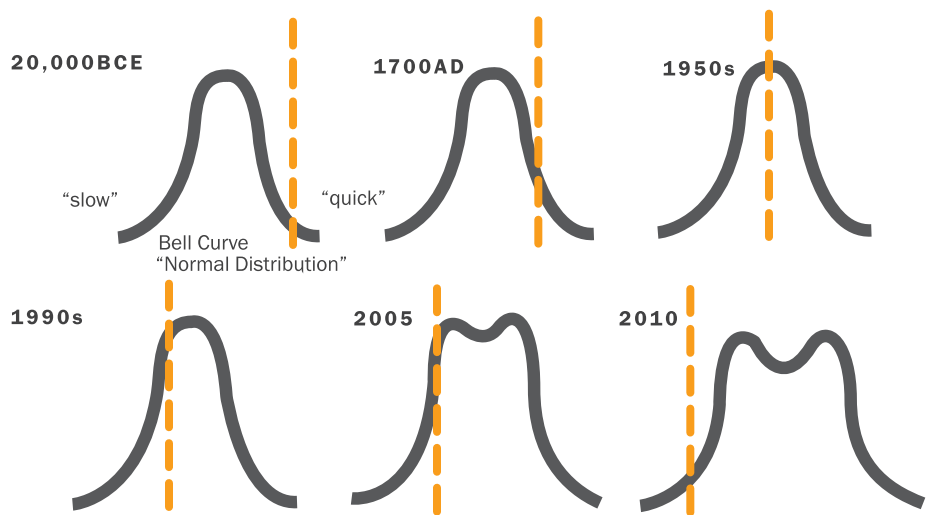
Will the Mind Change?

Aptitudes and Talents

Some people live and die without being aware of an aptitude or talent they have, much less having them developed to any degree. No more. Every known aptitude or talent – the list is long -- will have been periodically probed, and cultivated when identified.

There could be new aptitudes for which no label has been created.

TRENDS IN HUMAN INTELLIGENCE



An I.Q. Shift

Almost all known functions of the mind will be very well developed. Using the notion of I.Q. as a tool, the median I.Q. will shift once again so that the median of “100” will be re-assigned to what is currently “125.”

The collective-brain will become “smarter.” New levels of thinking will develop. The child’s functional vocabulary will triple creating a profound effect on the power to think, and the power to communicate.

I.Q. tests will expand to assess new thought processes and dramatically expanded vocabulary.

New Brain Functions

In addition to having the known potentials of the mind fully developed, and new aptitudes, new brain functions will appear.

Children will receive powerful guidance in: compiling facts, analysis, synthesis, identifying trends and extrapolation of trends. They will gain powerful experiences in the cause-and-effect of manipulating variables in simulations (SimCity). They will formulate possible options and possibilities, in other words, plausible predictions. An analogy could be the current software that is continually being refined to forecast the direction of mid-Atlantic hurricanes.

In effect there will be new thinking patterns.

There have been two evolutionary developments unique to humans: i) the

development of speech and language, ii) and, the development of the front part of the brain, the human part – a major area for planning, cause-and-effect judgments, and impulse control.

A third evolution might take place on the frontal lobe. In any event, a centre will evolve based on some combination of increased skills in application, analysis, synthesis, evaluation, extrapolation, meditation, focus and intuition.

The mind will expand in power, capability and function. The positive impact on civilization will be profound.

Making All This Happen

What if Bill Gates of Microsoft, and Oprah Winfrey, sat down for a coffee.

Bill: “You know Oprah, we could deliver a free computer (Pico) to every child in the world. It could deliver a revolutionary curriculum.”

Oprah: “Really? Imagine the impact on the children! Come on Bill, let’s do it.”

Now, someone go tell Bill and Oprah.

Tim Crawford has finalized a major manuscript on education called the *Broadening of the Mind*, which is a futuristic look at education three decades from now that will be available in 2008. For more information, contact the author at: ctimcrawford@aol.com

HISTORIES OF THE FUTURE

PRESERVING NEWBORN DIGITAL DATA

BY WILLIAM J. TURKEL, ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF HISTORY

Every generation has some sense of what the future will be like. Over time, what seems futuristic becomes retro-futuristic at best. Now aerodynamic fins on cars, nuclear-powered appliances, videophones and personal jetpacks have become historical sources in their own right. They're interesting to historians because they suggest the potential, the imagination of what might have been. Like historical narratives, the visions of science fiction purport to be about some other time, but they're really about the present.

Students in the Public History MA program at Western have an opportunity that is unique in Canada. From their first day they are exposed to new technologies

and asked to think about the potential, and potential pitfalls, of digital history. The students digitize primary sources, create online archives, build websites, learn to customize search engines, and create "mashups," sites that integrate live information on-the-fly from multiple databases. Each student writes his or her own professional weblog, taking on the mantle of public historian and building an online reputation.

In our digital history coursework, we take the perspective of interaction design. This is an interdisciplinary field that stresses the ways that computers and communication technologies mediate relationships between people, between people and information, and between people and their environments. In a previous year, for example, the public

history students worked with Museum London to create a walking tour of the Old East that made use of GPS-enabled handheld computers. As people walked around the neighbourhood, they used the handhelds to access archival sources that were tied to particular places, like old photographs of buildings and streetscapes.

Digital history has been generously supported at Western. In 2004, Professor Shelley McKellar received Western's Fellowship in Teaching Innovation, and used the funding to create an online medical artifact database that is now used for teaching in the program. The following year I received the same award to introduce handheld computers into our curriculum. Next spring we will begin

new technologies like search engines and data mining software make it easier than ever to find things.

These technologies also introduce new forms of bias into the research process. Think for a moment about Google, which handles more than 90 million search requests a day. Given the fact that most people look only at the first 10 or 20 hits, the algorithms that determine search engine ranking are clearly shaping what people find. In fact, I would argue that search engine ranking is the single most pervasive form of bias that has ever existed in the research process.

As the public history students learn about today's technologies, they are also confronted with a large serving of near-future prediction and speculation. Research around the world suggests that we may soon be able to create a digital record of everything that happens to us in a



Magazine covers courtesy of Charles Shopsin of ModernMechanix.com.

construction of a \$150,000 Historical Data Centre with the assistance of the Provost's Academic Support Fund.

The significance of digital history in the present moment—as public and digital historian Roy Rosenzweig has argued—lies in the fact that we are rapidly shifting from a culture of scarcity to one of abundance. We used to define historical projects in terms of an exhaustive reading of one or a few archival collections. Projects were given clear spatial and temporal boundaries, and we knew that we were finished when we had read all of the sources. Such an approach no longer makes sense. Digital collections are growing exponentially; many sources like e-mail, newspaper articles, images, sound files and video are now "born digital"; and

lifetime; that every object of significance in the world will have its own internet address, so that you could Google for your lost keys instead of looking for them; that it will soon be possible to "print out" a bicycle, an electric guitar, even a "printer" that can print out anything; that microscopic robots will live in our blood and repair our tissues.

Whatever the future holds, the one thing that we can be certain of is that it won't look anything like we imagine it. By attending carefully to the present, however, our students will be best prepared to create the histories of the future.

For more information about public and digital history at Western see <http://history.uwo.ca/gradstudy/publichistory/> 

PHOTO CONTEST



More prize money + more categories!

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Entry format: 8" x 10" (or larger) print (Do not submit 4 x 5-inch snapshots)

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Campus – Photos of architecture, nature, people or any other happenings on Western's beautiful award-winning campus

Nature – Landscapes, plants, animals, trees, birds, bodies of water, wildlife, any natural setting in Canada or from around the world

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Digitally Enhanced – Photos enhanced by Photoshop or any other computer photography software that does NOT include simple sizing and cropping of photos. Digitally enhanced photos can be buildings, architecture, vehicles, people, portraits, landscape, nature, etc. It's wide open as far as subject matter is concerned (within the realm of good taste).

A digitally enhanced photo could feature: isolating single colours while printing the remainder of the photo in black and white; removing features of the original photo – including people, background, etc.; adding people, animals or objects that were not part of the original; changing the colour of the sky. Digital enhancement should involve creativity – not just simple adjustments that can be done in a traditional darkroom. Printing on different kinds of photo paper or adding a sepia tone, for example, is NOT considered digital enhancement.

Prizes – First prize in each category – \$400
One Runner-up prize in each category – \$100 each

Limit one entry per person.

Entries must include photographer's full name, degree and year, address, telephone number and a brief explanation of the photograph, how it was taken and in which category it is being entered. Photos of people must be accompanied by a statement signed by the photographer that those depicted have given permission for the photograph to be published. People in the photos must be identified.

If there is any digital enhancement of the photos, it must be declared and entered in the Digitally Enhanced category.

Entries not meeting these requirements or formatted improperly will not be judged. Entries will not be returned.

Contest open only to alumni of The University of Western Ontario who are not employees and/or officers of the University.

Deadline for entries
Friday, January 25, 2008

Winners will be announced online
at www.alumnigazette.ca and in
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**Send entries to: Western Alumni Gazette – Photo Contest, Communications and Public Affairs,
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For more information, please e-mail: dscott24@uwo.ca

Helping alleviate AIDS in Kenya

Probiotic yogurt project expands in Africa

By Douglas Keddy, BA'98 (Huron)

HIV/AIDS patients of all ages – their faces, long as the queue – line-up out the hospital door in a region where the infection rate is down from 25 per cent a year ago – to 17 per cent. A technician sits half-in, half-out the doorway, drawing patients' blood samples, but he's not wearing latex gloves. The hospital cannot afford them. Today, at least, there is electricity.

This is the scene at the Rachuonyo District Hospital of Oyugis in rural Kenya when a team from Western and Lawson Health Research Institute visits on an October morning punctuated by the cloying heat. Researchers are seeking permission to include some of the hospital's 5,000 HIV/AIDS patients in a baseline study of probiotic yogurt associated with the expansion of the Western Heads East project (WHE) to Kenya.

Launched in Mwanza, Tanzania three years ago by Western staff and faculty, WHE collaborates with local women's groups to provide sustainable learning and research opportunities by introducing probiotic yogurt as a means of addressing malnutrition and HIV/AIDS. The yogurt has been named 'Fiti' – Swahili for 'health'. The project's entrée into Kenya was forged by last fall's successful funding application to The World Bank, led by Western geography professor Isaac Luginaah. "My argument has always been: 'Who brings food, brings life,'" he says.

Working with local Kenyan partners, the baseline study will measure levels of CD4 (a glycoprotein expressed on cells and an important marker for a healthy immune system) to determine if probiotics affect immunity for HIV/AIDS, study children's height and weight to establish significant nutritional benefits, and determine if episodes and duration of infection diminish with consumption of Fiti.

To this point, concern about profit margins has largely kept commercial companies from turning their attention to Africa, leaving WHE to become the



Children gather across from the proposed new community kitchen that will be home to Western Heads East's expansion to Oyugis, Kenya.

first to introduce probiotics – which means "for life" – to Kenya. "Why should I benefit just because I live in Canada?" says Lawson Scientist and Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry professor, Gregor Reid. "We develop these technologies for the betterment of humankind and I feel we need to reach people who can benefit from them even if they are last on the list for profit-driven businesses."

The project offers a positive step toward helping those suffering from HIV/AIDS. Thus far, the most documented benefit of probiotic cultures is for remediation of diarrhoea, a condition that kills a child every 12 seconds and afflicts up to 90 per cent of those living with HIV/AIDS. Probiotics can also help enhance immunity, a major factor for these patients, whose immune system is compromised by the virus. "In Tanzania, we have seen increased energy, especially in children, possibly because of a reduction in energy-draining diarrhoea," says Reid, who adds that a woman without lactobacilli bacteria (the strain used in Fiti) in her vagina may also be four times more likely to contract HIV.

Navigating uneven roads carved from dense red clay, the team proceeds to the Kokal village to meet the project's new 'yogurt mamas' – the Oranda women's group, whose 22 members will make and distribute Fiti. Poverty in the area grips you like the dry dust that coats your lungs, but clean water is scarce, so there's little to soothe your

parched throat but Coca-Cola, which is – frighteningly – seven times cheaper than potable water.

"We are very happy for your visit – together, we know we are going to overcome this problem," says Bertha Onyngo, Oranda's chairperson.

"We have more bacteria in us than human cells," he says. "Our goal is to replenish good bacteria because efforts to sterilize everything out of fear of bad bacteria have tilted the see-saw away from its natural balance."

With help from WHE and local Kenyan collaborators, the mamas will begin producing Fiti for their community in early 2008. "This is the only project like this in all of Kenya, so you are leading the way for the country," Reid tells them. With additional assistance from some friendly bacteria, hopes are high that the health of children and adults in this poverty-stricken area will improve, and that HIV/AIDS infection rates will also continue to fall.

WHE members Isaac Luginaah, Gregor Reid (and his daughter, Jennifer) and PhD student Maryanne Kamau, as well as Western's Research Communications Coordinator, Douglas Keddy, visited a number of rural Kenyan communities and the project's home in Mwanza, Tanzania in October 2007. For a more detailed account of their journey, please visit:

<http://www.atwestern.typepad.com/dkeddy/>



Limited Edition Prints

— ASPECTS OF LONDON —

London artist Andrew Stewart's long awaited collection "Aspects of London" is now making its debut exclusively to the Western Alumni Gazette. Prints include Middlesex College, University College, and The Richard Ivey School of Business, plus a variety of London's more notable landmarks and personal favorites. Each watercolor is printed on acid free textured paper and inspected for colour accuracy and quality before being signed and numbered by the artist. **Urgent Note!!** Your prompt response is critical. Due to the limited edition of 500 signed prints of each image, the demand could rapidly exceed availability. Email andrew.stewart@rogers.com to reserve your order today. Not sold in stores or galleries.



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ANDREW STEWART



Western takes centre ice in CBC's MVP

Western alumna Deborah Odell, left, as Evelyn in the CBC hockey series MVP.

Hockey series shot in London

By Jeff Renaud

Desperate Housewives meets Hockey Night in Canada. What's not to love?

Especially when the cast and crew of CBC's upcoming drama series, MVP, boasts a lineup loaded with Western alumni talent.

Oh, and by the way, the name of the team positioned at centre ice of this surefire hockey-insider hit? What else, but the Mustangs. (Although, according to show's co-creator Mary Young Leckie, the Mustang moniker is sheer coincidence).

Filmed in and around the Forest City this summer and fall, taping MVP served as a homecoming of sorts for two of its lead actors: singing and

acting double threat Deborah Odell, BA'90, and Tony-nominated Mamma Mia! star Louise Pitre, BMus'79, DMus'06.

At Western, Odell studied English and was considering law as her profession of choice but found her true calling as a performer on stage with the legendary Rick McGhie.

"Egged on by my friends, I used to go up and sing a few songs with

Rick McGhie at The Spoke during study breaks,” laughed Odell during a break from shooting MVP at the John Labatt Centre. “It was so much fun and I really felt like myself on stage.”

Pleased with her McGhie ‘duets,’ Odell headed to Toronto for fame and fortune at an open call as a back up singer for Julio Iglesias’ world tour.

Much to her surprise, she landed her first professional gig and followed up the tour by playing Pearl in the German production of Andrew Lloyd Webber’s *Starlight Express*.

Upon returning to Toronto, Odell shifted her focus to acting and has since appeared in more than 50 feature films and TV shows, including *Godsend* with Robert DeNiro and most recently in the premiere episode of SCI FI’s *The Dresden Files*, guest-starring as the supernatural villain Ms. Timmons.

“It’s already been quite a journey and it all started here in London at Western. It’s great to back in town. It brings back a lot of great memories,” said Odell, who was born in St. John’s, Newfoundland and raised in Mississauga. “One of the greatest gifts I learned while at Western was time management and work balance. Both have served me well in a career that has taken me around the world.”

In MVP, Odell plays Evelyn McBride, the wife of the Mustangs’ aging hockey star. Without giving away too much about the pilot – which is set to debut in January, 2008 – tragedy strikes the McBride household from on high, literally, and Evelyn is left to pick up the pieces.

“It’s a wonderful role. Evelyn goes through so much, even in the first episode. She is a strong woman and we get to see her at her best and worst. She is also very intelligent woman and funny, too,” explained Odell.

Pitre is pleased with her role, as well. Although Pitre’s description of her character – team shareholder Taff Baron – is not as glowing as Odell’s take on Evelyn.

“She is a rich, hard-handed, well, let’s just say it, she’s a bitch,” quipped Pitre from her home in northern Ontario. “My character befriends Deborah’s character.”

“If we get picked up for a second



Photo courtesy of CBC-TV

Alumna Louise Pitre plays Taff in MVP.

season, Taff becomes one of the real power players so I hope that happens,” said Pitre, who was awarded an honorary degree from Western in 2006. “And it’s a nice change because lately I have been playing moms. Now I get to wear beautiful designer clothes, which are a lot of fun, not be a sweet, nice mother in housecoats and long dresses.”

Pitre, an internationally-recognized performer, has won numerous theatre awards including the Dora Mavor Moore in Toronto, the National Broadway Touring Award in New York, a special award from the San Francisco Theatre Critics Circle, a New York Theatre World Award, as well as earning a Tony nomination for her role in *Mamma Mia!*

In 2001, after runs in Toronto, Chicago, Los Angeles, and San Francisco, Pitre made her Broadway debut when the Abba-inspired breakout hit opened at New York’s Winter Garden Theatre.

“I would love to do more TV. It’s very different from live theatre. We actually get the weekends off,” laughed Pitre. “When you are on stage, you


tell a complete story every time. With MVP, I fly down to London for two days, do my scenes and fly home.”

Pitre says her return to London really struck a personal chord when she taped a scene at one of the city’s finest restaurants.

“It really hit me when I had to tape one of my scenes at Auberge du Petit Prince. I worked there right after I finished university. It was a very special place to me, and still is. But like everything else in London, it has changed so much,” said Pitre.

Pitre and her husband, playwright W.J. Matheson, returned to London in October as Pitre starred in *Could You Wait?* at the Grand Theatre.

“Joe is always saying we should just buy a home in London as we have been working there so much lately,” said Pitre.

Other Mustang ties to MVP include recent Film Studies/English graduate Stephanie Chris, BA’04, who is serving as assistant to the executive producer and current Film Studies student Drake Birmann, who is on set as a trainee assistant director. 

Corporate quarterbacks in world of football

Western's gridiron presence north & south of the border

By Kevin Glew

One stayed in Canada and the other went to the U.S., but both of these Western grads are scoring touchdowns in their executive positions in professional football.

Michael Copeland, LLB'93, MBA'99, the Canadian Football League's (CFL) chief operating officer, and Chris Overholt,

BA'87, the Miami Dolphins' vice-president, marketing partnerships and new media, could be considered quarterbacks in their current roles, serving as inspirational leaders and chief motivators for their employees.

"A smart guy I used to work for says to me all the time, 'It's not the people above you that pull you up, it's the people around you that push you up,'" says Overholt. The Western alumnus is in charge of corporate sponsorships and media initiatives for the Dolphins.

"My chief responsibilities are to grow our marketing and partnerships business which is our sponsor business and our media business (including Internet)," says Overholt.

In his role with the CFL, Copeland oversees the financial, legal and strategic planning aspects of the league, as well as football operations. "Because we're a relatively small office,

it gives me the opportunity to get involved in a wide variety of things," he says.

Both graduates have jobs where they not only face scrutiny from their

bosses, but from fans as well.

"The Dolphins, for many around the world in fact, conjure up great memories, great images of some terrific players and some great teams," says Overholt. But tradition only carries a club so far, and one of Overholt's challenges has been creating a new brand position for the storied franchise. "The challenges are to do all the things we're trying to do with the brand and...to grow the business at a time when it's just challenging to compete," he explains.

Similarly, Copeland has helped create a new image for the CFL. During his reign, he has managed the implementation of the league's first salary cap system, finalized a new Collective Bargaining Agreement, negotiated a new broadcasting agreement and launched instant replay. One of his challenges is that the CFL's board of directors is comprised of eight team owners. "They're all competitors amongst themselves and they all have a vested interest in the success and growth of the league, so that provides a bit of a different dynamic than you may otherwise find in a normal company," notes Copeland.

Though he's had a passion for sports all his life, Copeland hadn't worked in the sports industry until he was hired by the CFL in January 2006. He graduated with a law degree from Western in 1993 and practised corporate and commercial law, before



returning for his MBA. He enjoyed stints with Deloitte Consulting, The Boston Consulting Group and Molson prior to his current post.

Unlike Copeland, Overholt did not opt for a business education at Western. After graduating with a Bachelor of Arts degree in 1987, Copeland worked in sales for London Life, but he had left this position by the time fellow Western grad, Jordan Bitove, asked him to join the Toronto Raptors in a corporate sales capacity. He has also held executive sales positions with Maple Leafs Sports & Entertainment Ltd. and the Florida Panthers.

“Looking back on it (his move to the Miami area) several years later, it was a good decision, but it certainly wasn’t without its challenges. This is a tough market and a particularly tough market for hockey, but it was great learning and it just gave me a broader perspective of the industry,” he said.

Overholt says the communication skills he acquired at Western have been invaluable to him. “Those courses give you the chance to get comfortable standing up and presenting in front of people. And

those things are all very important in my day-to-day role here,” he says.

Between law school and business school, Copeland spent seven years at Western. “Law school was a great way to teach you how to think, to teach you how to be disciplined in your thought, to teach you how to be structured,” he says. “Business school was a nice add-on to that



Michael Copeland, CFL's Chief Operating Officer.

in terms of getting practical knowledge, exposing you to issues and also exposing you to certain people.”

Both recall attending Mustangs football games.

“I was at the ’89 Vanier Cup victory and I have followed the team closely every year that they’ve played and been part of homecoming games and have been a huge, huge supporter of the Mustangs,” says Copeland. “And there’s been a nice internal rivalry around the office with other people’s alma maters. I always wave the Western flag when I can.”

But how does one go from cheering on the Mustangs to shaping the CFL’s future or to rubbing elbows with former Dolphin’s quarterback Dan Marino? Copeland says it takes passion, patience and networking skills. Overholt agrees.

“If I had to do it again...I would’ve tried to intern (with a sports team) during the day and wait on tables and bartend at night, because I did some of that when I was in university,” he says.

Seems like sound advice from two quarterbacks in the corporate world of football. 🏈

Alumni Relations finds new home at Westminster College



Newly renovated Westminster College.

More than 100 staff in the University’s External portfolio—including the Department of Alumni Relations—spent the last weeks of August moving from Alumni Hall and Stevenson-Lawson Building to newly renovated offices located in the former student residence building at Westminster College.

Located at the northeastern corner of campus near the intersection of Richmond Street and Windermere Road, Westminster College is also providing a new home to the departments of Development, Advancement Services, Communications and Public Affairs, and Foundation Western. These departments,

which collectively operate under Western’s Vice-President (External) Ted Garrard, are responsible for serving the needs of alumni, donors, friends and other important University constituencies.

The move comes as part of the University’s long-term strategy to devote space at the centre of campus to academic and student-related activities. As Garrard explains, the move will also provide some tangible benefits for anyone coming to campus to meet with External staff.

“Alumni, donors and other individuals who are visiting campus to meet with External staff will find our new location offers updated amenities, easier access, and lots of parking in close proximity to our offices,” says Garrard. “We look forward to welcoming everyone to our new home at Westminster.”

Garrard adds that the move represents the first time all departments within the External portfolio have been physically located under one roof, which will provide some important synergies

for staff working together to better serve their constituencies.

While email and telephone numbers remain unchanged for all relocated staff, ground mail should be directed to the appropriate department at the following address:

Westminster College, The University of Western Ontario, London, Ontario, N6A 3K7.

Also joining the External staff group at Westminster College are faculty and staff members in the Department of Psychology and the Dr. Mary J. Wright University Laboratory School, all of whom are relocating from their previous home in the Social Science Centre. More administrative staff currently located in the centre of campus will be moving in 2008 when the new Support Services Building, now under construction on Western Road near Saugeen-Maitland residence, is completed.

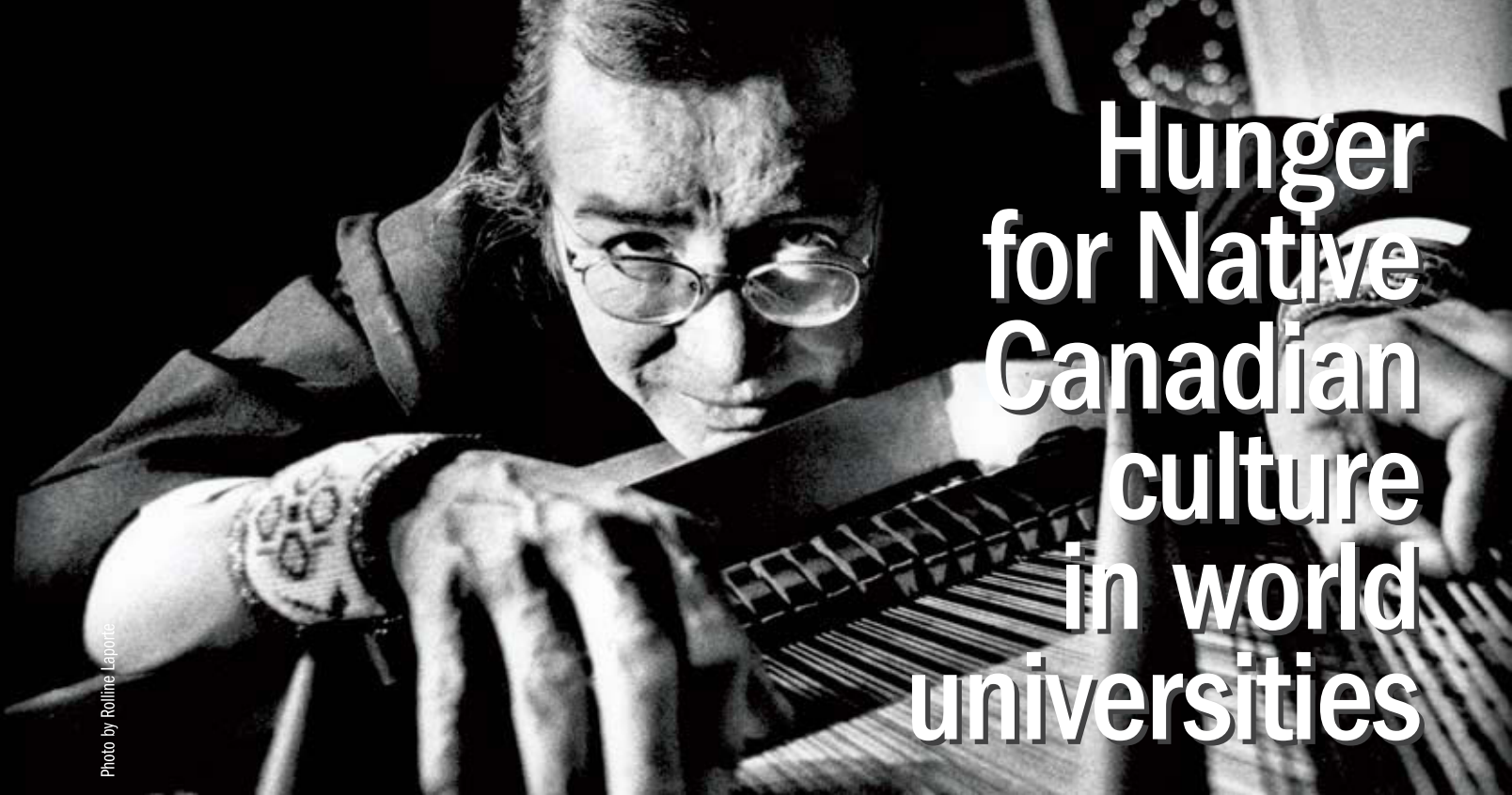


Photo by Rolline Laporte

Hunger for Native Canadian culture in world universities

Author, playwright and pianist Tomson Highway.

Nature is equal entity in aboriginal languages

By Tomson Highway, BMus'75
BA'76, LLD'93

Fifty years ago, there was no such thing as Canadian literature, not as a body that was recognized as such. In fact, it can be documented that the first course in Canadian literature ever to be offered as a credit at a Canadian university appeared in 1970. I remember clearly taking that course, at the University of Manitoba, as it turned out, in the academic year of 1971/72. I was astonished; I was electrified.

Why? Up to that point in time, every story I had ever read, whether in grade school, high school, university, or simply at home took place in London, Paris, or New York. Nothing ever happened in Canada. Certainly, nothing ever happened in northern Manitoba where I come from. And certainly, nothing ever happened in Cree, the language of my birth. We Canadians, that is to say, were nobodies, we did not count, we did not exist. Now, all of a sudden, here were stories that took place in Montreal, Toronto, London, Ontario, even Manitoba, in Margaret Laurence's now fabled little town of Neepawa, for example.

Around that time – that is, the period

when Native people first started going to university (and I was one of the first!) – a small, and foolhardy, bunch of us dared to imagine that if non-native Canadian people could do this, i.e. write stories that took place in Canada and featured Canadians, then we Native people could do likewise, with our communities, with our people, with our languages. And through the course of the next two decades, by hook or by crook, with great pain and discomfort, and against all odds, we managed to give birth to our own literary voice.

Stories suddenly started appearing that took place in Native communities across our country, stories took place on reserves, characters in plays and in novels spoke in Ojibway, for instance, poetry appeared that was written in Cree. And lo and behold, some 25 years later, we now have easily 200 professional and semi-professional Native writers across the country, from Halifax to Old Crow, Yukon where none existed before. We now have an industry where none existed before that provides employment for many people, editors, for instance, and publishing houses. We now have a voice, non-existent prior to 1982, that is heard not only clean across Canada but around the world. We are now officially human; we exist!

The last time I came across the statistic, I read there are 58 countries the

whole world over that have universities where credited courses in Canadian studies are offered. And a significant part of those studies are Native-Canadian studies. Spain, Australia, China, Italy, Finland, India, Russia, Japan, Greenland, Brazil, Estonia, Germany, New Zealand, France, Hungary, Czech Republic. And Poland. You name it, they give those courses. They can't wait for the next book to appear. They can't get enough. They love our voice. They find it important. No -- they find it essential. As a Native-Canadian writer wandering the world, you can feel this interest, this ardent curiosity, this commitment, this hunger.

At this point in our history as a people – and I mean this time the planet's population in its foolish entirety – where global disaster through prolonged environmental abuse faces us square in the face, the saving factor, some say, may just lie in the systems of thought and world view inherent in the very structure, in the very warp and weave of the Aboriginal languages themselves, languages, just for instance, where a tree has a living, breathing soul, just like us humans, where Nature is a living, breathing creature who's status is not inferior to ours but equal, where the wing of a finch, say, shimmering away on a sunny day in August, is a miracle, not a curse from an angry male god but a gift, a blessing from

a benevolent female one, where a woman is not a rib-bone but a human, just like a man, where the planet is a garden, and a sacred one at that, from which we have not been evicted, not yet anyway, least of all due to the actions of not a man but a woman. (I know, said in English, it sounds impossible, it sounds obscene, which is why one would pretty well have to wear a Native language like a coat or a second skin in order to comprehend implicitly,

explicitly, instinctually concepts so very fundamental to the long-term survival of a species known as “human.”)

And my attendance at this fabulous conference in Sosnowiec, Poland on May 10-11, 2007 only served to confirm all this. And by “this,” I mean “the importance of what we, the Native people of North America together with our languages, have to say about the planet, about human nature.” I loved this conference. I

loved every second of it. I love my friends in Poland. I love Poland. And I thank her for allowing our voices to be heard in this manner, for giving us a forum. ^W

Dr. Tomson Highway,
Stanley Knowles Distinguished
Visiting Professor
Brandon, University
Brandon, Manitoba

Smokes share **First Nations** experience with Polish students

Days of Canadian Culture highlighted by Western speakers

By Agnieszka Golda-Derejczyk, reporter
(with notes from David Scott)

Western was well represented at the Days of Canadian Culture at University of Silesia in Poland in May with First Nations Studies instructors Dan and Mary Lou Smoke and award winning author and playwright Tomson Highway, BMus’75, BA’76, LLD’93 as keynote speakers and presenters.

At the invitation of the director of the Canadian Studies Centre, Dr. Eugenia Sojka, as well as the Institute of British and American Culture and Literature, not only renowned Canadian native artists, writers, educators and academics came to Sosnowiec, but also elder tribal representatives of Canada’s First Nations such as: Haida, Ojibway, Cree, Namgis, and Metis from Saskatchewan. Following tradition, the honoured guest and patron of the event was the Canadian ambassador to Poland, David Preston.

Canadian Days – which took place this year May 10, 11 – is a cyclic event, becoming an ever greater focus of interest not only for students and faculty of the University of Silesia, but from other academic centres in Poland as well. Days of Canadian Culture was organized for the first time in April 2001.



Dan and Mary Lou Smoke during Days of Canadian Culture at University of Silesia in Poland.

This year’s program of the Days proved to be unusually rich. It included, among other presentations, lectures on the theme of Canadian Native culture and literature, a mini festival of films on Canadian themes and an academic symposium and workshops.

The first day was opened with a traditional ceremony conducted by Dan Smoke, representative of the Seneca Nation Iroquois Confederacy together with Mary Lou Smoke, representative of the Ojibway Nation. “I love to share the Sacred Traditions and Ceremonial Teachings we have received from our Turtle Island Grandmothers and Grandfathers. We were honoured to conduct the Days of Canadian Culture Opening and Ceremonies,” said Mary Lou. Later in the Modern Languages Reading Hall, the gathered students, faculty and

invited guests could listen to a series of presentations by Canadian artists and representative tribal elders.

Tomson Highway, founder of the first Aboriginal Canadian theatre, cited by Maclean’s weekly as one of the 100 most important figures of Canadian history, spoke of the place and role of Native Canadian literature in the contemporary world. Highway deserves great merit in the shaping of the development of American Indian dramatic arts. His multiple prize-winning works, *Dry Lips Oughta Move to Kapuskasing*, *The Rez Sisters*, *The Sage or Ernestine Shuswap Gets Her Trout*, translated into many languages, became a window into the reality of Canadian Native peoples. They are the subject of discussion in schools and universities around the world, and their texts are placed in anthologies among the works of such authors as

Tennessee Williams, Berthold Brecht and Harold Pinter.

Unusually interesting on the second day was the presentation of Dan and Mary Lou Smoke. Working as journalists, Dan and Mary Lou are involved in promoting the worldview of Canadian Native peoples in the press, radio and television. From 1991 they have been the hosts of the radio program "Smoke Signals" about aboriginal people of various countries and the urgency of cultural dialogue. They are also commentators for the local television station, "A-Channel London," reaching eight million viewers in southwestern Ontario. Mary Lou takes part in traditional pow wows, or tribal and inter-tribal gatherings, as well as aboriginal music festivals. She is also very engaged in resolving native women's issues, as well as those of other cultural groups, serving as an example of achieving deeper understanding among women of various worldviews and beliefs.

"We appreciated sharing with University of Silesia students in Katowice the truth of our peoples' history in Canada and how that relationship is still unfolding. Canadians believe their history books; they never take the opportunity to speak to a real First Nations person. We were able to share this knowledge of our lives, and to use our homeland's Sacred Medicines to help people in their understanding," says Mary Lou.

"The trip to University of Silesia was a cross-culture experience. We got to experience Polish hospitality, culture, life and identity. Our Polish hosts also got the reverse respect and treatment with respect to our culture and identity. We gave them a glimpse into our lives as First Nations peoples on our own territories. Many Polish people thought we were a conquered people, but we showed them we are doing our 'Victory Dance' by reclaiming our indigenous knowledge systems, our culture and identity," said Dan Smoke.

The Smokes acknowledge the support of Regna Darnell, Director, First Nations Studies Program who provided a

travel grant for the conference in Poland.

The opportunity for direct contact with Canadian culture - as Dr. Eugenia Sojka stated - permits students at the University of Silesia to abolish stereotypes and to verify their impressions of Canadian Indians. "We were captivated by their wisdom and great knowledge of both the indigenous and western worldviews. Their excellent lecture on the representation of First Nations cultures in media was an eye



Tomson Highway at Podium

opener," said Dr. Sojka of the Smokes.

"We explained the extraordinary measures that were levied against our culture and identity to solve 'the Indian problem.' There has to be 'extraordinary measure' taken today to ensure that our culture is celebrated and understood in a public way, across the land. Otherwise our history is one of assimilation and cultural genocide," said Dan Smoke. He said there was a cross-cultural respect when they learned how the Polish population was subjected to oppression and holocaust, in a similar way that Smoke's ancestors were subjected to a similar oppression and holocaust.

"We found strength in the Polish resolve to be proud of their culture and identity. We shared some of our ceremonies with the Canadian Cultures

conference, which benefited all who attended. Even the Canadian Ambassador to Poland said that 'our culture is not 'the lie' of being portrayed as savages and pagans represented in Canadian history books.' So, our cross-cultural experience was one of setting the record straight, and representing our history the way we see it, from our perspective, which is our collective truth," explained Dan Smoke.

Other presentations included: Andy Wilson (Haida), Haida Arts, Heritage Sites, and Repatriation; Armand Ruffo (Ojibway), The Art and Life of Norval Morrisseau: Man Changing Into Thunderbird; Jo-Ann Episkene (Métis Nation of Saskatchewan) Vera Manuel's play The Strength of Indian Women: Healing from Historical Trauma; Dawn Martin Hill (Mohawk, Wolf Clan) Indigenous Knowledge and Power; Laura Cranmer (Namgis First Nation) Film Black Robe: A Close-Up View; Angelina Weenie (Plains Cree, Sweetgrass First Nations' Band) "Nehiyaw Pimatisowin" (Cree Way Of Life): Circle Teachings For Life And Learning; Marcel Ashini (Innu) Tshikapisk Foundation : Innu hunting families finding ways to maintain links with the land; Colin Samson (University of Essex) The Quests of Indigenous Peoples to Resist Cultural Assimilation: Benefits of Hunting Lifestyles for the Innu of Canada. As well as several round table discussions and workshops.

Representing such a wide spectrum of culture and art of the aboriginal peoples of Canada, Days of Canadian Culture undoubtedly fulfilled the goal, as put forth by the organizers, of deepening knowledge on the theme of Canadian aboriginal peoples, overthrowing stereotypes and striking up a cultural dialogue. Both sides of this dialogue, Poland and Canada, undoubtedly emerged enriched by the experience of heterogeneous cultural exchange.

Translation by Wanda Sawicki, London, Ontario

Original article in Polish © Uniwersytet Śląski w Katowicach (University of Silesia in Katowice) <http://gu.us.edu.pl/index.php?op=artykul&rok=2007&miesiac=6&id=3992&type=normmiesiac=6&id=3992&type=norm> w

Building networks priority for education dean

By Paul Mayne

As the longest serving dean of education in Ontario, Julia O'Sullivan, MA'83, PhD'83 (Psychology), brings not only experience to her new position heading Western's Faculty of Education but the confidence that she is the right person to lead the faculty at this time.

"The context for teacher education in Ontario I am very familiar with - also around the country and around the world," says O'Sullivan, who came to Western this past summer from Lakehead University.

"What's new for me is the Western context. It's a research-intensive university; it's a bigger faculty. I think as faculties of education - and ours is particularly well placed - we need to be part of the public voice on teacher education."

Part of that voice will be to further develop Western's strength by using O'Sullivan's extensive connections. While at Lakehead, she was founding national director of the Centre for Excellence in Children & Adolescents with Special Needs from 2000 to 2006.

O'Sullivan, who holds masters and doctoral degrees from Western, also has a strong record of research, service in professional organizations and provincial policy consultation and development.

"Here in this faculty we have tremendous strengths in special education," says O'Sullivan, who also holds a baccalaureate from Trinity College in Dublin. "We have a number of faculty members who work in that area and we have a centre for inclusive education dedicated to research and



Photo by Paul Mayne

New Dean of Education Julia O'Sullivan brings a strong record of research and advocacy to Western. She is the longest serving education dean in Ontario, coming from Lakehead University.

policy for children with special needs. "Our faculty will be taking a look this year at our academic plan and that will be one of the areas I think faculty will want to make sure we emphasize."

O'Sullivan has already linked the faculty with the centre she ran, bringing it together with just one of the many educational partnerships she has fostered over the years across the country.

"One of the things I'm doing is linking people who work here in our faculty," she says, noting the faculty's Top 5 ranking in Canada regarding research productivity. "This is a great faculty of education, we have research here that is changing the face of how we look at education in this country and internationally. Part of my job is to make sure that the people here, our faculty, are linked and networked around the world because that will help our work."

While many see an education faculty as a producer of teachers,

O'Sullivan says that is just a small portion of what is done.

"Sometimes people equate faculties of education with teacher education only. We are comprehensive and do a lot more. It goes well beyond, and so it should," she says. "The research done here informs policy at a provincial level. We need to be pushing this."

In terms of teacher education, O'Sullivan anticipates a lot of change from the ministry of education, depending on the minister and government of the day and their interest and support of education.

"You can have a sudden change in themes and we have to respond. We have to prepare the best possible teachers for Ontario," she says. "We are not a faculty that responds only. We are a faculty that is out there."

Faculty of Education
Visit: www.edu.uwo.ca

Surgeon 'proud' to serve in Afghanistan

By Paul Mayne

It's safe to say this past summer was a tad different for Vivian McAlister. While the

general surgeon and Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry professor performed a number of operations, his patients and the location of the surgery were far from the confines of University Hospital.

While the general surgeon and Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry professor performed a number of operations, his patients and the location of the surgery were far from the confines of University Hospital.

For two months, McAlister, along with surgeons from across Canada, spent two months in Kandahar,

Afghanistan working at the Canadian-run NATO hospital that treats soldiers and wounded civilians. In fact, it was his former student, anaesthetist Brian Church, who motivated McAlister into making the decision to head to the troubled country.

"I went because I wanted to follow in Western's tradition of supporting our military when it faces danger, but I myself was never in any danger," says McAlister, now back in London. Ninety per cent of the patients he treated were Afghan, including a young boy shot through the liver.

"It was something I felt I had to do." McAlister refers to the work of Dr. Edwin Seaborn, who organized the 400-bed No.10 Canadian Stationary Hospital in Europe during the First World War, as well as to the university's support of Canadian soldiers in the Second World War, as solid examples of Western's dedication to its country.

McAlister says the true heroes are the medical staff who put themselves in harms way to retrieve wounded soldiers from the field.

"The courage needs to go to the medics in the armed forces who are out there rescuing the soldiers, in many instances while taking on fire," says McAlister.

The job of the surgeons, says McAlister, is to treat everyone equally. He recalls a day where two enemy soldiers and a Canadian soldier were brought to the hospital. "In this case one of the enemy soldiers received care first," says McAlister, noting the decision was made due to the severity of his injuries. "But in no way do Canadian soldiers receive less care."

Even though his stay was brief in comparison to the rotation of Canadian soldiers, McAlister is thankful he had the opportunity to help the Canadian mission. "I was affected by it because Canada's mission in Afghanistan is a noble thing that people from all over the country are doing and I was very proud to have been associated with it," he says.



Photos courtesy of Vivian McAlister

General surgeon Vivian McAlister, upper left, and Thunder Bay orthopaedic surgeon David Puskas, operate on a young Afghanistan boy who had been shot through the liver. The work took place at the Canadian Field Hospital in Kandahar, Afghanistan, where McAlister worked this past summer. The injured Afghan boy, several weeks later, demonstrates the operation was a success in comparing muscles with a Canadian

Schulich School of Medicine
& Dentistry
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Can nanotubes solve looming energy shortage?

By Karen Otto, MA'06

Interesting things often come in small packages and it just might be one of the smallest of packages that delivers an important gift for an energy-hungry world - a solution to the world's impending oil shortage.

You can't get much smaller than nano and nanotechnology, which is the area under study by Andy Sun, an assistant professor in the Department of Mechanical and Materials Engineering. "Nanotechnology is the hot topic of the moment," he says.

And what Sun is trying to do with nanotechnology - the creation of useful and functional materials, devices and systems through the control of matter on the nanometre (one-billionth of a metre) length scale and exploitation of novel phenomena and properties at the length scale - is no small undertaking.

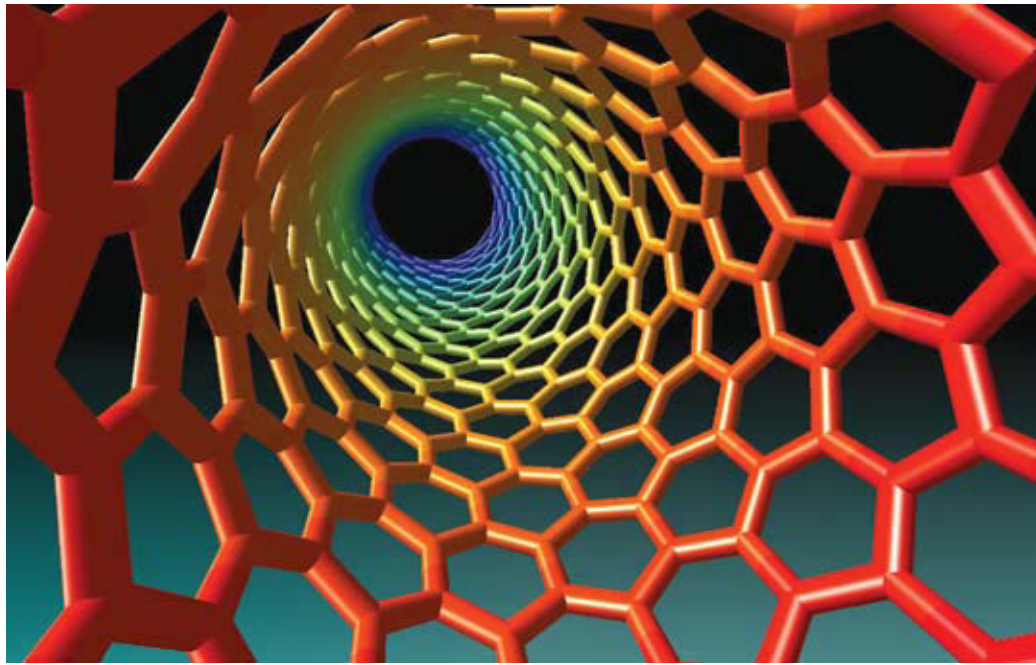
"We're trying to make nanomaterials to address clean energy," he says.

To do this, he's focusing on combining nanomaterials with fuel cell electrodes, in particular using synthesis, characterization and properties of nanomaterials such as carbon nanotubes and metal oxide nanowires.

As an alternative to oil, protein exchange membrane fuel cells use hydrogen oxygen producing a byproduct of pure water and at the same time, electricity. That's why, Sun says, it's good for the environment and also good for energy.

But there's a problem, especially with using platinum as catalysts, he says, as they are so expensive the technology costs too much to produce. So Sun and his team are experimenting with carbon nanotubes to support the platinum.

Currently, people use carbon powder for fuel cells but, Sun says,



Tiny, incredibly strong structures known as nanotubes may open doors to development of cleaner energy.

"our idea is using carbon nanotubes instead of carbon particles to support the platinum."

While carbon nanotubes are small, they have huge benefits. One human hair is equal to 50,000 carbon nanotubes. They're also 100 times harder than steel and four times better than copper for electrical conductivity, he says.

"That means it's very small. Tiny, but the perfect structure," Sun says. Unfortunately, there's a downside to the nanotubes, as well. "(It's the) perfect material but the problem here is, how to mass produce it. That's the big challenge." And a solution on which Sun is working.

The Canada Research Chair nominee for his research into nanotechnology for clean energy is in an elite group of researchers on this topic. Only 20 to 30 labs around the world are specifically studying carbon nanotubes for fuel cells, while in Canada, only about five research groups are using nanotechnology for fuel cells.

Sun is collaborating with the Faculty of Science and Faculty of Engineering on this project and his interest in alternative energy is out of concern for the need for new fuel sources and of a concern for an environment. In 20 to 30 years the demand for energy will have increased yet oil reserves will be

low - heightening the sense of urgency.

"So we have to work on this now to find clean energy," he says. "Nanotechnology and nanomaterials are good solutions."

His research is attracting big names such as INCO, the biggest mineral company in Canada, Canadian National Defense, Canadian Space Agency and General Motors. They're all seeking clean energy alternatives and currently, Sun says, nanomaterials offer the best bet. "For the moment, it's the only solution."

Carbon Nanotube

A single-walled carbon nanotube is a one-atom thick sheet of graphite (called graphene) rolled up into a seamless cylinder with a diameter of about one nanometer. Properties include extraordinary strength, stiffness and unique electrical properties. They are efficient heat conductors. High production cost has limited commercial exploitation but numerous academic papers are being written on this novel structure/material every year.

Engineering
Visit: www.eng.uwo.ca

Athletes join Hall of Fame

Founded by Track & Field alumnus Jim Parker, BSc'67 in 1999, the 2007 Hall of Fame inductees are:

Brenda Arbuckle, BA'91 (1991)

Harvey Barkauskas, BA'75, BEd'76 (1970s)

Bob Gage, BA'44 (builder)

Harold Gretzinger, BA'77, DDS'81 (1970s)

Cory Rasenberg, BA'81, BEd'82 (1980s)

Men's Relay Team (1964-65 - George Heigenhauser, BA'67 Kelly Mancari, BA'66, Donald McCarten, BA'72, Jim Parker, BSc'67)

The induction ceremony took place in the Great Hall in Somerville House on September 22.

Brenda Arbuckle (Schultz)

1987-1990

To be inducted into both the Cross Country and Track & Field Hall of Fame, Arbuckle had Top 10 finishes in all but one race in her rookie season (1987) and was the top rookie at the OUA Championships that year placing fourth. She was also second on the Mustangs women's soccer team in scoring helping Western to a team bronze medal at nationals in Victoria, B.C. She played a leading role in Western capturing three consecutive CIS team titles in Cross Country from 1988-1990. In Track, Arbuckle won medals in both seasons (1987-88, 1988-89) at the Don Wright Team Challenge. She was arguably the best lead-off runner in the nation in the 4x800m relay, setting a Western record and earning a CIAU silver medal at nationals in 1988. She completed her career with the Mustangs, winning the F.W.P. Jones Trophy in 1991 as the female athlete of the year.

Harvey Barkauskas

1970-1974, 1976

To be inducted into the Track & Field Hall of Fame, Barkauskas was the most successful thrower in Mustang track & field history, setting the standard for future Mustang athletes. He finished

with medals in both OUA and CIAU competition, going undefeated in the regular outdoor season in shot put and discus in just his first season in 1970, then winning bronze at the OUA championships. In all, Barkauskas won 9 OUA gold medals (5 gold in shot put, with two outdoor and three indoor titles). In 1974, his teammates voted him the Murray McNie Trophy as the team MVP. His leadership as well as his athleticism played a pivotal role in the hard word, play hard, succeed well ethos that distinguished his Mustang teams.

Bob Gage

Builder

To be inducted as a builder into both the Cross Country and Track & Field Hall of Fame, "Scoop" is a man who has already graced many halls of fame including Western's 'W' Club, Windsor's Alumni, OUA Football Legends, Canadian Basketball and City of London halls of fame. His illustrious career in sports journalism was primarily spent covering amateur sports, including the Western Mustangs beat, which he covered for 33 years at the London Free Press before retirement. He is also a generous supporter and philanthropist for Mustang Athletics and wrote Mustang Tales, a history of men's sports teams at Western. His articles covering both cross country and track & field helped to raise the profile of both sports and their student-athletes.

Harold Gretzinger

1974-1978

After winning the midget boys national championship in hurdles, Gretzinger came to Western in 1974 and eventually become the only Mustang to win the Murray McNie Trophy three times, an award that is voted upon by team members to recognize the season MVP. To be inducted into the Track & Field Hall of Fame, Gretzinger began his training at Western before an indoor track facility was built in 1976, training on the floor of Thames Hall gymnasium for his first two seasons. He is the only Mustang to win four consecutive championship titles, winning the OUA Conference 50m Hurdle gold medal from 1975-1979.

Cory Rasenberg (Fox)

1980-1982

To be inducted into the Track & Field Hall of Fame, Rasenberg was an Ottawa U transfer who went on to lead the Mustangs women's team to five major titles (three OWIAA conference championships and two CIAU championships) She still holds the Western record in pentathlon with 3,947 points at the 1982 Canada vs. USA Team Pentathlon and the record in 300-yard at the 1982 Detroit Macomb College Invitational with a time of 36.9 seconds.



1965 Men's Relay Team - George Heigenhauser, Kelly Mancari, Donald McCarten and Jim Parker

The Indoor Mile Relay Team from 1965 established themselves as the premiere mile-relay team in the nation and among the best in North America. Their signature wins were in their final two outings, winning the Canadian national university invitational championship and then the Highlander Games championship, breaking a record that still stands today of 3:25.5 on a 134m track.

Western Mustangs
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Library staff creates own visual, written and musical art

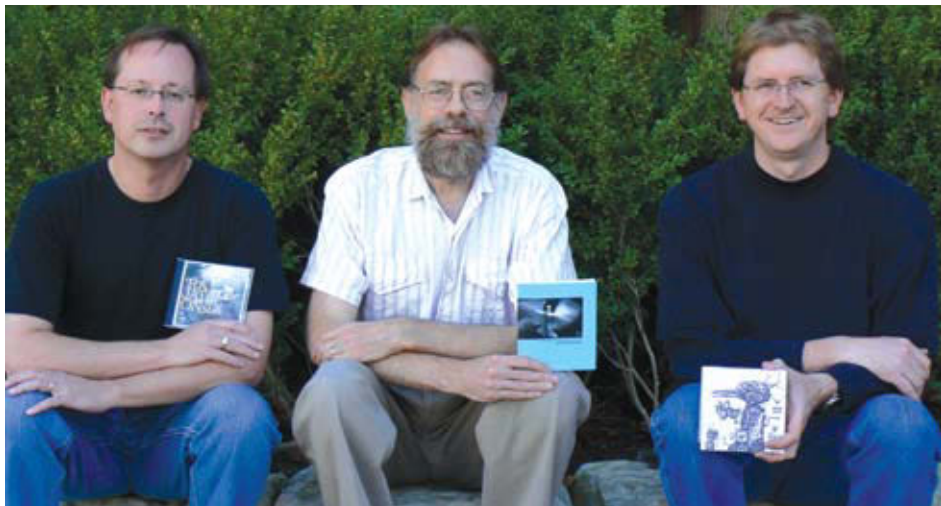
Not all of Western Libraries' artistic treasures are found in expansive collections on campus. There are a number of artists amongst library staff, three of whom have recently had their works published.

Richard A. Kirk has been working at Western Libraries since 1988, where his current title is Head, Resource Support Services. Kirk has always been interested in visual arts and began his artistic career in book illustrations: *Imajica* by Clive Barker (1991), *King Rat* by China Mieville (2000) and *Tales of Pain and Wonder* by Caitlin R. Kiernan (2002).

In 2006 Kirk developed connections with the Strychnin Gallery, an international gallery featuring edgy alternative art. The Berlin location had Cochlea, an elaborate ink drawing of Richard's on display. In 2006 Jonathan Davis, the lead singer for Korn, purchased this work from the gallery and six months later bought another of Richard's pieces Kirk states, "I received an email out of the blue from Korn's management, that I was short listed as a possible artist for their next album cover and would I be interested." Davis phoned the artist and discussed the basic concept of the album. He asked Kirk to devise his own imagery and submit six preliminary drawings within seven weeks. Once



Untitled Korn CD cover with Kirk's artwork



From left to right: Jeff Smallman, John C. Tyndall, Richard A. Kirk

received, the designer for Virgin Records contacted Kirk to indicate that he did not want to alter the artwork. Therefore the mass market version of the untitled album only has the band's logo on the left-hand corner with the ink in sepia tones, and the special box set of the same album is produced according to Richard's original vision: black and white ink, the band's logo and credits on the back so as to not detract from the artwork.

John C. Tyndall, BA'74, has been working at Western Libraries since 1975, where he is a Library Assistant in The D.B. Weldon Library's Research & Instructional Services department. He graduated in 1974 from Western, with a BA in English. He has been a writer since 1966, but states "nothing was any good for many years." In 1976 local London press Applegarth Follies published a book of Tyndall's poetry entitled *Howlcat Fugues*, and Library Journal listed it as one of the year's 10 best small press books. His poems have appeared in numerous anthologies and literary journals and in 2001 Black Moss Press published *Free Rein*. In September 2007 Black Moss Press released Tyndall's latest book *The Fee for Exaltation*, a collection of poetry "centered on family, love, religion and traditions." He began the book a decade ago, after his mother's stroke. The book is divided into four sections: the first and fourth deal with the stroke, his mother's rehabilitation and subsequent death; the second section is about a trip John took to Arizona during the winter to visit his 'snowbird' parents; and the third section

is entitled "Rhymes with Orangeman," the most extensive section concerning religious and political traditions and consequences in the Tyndall family.

Jeff Smallman, BMus'87, has been with Western Libraries for 15 years and is a Library Assistant in the Music Library. A composer since the age of eight, Smallman has had his compositions published since 1996.

For the 2005 'Kaleid' Choral Festival in Woodstock Smallwood was asked to write a work for the mass choir (approximately 300 singers) and the guest artists. The guests were Rajaton, a platinum selling Finnish a cappella six-member vocal ensemble. He met the group again through further festivals and arranged another mass choir piece, *Where the Wind Blows*, for Rajaton to perform in their concerts. When Smallman saw the group in August 2006 their manager was expecting a baby. "The group and their manager had been very generous and helpful to me in my dealings with them, so I decided as a thank-you, that I would write a lullaby for the baby. I wanted to write it in Finnish so it would be meaningful to her." With the help of the group, he found an appropriate poem and set it to music. He then contacted the manager and let her know about the lullaby. What she did not know was that they had already recorded it. Smallwood's lullaby Tuuti lasta appears on Rajaton's eighth album *Maa*, released October 10.

Western Libraries
Visit: www.lib.uwo.ca



EXHIBITS

FINE FEATHERED FRIENDS & HONOURED GUESTS

Beth Stewart: *Fine Feathered Friends & Honoured Guests* is an eclectic collection of wildlife 'portraits' and quirky still life assemblages and was exhibited from September 8 to 30 at Cozy House gallery on Southdale Road in London. Stewart moves effortlessly between the vibrant qualities of colour pencil and the austere tones of graphite. The coloured pencil pieces feature Stewart's traditional renderings of local birds: robins, finches, grackles and the like. The graphite pencil pieces draw inspiration from the artist's collection of bird figurines which have been carefully manipulated to present a series of small tableau, each suggestive of a much larger story. **Beth Stewart, BA'79** (BA, BEd, Windsor), moved to London in 1977. She continued her education at Western in the field of Art Therapy. Stewart is very active in the local arts community and currently divides her time amongst drawing, writing and teaching. She works mainly in dry media, especially in lead or coloured pencils. For more information, e-mail: randbstewart@sympatico.ca



STAGE

THE MEDIUM RETURNS

Fresh from its award-winning run at The London Fringe Festival, Menotti's tragic one-act opera *The Medium* returned for a free performance at Western's Talbot Theatre on September 14. The production is the brainchild of producer and singer **Sonja Gustafson, DipMus'01**, who pulled together the production using Western talent. The play, Gustafson says, "went really well." In fact it went very well indeed for Gustafson and company. They won the Impresario Award for most popular play, another for most daring show and one for Gustafson's performance. The fact it was the first opera staged for the festival made the success all the more remarkable. A point of pride for Gustafson is the all-Western cast. "All of us receive our training at Western. Most of us were in production for Western Opera even as recent as a year before." Impressive also is the *Medium* production was an entirely do-it-yourself production for Gustafson. She wanted to do something in opera while remaining in London. So, in short, she produced the play to give herself and her friends a performing opportunity. Also starring in *The Medium* were: **Jessica Sage, DipMus'01, MMus'03**, **Alfred Stockwell** (Music student), **Tanya Ellis Bludau, MMus'01**, **Rachel Huys, BMus'00**, **John Holland, DipMus'01, MMus'04**, and **Janet Loo, BMus'04, MMus'06**.



PRESS

THE LAST STAND

Peter Kelly, HBSc'85, MSc'89, and Douglas W. Larson recently published *The Last Stand: A Journey Through the Ancient Cliff-Face Forest of the Niagara Escarpment*. In the heart of the most populated and most industrialized part of North America sits the most ancient and least disturbed ecosystem on the continent. Prior to 1988 it had escaped detection even though the entire forest was in plain view and was being visited by thousands upon thousands of people every year. The reason no one had discovered the forest was that the trees were relatively small and lived on the vertical cliffs of the Niagara Escarpment. *The Last Stand* reveals the complete account of the discovery of this ancient forest, of the miraculous properties of the trees forming this forest (eastern white cedar), and of what it was like for researchers to live, work and study within this forest. The unique story is told with text, supported by stunning colour and black and white photographs and through vivid first-hand accounts. It is a testament to science, imagination and discovery. For more information, visit: www.dundurn.com



FORESAKEN

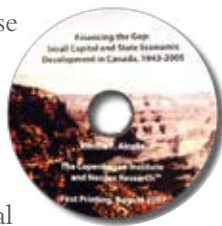
In March 2004, when award-winning photographer Lana Šlezic BA'97, began an assignment in Afghanistan, she never dreamed she would stay for two years. She soon discovered that life for Afghan women was not as she expected and felt compelled to stay and document their story. With the help of a young female Afghan as her friend and translator, Šlezic photographed women all over the country. *Forsaken* is a collection of photographs and vignettes that document Šlezic's journey over the two-year period during which she lived and worked in Afghanistan. She has exhibited her work at the War Photo Gallery in Croatia, the Toronto International Art Fair, and the Kargart Gallery for the Istanbul Ifsak Biennial. The recipient of various photography awards, including the International Summit Creative Award, the Gold National Magazine Award of Canada, the Society for News Design Award, and the Luis Valtuena Award for Humanitarian Photography, Šlezic has contributed to *The Guardian*, *The New York Times*, *British Journal of Photography*, to name just a few. *Forsaken* is Šlezic's first book. www.powerhousebooks.com/books!/Forsaken/



FINANCING THE GAP

Kimble Ainslie, BA'74, (MPA, Queens, PhD, York), an international public policy analyst, who founded Nordex ResearchTM in 1985, has produced a 432-page book on the trials and tribulations of small capital development in Canada since WWII, *Financing the Gap: Small Capital and State Economic Development in Canada*. Using seven policy

histories as his lens to observe the rise and decline of small business financing policy and programs, Ainslie captures foundational elements of Canadian state economic development. The successes and failures are laid bare in eloquent detail and in a series of summary analytical formats. Ainslie speaks to a whole panoply of issues on Canadian state capacity and state-business relations with a special focus on the roles of state executives, senior bureaucrats, policy entrepreneurs, business associations and policy relations in the federation. He comes to grips with what really drives successful and failing state financing for small capital, effectively offering a comprehensive neo-liberal critique of statist and neo-socialist aspirations. *Financing the Gap* is published on CD. Inquiries can be made to Nordex Research at 519-433-1850.



as Daphne Marlatt and Betsy Warland. The essays place famous authors such as Samuel Coleridge, Oscar Wilde, and William Butler Yeats in new contexts; reassess overlooked members of writing partnerships; and throw new light on texts that have been marginalized due to their collaborative nature. By integrating historical studies with authorship theory, *Literary Couplings* goes beyond static notions of the writing 'couple' to explore literary couplings created by readers, critics, historians, and publishers as well as by writers themselves, thus expanding our understanding of authorship. For more information: www.wisc.edu/wisconsinpress/

STARSITTER

Andrea Dana Eisen, BA'95, recently had her first book published, *StarSitter*, inspired by her experiences working with teenage divas like Lindsay Lohan and Hayden Panettiere. Temper tantrums over yester-year logos? A last minute curling-iron crisis? Dinner with vegetarian gangsta-rappers? All in a day's work for 27-year-old Grace Daniels, the unwitting guardian to Maddy Malone, Hollywood's next teenage it-girl. Plucked from her Chicago day job as an interior decorator, Grace is thrust into 'starsitting' at a local movie shoot when her Aunt Lana begs off sick one day. On the set, Grace meets Maddy, the temperamental if talented young starlet. Once in LA, a bewildered Grace tries to keep her Prada-toting charge happy as she shepherds her through photo-shoots, radio interviews, and morning hangovers. Inspired by a true story, *StarSitter* depicts how handling a young celebrity may be more hazardous than glamorous to one's mental health. For more information: www.andreadana.com or www.myspace.com/starsitter



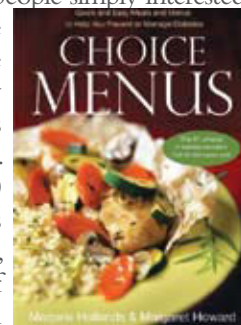
PURE AT HEART

Simon Sheh, BA'78 (PhD, Alberta), recently had his first book *Pure at Heart* published. *Pure at Heart* is a handbook about overcoming sexual addiction and achieving sexual purity. *Pure at Heart* gives the readers surprising new information about pornography and how it really affects a man and his health as well as effective tools to break the destructive habits of sexual addiction. The book provides a self-assessment questionnaire to help point the readers in the right direction for seeking help. It also offers clear advice about how to affair proof a marriage and guidance on how to safeguard sexual purity in children. *Pure at Heart* has received many accolades from pastors and Christian leaders in Canada and abroad. Sheh is one of the few registered psychologists in Canada specializing in the treatment of sexual addiction. Recently he traveled to Aceh, Indonesia to provide counseling and support for relief workers in areas affected by the 2004 tsunami. For more information: www.drsimonsheh.com



CHOICE MENUS

Now revised and updated, *Choice Menus* by **Marjorie Hollands, BA'51 & Margaret Howard, BA'52**, remains the #1 recommended book of diabetes educators in Canada since it was first published in 1993. It was created to make meal planning convenient, flexible and even fun for people with diabetes or people simply interested in weight control and healthy eating. The book's unique split-page format takes the guesswork out of everyday nutrition by providing over 100 mix-and-match menus for breakfast, lunch, dinner and snacks. Whether you need 1200, 1500 or 1800 calories a day, *Choice Menus* has meal ideas and recipes that will suit you perfectly. And, it supports the nutritional guidelines of both the Canadian Diabetes Association and Canada's Food Guide to Healthy Eating. For more information, visit: www.harpercollins.ca



LITERARY COUPLINGS

Literary Couplings: Writing Couples, Collaborators, and the Construction of Authorship is a new book edited by Marjorie Stone and **Judith Thompson, BA'79**. This innovative collection challenges the traditional focus on solitary genius by examining the rich diversity of literary couplings and collaborations from the early modern to the postmodern period. *Literary Couplings* explores some of the best-known literary partnerships - from the Sidneys to Boswell and Johnson to Sylvia Plath and Ted Hughes-and also includes lesser-known collaborators such



ALUMNUS Alumni Awards of Merit honour outstanding alumni

Alumni Western celebrated the achievements of four Western graduates at its 33rd annual Alumni Awards Dinner at Homecoming 2007. Their accomplishments represent the best of Western.



Neil Hetherington, BA'95, received the Young Alumni Award, recognizing an outstanding individual in their field of endeavour. Recipients are 40 or under and set an inspirational example for future alumni.

At 33, Hetherington has built homes for hundreds of families across the globe and is the youngest CEO of a Habitat for Humanity affiliate. For Hetherington, a political science graduate, Western became the foundation for his future. Throughout his undergrad, Hetherington traveled the world with Habitat for Humanity, an international, non-profit organization that builds homes with those in need. After graduation, Hetherington gained first-hand construction experience as a project manager for Tridel Construction.

In 2000 he made a career move to the non-profit sector and took over as CEO for Habitat for Humanity Toronto. Once settled in his new role, Hetherington worked with hundreds of volunteers to dramatically grow the organization. This year alone, the organization will construct about 55 homes.

Hetherington has received the Queen's Golden Jubilee Medal, for outstanding and exemplary achievement or service to the community or to

Canada as a whole, and was named one of Canada's Top 40 Under 40.

While honoured to add Western's Young Alumni Award to his accolades, Hetherington hopes it will inspire others to get involved with non-profit entities. "If they can't do it as a career, they can volunteer, swing a hammer, sit on a committee, or be on a board."

Jane Roy, BSc'87, is recipient of the Community Service Award. "This is my school. I'm proud of it. I love coming back to Western." If there was ever an official ambassador for The University of Western Ontario, one that proves the best student experience can be carried forward into their personal and professional lives as well as the lives of others, Jane Roy would certainly appear near the top of that list.

A community advocate in London through work at the London Food Bank; a fundraising veteran of numerous disaster relief crises; a volunteer activist in Rwanda, Iraq, Somalia, Guatemala and Sudan; and, of course, Roy is also a London native whose appreciation for her university experience is apparent in her career endeavours.

"I applied to everywhere else but I was always set on going to Western, there was no issue about that," says Roy, who received an Alumni Award of Merit (Community Service Award)



from the Western Alumni Association. "Going to all the classes, meeting all the people; it was great," she adds. "Western is a big part of the London community

and growing up here I tend to see it as a huge part of the community experience for me."

Along with her husband, London North Centre MP Glen Pearson, Roy has established a charitable organization, Canadian Aid for Southern Sudan (CASS). Her most recent efforts in Sudan involve freeing child slaves, building schools, developing a women's literacy program and aid program that helps women set up their own businesses. The couple's three children are adopted siblings from Sudan.

She has served as chairperson of the Ontario Association of Food Banks, as member of London's Round Table on the Environment and Economy, and was a key member of the Mayor's Anti-Poverty Task Force. Most recently, Roy and Pearson were recognized on the Mayor's New Year's Honours List 2007 for humanitarianism.

Kevin Newman, BA'81, received the Professional Achievement Award, that



recognizes superior achievement in a professional field. The recipient is a role model for newcomers and sets standards for others.

From Western's student radio, CHRW, to Global National, Newman has made his mark on journalism in Canada. Drawn to the university because of its journalism program, the political science major found his start in news not in the classroom, but at the student radio station. Although there wasn't a

news program there at the time, Kevin volunteered to create one and became the first news director at the station.

At Global News, Newman began his broadcasting career as a general assignment reporter and Queen's Park correspondent. He soon moved to CTV in 1988, where he was the parliamentary correspondent before leaving to take a position at the CBC.

In 1994, Newman made the move to the United States to work for ABC News, where he was recognized with a Peabody Award. He returned to Global Television in 2001, this time as anchor and executive director for Global National.

Looking back, Newman says his time at Western has had a great impact on his life today. "I come back to Western every couple of years and it does feel like home. It's one of the very few places in life you can go where generations can bond and share a common experience."

J. Stanley Hill, MA'69 is the recipient of the Dr. Ivan Smith Award, Alumni



Western's highest tribute – for sustained and significant contributions to the Alumni Association.

Hill's father was fond of saying "you've got to be ready to open the door when opportunity knocks." And so, in 1959, when the opportunity came knocking to move to Montreal from Scotland, Hill and his wife, Muriel – both young school teachers at the time – walked right on through.

In 1968, Hill began a 26-year Western career that included the roles of Mustang varsity soccer coach, assistant dean (Faculty of Kinesiology) and undergraduate chair in the faculty until his retirement in 1994. In 1969, Hill also earned a Master of Arts in physical education at Western, and received his PhD in health education from The Ohio State University in 1982.

Hill's fondest memories of Western include the many outstanding students he had the privilege of teaching, coaching varsity soccer, which he calls a "peak experience," and being involved in convocation as a public orator, chief public orator, and director of convocation.

Hill was also heavily involved with Western after retirement as a member of the Student and Young Alumni Outreach Committee from 1998 to 2004, a member of the Alumni Association Board from 2001 to 2007, and a member of the University Senate from 2003 to 2006.

Westerns honours athletes at awards banquet

Eight former Mustangs receive top honours for their contributions to sport at Homecoming 2007

Elfrida Berzins Award Recipients (Women's Athletic Alumnae):



For Alma Moir, BA'79, coaching Western's figure skating team has been a family affair.

During her undergraduate years in the physical education program at Western, Moir skated alongside her twin sister Carol. When Carol left, Moir then chose to follow in the footsteps of her eldest sister, Marg, who was the first coach of Western's figure skating team.

In 1978, Moir, still a student at the time, took over coaching the varsity team. It's a career she has maintained for more than 30 years at Western.

Moir is a two-time recipient of the Coach of the Year Award at Western and has been awarded Coach of the Year at the OU Championships. In addition, she helped launch the National Coaching Certification Program for figure skating coaches in western Ontario and has volunteered at the Canada Summer Games, the Canadian Figure Skating Championships in 2005 and, most recently, the World Synchronized Skating Championships this past March.

Moir says she's made her life out of working in sports, which is, in large part,

thanks to Western. While the university has helped to shape her life, Moir has impacted Western as well, particularly when it comes to her 30-odd years coaching varsity figure skating.



From her first year in 1979 to today, Western has always presented Alison (Armstrong) Doherty, BA'83 with a good challenge.

The first came from Bob Vigers, coach of Western's track and field team, when Doherty initially applied to the

university. "When he said 'maybe' to me, I realized that getting on the track team wasn't so cut and dried," says Doherty. Thankfully, she did make the team, and went on to win a gold medal in high jump at the Ontario Universities Championships.

In 1982, Doherty set three meet records in the high jump, won two OWIAA Championship medals and broke the CIAU Championship high jump. In 1983, she was awarded the F.W.P. Jones Award as Western's most outstanding female athlete.

After Western, Doherty completed her Master of Physical Education and PhD in education administration at the University of Ottawa, and represented Canada at the 1985 and 1987 World University Games.

The next challenge she faced at Western was launching the women's track and field team in 1990 after it was separated from the men's team. At the same time, Doherty began her teaching career in kinesiology at Western, a role she still holds today as an associate professor in the school of kinesiology.



Her education at Western gave Eleanor (Ward) Richardson, BA'62, MA'68, the knowledge to make a life-long career out of athletics. She brought her passion for athletics with her to Western in 1959, where she studied physical education.

In addition to her undergraduate studies, Richardson was a member of the Mustang's volleyball team and the basketball team. In 1962, Richardson was presented with the F.W.P. Jones Award.

After graduation, Richardson began her career as a physical education teacher

and volleyball, basketball, gymnastics and track and field coach in Thunder Bay.

In 1964, she returned to Western to begin post-graduate studies in physical education, while continuing to be involved in track and field.

Richardson's teaching career led her to some unique experiences, such as helping other teachers teach students about AIDS, implementing the Grade 13 physical education curriculum, and working with special needs students.

Richardson's time at Western encouraged her to become a life-long athlete and, as a result, she competed in road running and track and field throughout much of her adult life. She remained active with cycling and yoga, while continuing to coach track and field and cross country.

Sadly, Richardson died Sept. 16 following a battle with leukemia. She was 67.

Western nurtured her development, giving Heather M. Clarke, BA'83,



space to carve out an individual identity as an Olympic rower, find a new sport and become a more critical thinker throughout her life.

Along with rowing, Clarke joined the Mustangs' nordic ski team, prompting her ski coach to nominate her for Western's F.W.P. Jones Award, which she was awarded in 1982.

After Western, Clarke went on to complete a Master's degree in industrial relations at Queen's University. It was there that she met her husband, Hardolph Wasteneys.

Clarke has followed a varied and unique path. This has included co-

authoring a book, *Stroke: The Inside Story of Olympic Contenders*, working in government policy and labour relations, helping to establish an osteoporosis foundation and a national athletes' association, being part of an international sport advocacy group that lobbied for changes to the IOC governance structure, and starting her own business, BraveWolf Consulting, as a facilitator.

Five years ago, Clarke and her husband, along with their three children, moved from downtown Toronto to the edge of Vancouver Island's wilderness. Although she enjoys B.C., her rowing single remains back in Ontario at the cottage, symbolically marking some potential for a return when her time out west is done.

'W' Club Hall of fame Inductees for 2007:



Darwin Semotiuk has been involved in university sports for four decades as an athlete, coach, professor and administrator.

As an athlete, he began his career at the University of Alberta, where he completed his undergraduate and graduate degrees in physical education, while playing for both the varsity basketball and football teams.

In 1971, Semotiuk accepted an offer to join Western's faculty, also signing on as assistant coach for the Mustang's football team. He was named head coach of the football team in 1975. Under his leadership, the Mustangs won back-to-back Vanier Cup titles in 1976 and 1977, in addition to seven Yates Cup titles. In 1976 and 1981, Semotiuk was named

Ontario Coach of the Year and received the Frank Tindall Trophy as the nation's top university coach in 1976.

"I have met so many outstanding people, from athletes and coaches to students and people in the community," says Semotiuk. "They have all been a great source of inspiration to me."

He says of all his accomplishments he is most proud of his family, which includes his wife Mary of 40 years, his daughter Krista, son Brad and an eight-month-old grandson, Noah. Semotiuk remains a professor in the school of kinesiology.

Pierre Vercheval, BA'91, came to Western to play football in 1984 despite, at the time, being able to speak only French. Motivated by the opportunity



to play CIS football and learn English, Vercheval took the leap and hasn't looked back.

His fondest memories of his Mustang days were winning the Yates Cup and Atlantic Bowl in 1986.

After winning the J.P. Metras Trophy in 1987 as the most outstanding CIS linesman, Vercheval was drafted by the Edmonton Eskimos but chose to go back to Western. In 1988, he signed on with the Eskimos for five years.

In 1993, Vercheval signed as a free agent with the Toronto Argonauts. During his five-year stint with the team, he won back-to-back Grey Cup Championships in 1996 and 1997.

Vercheval capped off his CFL career by returning to Quebec and playing for the Montreal Alouettes for four more years before retiring from the sport in

2002. This year, he was inducted into the Canadian Football Hall of Fame.

Vercheval says being inducted into the "W" Club Hall of Fame is very special to him. "It's humbling because football is a team sport. Being singled out this way makes me think that I must have played on some very good teams."

A three-time Olympian, **Roger Jackson, BA'63**, credits Western for introducing him to the sport of rowing.



He came to Western in 1960 as an avid athlete where, instead of playing football, he decided to try his hand at the sport of rowing. Jackson participated in varsity rowing all three years of his undergraduate degree and was awarded three first colours for his effort. After graduation, he moved to Vancouver to take a Master's degree in physical education at the University of British Columbia, all the while competing in varsity rowing.

In 1964, Jackson competed in the Tokyo Olympics, bringing home the gold in the coxless pairs event with teammate George Hungerford.

Jackson is now the CEO of Own The Podium - 2010, a \$110-million sport technical initiative designed to help Canada become the number one nation in terms of medals won at the upcoming 2010 Vancouver Olympics.

Jackson is a member of Canada's Sports Hall of Fame, the Olympic Hall of Fame, and is an Officer of the Order of Canada. He has been awarded the Vanier Award as an outstanding young Canadian, has been honoured

as Canada's Sport Volunteer of the Year, and has received the Lou Marsh Trophy as Canada's Outstanding Athlete.

Although he played football in high school, **Terry Rotondo, BA'73, MD'77**,



tried out for the Mustang's football team during his first year at Western in 1969, and promptly quit after three days. It was then that Rotondo met Western's track and field coach Bob Vigars, and began a six-year stint on the track team.

During his undergraduate degree in physical education, Rotondo set numerous individual records and a Canadian 300-metre record.

By his third year of university, Rotondo had established himself as the premiere long sprinter in the league. He won medals in the U.S. as well as Canada, landing a silver medal at the 1974 Eastern Michigan Invitational, where he clocked 31.9 seconds over 300 yards. That time remains, to this day, the Western indoor best.

It was at this point Rotondo returned to Western to complete a medical degree.

Of his Western days, Rotondo has only fond memories. "My time at Western shaped my life tremendously. It's a fantastic university and I was able to get involved in sports and develop life-long friendships," says Rotondo.

In fact, Rotondo met his wife, Karen, while interning at the hospital during his medical degree - citing this as the highlight of his Western career.

ALUMNI EVENTS

CANADA

Barrie, ON

Alumni Reception Spring 2008

Calgary, AB

Calgary Flames Hockey Game February/March 2008

Durham Region, ON

Ottawa 67's @ Oshawa Generals December 1, 2007

Edmonton, AB

Los Angeles Kings @ Edmonton Oilers February 28, 2008

Elgin County/St. Thomas, ON

68th Annual Elgin County Alumni Dinner Picnic June 2008 Date TBC

Guelph, ON

Speaker Reception at The Cutten Club January 24, 2008
Kitchener Rangers @ Guelph Storm March 12, 2008

Halifax, NS

Speaker Reception at The Halifax Club March 27, 2008

London, ON

London Reads Book Club: Bloodletting & Miraculous Cures December 5, 2007

London Knights vs. Sarnia Sting Alumni Suite December 31, 2007

London Reads Book Club: Governor of the Northern Province January 16, 2008

London Reads Book Club: Consolation February 6, 2008

London Branch Degree in a Day Pub Tour February 9, 2008

High School Musical – The Ice Tour Group Ticket Offer March 2, 2008

SilverStang Co-ed Alumni Hockey Tournament April 4 - 6, 2008

Six Degrees London Spring 2008

Senior Alumni Program January – April 2008

Ottawa, ON

Speaker Reception at The Royal Ottawa G&CC February 7, 2008

Buffalo Sabres @ Ottawa Senators January 10, 2008

Owen Sound, ON

Alumni Reception at The Tom Thomson Memorial Art Gallery Spring 2008

Sarnia, ON

Speakers Series November 29, 2007
London Knights @ Sarnia Sting January 13, 2008

Sault Ste. Marie, ON

London Knights @ Soo Greyhounds March 1, 2007

Toronto, ON

Rick McGhie Plays the Annex November 30, 2007

The Nutcracker Group Tickets and After The Ballet Alumni Gathering December 9, 2007

LA Lakers @ Toronto Raptors and Tailgate Party February 1, 2008

Faculty of Science Alumni Reception February 21, 2008

Cocktail Reception at The Spoke Club March 2008

The Medium Opera & Dinner at The Arts and Letters Club May 6, 2008

Alumni Western Golf Tournament June 7, 2008

Lion head Golf & Country Club Spring 2008

Six Degrees Toronto Spring 2008

Western's Alumni Lecture Series in Toronto March – April 2008

Vancouver, BC

Vancouver Holiday Reception December 2007

Olympic-theme Cocktail and Speaker Reception February 2008

Six Degrees Vancouver Summer 2008

Victoria, BC

Beltone Pops Christmas at Christmas Concert & Reception December 9, 2007

Waterloo, ON

Speaker Reception at Westmount G&CC January 31, 2008

Guelph Storm @ Kitchener Rangers February 15, 2008

Windsor, ON

Annual Brunch Winter 2008

INTERNATIONAL

Atlanta, GA

4th Annual Pan-Canadian Alumni Gala February 28, 2008

Boston, MA

4th Annual All-Canadian Wine Tasting – Inniskillin Ice Wines December 4, 2007

Hong Kong, China

HK Branch Annual General Meeting December 7, 2007

Monthly Happy Hour Last Friday of the Month

Western/Ivey Dinner March 29, 2008

Convocation March 30, 2008

London, England

UK Branch Holiday Reception November 29, 2007

New York, NY

President's Reception at Reuters Time Square February 21, 2008

Six Degrees New York Spring 2008

Singapore

Alumni Gathering Spring 2008

Washington, DC

Toronto Maple Leafs @ Washington Capitals March 1, 2008

All Canadian Universities Alumni Reception April 26, 2008

CHAPTERS

Dentistry

Spring Reception at ODA Meeting (Toronto, ON) April 11, 2008

Law

London Knights Game January 20, 2008

Toronto Denning Night March 5, 2008

Annual Alumni Dinner (London, ON) Spring 2008

Library & Information Science

40th Anniversary of LIS (London, ON) April 2008

USC Alumni Chapter

Pub Night Winter 2008

Comedy & Cocktails Winter 2008

WAA

20th Year Anniversary Event Winter 2008

W CLUB

50th Year Anniversary Event Winter 2008

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Alumni News and Announcements

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1920s

The late **Fred Harvey Hitchins, BA'23, MA'24**, was inducted into Canada's Aviation Hall of Fame on June 6 at the Canada Aviation Museum in Ottawa. Hitchins was born and raised in London and obtained his BA in 1923 and MA in 1924 in history at Western. From 1925 to 1928 he was a doctoral student and assistant instructor at the University of Pennsylvania. He obtained his PhD in 1930. He joined the faculty of New York University in 1928 where he taught European history. Following his years of teaching in the U.S., he returned to Canada to enlist in the RCAF. By that time he had accumulated a massive amount of information about Canadians who had served in the RAF, and published many articles. In 1944, his first volume of an RCAF battle history was published, entitled *The RCAF Overseas: The First Four Years*. He went on to complete two more volumes of RCAF battle history, and composed the first history of Canadians in the Battle of Britain (*Among the Few*), as well as many other historical works. Hitchins was a distinguished military historian whose passionate interest in aviation history led him to become Canada's official RCAF Historian during the years 1945-1960. His collection of papers and books was donated to the University of Western Ontario, where he served as history professor from 1960 to 1970. He passed away in London in 1972. He was predeceased by his wife Bea in 1958 and returned to London in 1960. He is survived by his children John, BSc'56, of Camlachie, Migs Baker, BA'60, of Toronto and Mary Parker, BA'65, BEd'66, of London, seven grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren.

1950s

Nora (Hanley) Newton, BA'57, organizer of excursions (06/07) for Western's Alumni Lecture Series in Toronto, arranged with her neighbour, architect Jack Diamond, for a guided tour of the new opera house. Members of the Lecture Series, in appreciation, made a donation to the Canadian Opera Association in Mr. Diamond's name. Most members attended and several brought along family and friends. Submitted by Mary McGrath, Chair (06/07).

1960s

John F. (Jack) Petch, QC, BA'60, is currently acting as Consulting Counsel to Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt, a leading Canadian business law firm, where he was a former vice-chair and senior partner. He has been a member of the University's Governing Council since 2002, serving as Vice-Chair for the last two years. He was also Chair of the St. Michael's Hospital Board of Directors from 2000-2004.

The Ontario College of Art & Design (OCAD) announced on August 20 the appointment of The Honourable **James Karl Bartleman, BA'63** (Honors History), as the university's new Chancellor. His Honour completed his term as Lieutenant Governor of Ontario on September 5. Bartleman was sworn in as the 27th Lieutenant

Governor of Ontario on March 7, 2002. He was the province's 41st vice-regal representative since John Graves Simcoe arrived in Upper Canada in 1792. Mr. Bartleman serves as Visitor to the University of Western Ontario and has received honorary doctorates from Western, York University, Laurentian University, Queen's University, the University of Windsor, Ryerson University, McGill University, Nipissing University and Sir Wilfrid Laurier University. He is Honorary Patron of approximately 80 organizations.

Werner Johann Berger, MBA'65, was born in Johannesburg, South Africa and is the oldest Canadian to climb Mount Everest, at 70 (2007) and the oldest North American to have reached the Seven Summits - highest peaks on each continent. Berger has been a corporate consultant for 23 years; and is president of Strategic Results International in Vancouver.

1970s

Don Cunningham, BA'70, recently opened an owner operator franchise for Desjardins Financial Security Independent Network in London, Ontario. As a mentor/coach, Cunningham helps people make the transition from their job to a Career Broker in Financial Services. For more information, contact, don.cunningham@dfsinc.ca.

Don McLeish, BA'70, senior lightweight varsity rowing captain 1967-68 reunited with his daughter Melanie as cox to win gold in the 4X at the Wilson Island Marathon, setting a new course record. Don, age 68, rowed in the winning Western alumni 8+ at the Head of the Thames. A 2007 season culminating in two gold, two silver, one bronze medal in rowing.

Henry Perrin Beatty, BA'71, was recently appointed President & CEO of the Canadian Chamber of Commerce. A high-profile corporate executive and former federal Cabinet Minister, Beatty was appointed to the position after a unanimous vote by the Chamber's Board of Directors in Ottawa. Since August, 1999 he has served as President and Chief Executive Officer of Canadian Manufacturers & Exporters. He was elected to the House of Commons as a Progressive Conservative in 1972 and in 1979 was appointed Minister of State (Treasury Board) in the government of Joe Clark, at the time the youngest person ever to serve in a federal Cabinet.

Donald Keith Russell, DDS'73 (Dentistry), who has practised dentistry in the area for more than 30 years, assumed the role in June of president of the Ontario Dental Association. Russell became involved with the Ontario Dental Association in 1998, sitting on committees and task forces. He's also served on the association's general council. Russell was elected to the board of directors in 2002 and as president-elect last year. He graduated from the University of Western Ontario dentistry program in 1973. He is a longtime member of the Burlington Dental Academy, where he has served as president and director of emergency services, among other roles.

Richard John Nixon, BA'73, MBA'75, has been appointed Partner of Davis LLP. Prior to joining Davis, Nixon was a partner in a major Canadian law firm for nearly 20 years. In 2006, he was named one of the "Best Labour and Employment Lawyers in Canada" in the National Post, and was cited as a "repeatedly recommended" lawyer in the Canadian Legal Expert Directory. Nixon has a Masters of Business Administration and an Economics degree from the University of Western Ontario and is a graduate of the University of Toronto Faculty of Law.

Deborah Anne McCombe, BSc'75 (Biology/Geology), PGeo has been appointed Executive Vice President & Consulting Geologist of Scott Wilson Mining. McCombe brings to the company many years of experience providing consulting and advisory services to the industry. Scott Wilson Mining, incorporating Roscoe Postle Associates, provides technical and strategic consulting services to the mining industry at all stages of project development.

Peter Mercer, LLB'76 (Huron) left Western in 2005, after serving in a number of administrative capacities over the previous 20 years, to assume the Presidency of Ramapo College of New Jersey. His contract was recently extended for another four years. Ramapo College is a top ranked college on a wooded 300 acre campus in northern New Jersey, only 25 miles from New York City. Mercer continues as one of the principal instructors in the Senior University Administrators Course (SUAC) held each June in Banff, a role he's enjoyed since 1997. This year Mercer was also invited to join the faculty of the Harvard Seminar for New Presidents each July.

Peter Jedicke, BSc'76, MA'97, has added three new titles to his shelf of children's books. Published by Chelsea House under the Scientific American banner, they are *Great Moments In Space Exploration*, *Great Inventions Of The Twentieth Century*, and *Gravity: How it Works*. Jedicke continues to teach science and math at Fanshawe College in London.

At a ceremony in Ouagadougou on March 29 **Stephen Dopp, HBA'77**, was made a Chevalier de l'Ordre National of Burkina Faso, in West Africa.

John C. Carter, BEd'77, recently returned from a Visiting Research Fellowship at the School of History and Classics, University of Tasmania. During his stay at UTAS, Carter continued his research on the North American political prisoners who were transported to Van Diemen's Land in 1839-40. He presented various workshops throughout the state which were sponsored by the Association for Canadian Studies in Australia and New Zealand (ACSANZ). In addition, he was interviewed by Chris Wisbey of the Australian Broadcasting Company (ABC) about linkages between Canadian and Australian history. Carter returns to the Ontario Ministry of Culture where he is a Heritage Programmes Officer.

Paul Kim Cooper, BESC'78 (Chemistry), MBA'01 Executive MBA, was recently appointed COO of Industrial Minerals Inc. He is responsible for the organization and execution of the Company's business and graphite market strategies, and will oversee the plant design, construction, and start-up at Bissett Creek. Cooper brings 30 years of experience in plant and project management, strategic and market planning and operational analysis. He is a graduate in Chemical Engineering from Western, and previously spent eight years in process and plant engineering at Algoma Steel. Cooper then completed an MBA program and assumed the role of President in a large retail operation employing 450 people.

Emily-Jane Hills Orford, BA'78 (Visual Arts), Ottawa music teacher/historian and writer, has launched two novels this year: *Ukulele Yukon* and *Spring*; and a collection of edited letters, *Letters from Inside: The Notes and Nuggets of Margaret Marsh*. Orford is currently launching her newest book, *It Happened in Canada*, a collection of short stories about truly extraordinary Canadians. For more information, please contact the author at: 613-823-6271, ejomusic@sympatico.ca or www3.sympatico.ca/mistymo

Debra Mae Alves, BA'79, was appointed Managing Director & CEO of CBC Radio-Canada's Pension Trust

Fund. For 23 years, Alves has been involved in all major aspects of pension fund and treasury investment management and administration. During the last nine years, she has assisted in the development, strategizing and implementation of many of the CBC Pension Fund's major initiatives. She holds a Bachelor of Arts (Political Science and Economics) from Western.

Beryl Baigent's, BA'79 (Phys-Ed), MA'90 (English), twelfth book of poetry, *And A Branch Shall Grow: The Irish Connection* was launched at Thamesford Public Library on June 28. Her publisher, Navtej Bharati of Third Eye Publications was honoured at this event as he had recently retired after 25 years of publishing. Baigent's book was the last of his publications. Her first full book *Ancestral Dreams*, was one of two books which Bharati published in 1981. Of the 77 in attendance was Ninian Mellamphy, Western professor emeritus, editor of the book and Beryl's husband, Alan H. Baigent, BEng'61 and her three daughters Amanda, Nicola and Krista and their families.

1980s

Robert Charles Bell, BSc'80 (Geology), was recently appointed to the position of President and CEO of International Nickel Ventures Corporation. Bell is a professional geologist with over 30 years experience in the mining industry. Prior to joining INV, he spent over 27 years working for Inco Limited, now CVRD Inco. For the past several years, Bell directed CVRD Inco's exploration efforts in South America, Australia, and Africa. During his extensive career with CVRD Inco, he explored in Brazil and Canada as well as in the USA, Peru, Indonesia, Turkey and Greenland.

David Howard Farrar, PhD'80 (Chemistry), has been appointed as Vice President, Academic, and Provost of The University of British Columbia. This position is the senior vice-presidential position at UBC and provides overall academic leadership to the university. Deans of UBC's 12 faculties will report to Farrar. The chemistry professor succeeds Lorne Whitehead, an internationally respected physicist who serves UBC as Leader of Education Innovation, and Associate Vice President George Mackie, who has been filling the role since November 2006. Aside from his Western degree Farrar received his MSc (1976) and BSc (1975) from the University of Toronto.

Ingrid Jo-Ann Hibbard, BA'80, LLB'84, was recently appointed a director of Detour Gold Corporation. She is a mining and securities lawyer with over 25 years of experience in the mining industry. Since 1996, Hibbard has been President and Chief Executive Officer of Pelangio Mines Inc., a public mining exploration company. Previously, she was in private practice with clients ranging from junior explorers to major mining companies such as Noranda Mines and Hemlo Gold Mines Inc. She served as Corporate Secretary of Hemlo Gold from 1993 to 1999.

Gerard Paul Fitzhenry, BA'83 (Honors Engl/Lit), recently joined Tyco International Ltd. as VP Corporate Communications. In this new position, he will be responsible for leading the company's internal and external communications at the corporate level, and overseeing the corporate communications team. Fitzhenry has a diverse communications background gained through assignments in the US, Canada and Europe. He was most recently senior director and team leader for corporate communications at New York-based Pfizer Inc. As well as his degree from Western, Fitzhenry holds a master's degree from the S.I. Newhouse School of Public Communications at Syracuse University (N.Y.).

Glenn Kevin Murphy, BA'84 (Financial St) has been hired by U.S. retailer Gap Inc. as its new chief executive. Murphy is the former CEO of Shoppers Drug Mart. He is credited for one of Canada's great retail success stories.

Since going public at \$18 in 2001, Shoppers shares have almost tripled in price. Despite that success, reaching into Canada for a top executive is seen as an unusual move by a retail icon such as Gap. Murphy comes to the chain with 20 years of retail experience, the last six as CEO of Shoppers.

Peter David Vaisler, BA'84, was recently appointed Director, President & CEO, Alliance Recovery Corporation, Michigan. Since 1995, Vaisler and a team of third party engineers and scientists have been working to develop the ARC Unit by integrating existing manufacturing and energy components into a single process system to thermally reduce waste rubber to a fuel oil for use as a feedstock to generate electricity. Using knowledge gleaned from research and development projects by several U.S. and international groups, Vaisler and his team applied existing chemical manufacturing processes to thermally reduce rubber to fuel oil for energy production.

Stephen Way, BA'84, Senior Vice-President and Portfolio Manager, of AGF Management Ltd, will manage the recently announced new AGF Global Dividend Fund with support from AGF's Global Equity Team. Way, with nearly 20 years of industry experience, also manages AGF Global Equity Class and AGF World Companies Fund, which are both top-quartile performers in their category. AGF celebrates its 50th anniversary this year.

Frank Rubini, BA'85, Manager, Government Partner Programs at the Heart and Stroke Foundation of Ontario, received the Heather Crowe award from the Ontario Ministry of Health Promotion in September 2006. The award is presented to individuals to recognize leadership in promoting a Smoke-Free Ontario. During his 14 years with the Foundation, Rubini's focus has been in the areas of health promotion, government relations and strategic communications. Responsibilities focus on developing marketing and communications strategies related to stroke, tobacco control, blood pressure and healthy weights. Highlights include shifts in public attitudes, as well as increases in awareness of stroke warning signs.

Colin Angus MacLellan, MBA'85, has been hired into the newly created position of Vice President and General Manager of NovAtel Inc. MacLellan brings solid business and leadership skills to NovAtel with a strong track record in managing all functional areas from Sales & Marketing, to New Product Development & Supply Chain Operations. He was most recently Senior Vice President and General Manager of the Wireless Business Unit of CSI Wireless, and has also held senior positions at Nortel Networks.

Linda Whitmore, BA'86 (Anthropology), MA'89 (Journalism), has recently been hired as Communications & Media Relations Manager for Mennonite Economic Development Associates (MEDA) to increase its profile during its current period of unprecedented growth and innovation. Whitmore has been appointed communications & media relations manager to expand MEDA's image and exposure in the North American public at large. She has 18 years of experience in corporate communication, most recently with St. Joseph's Health Care in London where she worked in strategic communication, media relations, issues management, and publication development and management. Besides having worked as a radio reporter her background includes writing, editing, event planning and brand development/management.

Igor Paul Kacir, BA'87 (Economics), was appointed as Vice President, General Counsel of First Solar in October 2006. Prior to joining First Solar, Kacir was a partner with the law firm of Gowling Lafleur Hender LLP in 2006. From 2000 to 2005, Kacir was general counsel for Creo Inc., a manufacturer of digital pre-press equipment. Before joining Creo, Kacir practiced with Lang Michener

Lawrence and Shaw. Aside from his degree from Western, he holds an LLB from the University of New Brunswick and an MBA from the University of British Columbia.

Randall Bruce Rutherford, HBA'88, was recently appointed as Vice President of Sales and Marketing of PMI Mortgage Insurance Company Canada. Rutherford brings over 20 years experience in sales management, consulting and business development in Canada and overseas. He has held roles in financial services and business consulting services, most recently at IBM Global Business Services, Cap Gemini Ernst & Young and CIBC. His work has focused on risk management solutions for credit, market and operational risk. He graduated from Western, and from Cambridge University in England with a Master of Philosophy.

Scott Robert Cochlan, BA'88 (Political Science), was recently appointed corporate secretary at Alberta Oilsands Inc. Cochlan is a partner at the law firm of Blake, Cassels, & Graydon in the securities group. He has extensive experience in representing both issuers and underwriters in a wide variety of complex public and private financing matters including cross-border/international financings, mergers and acquisitions, takeover bid and plan of arrangement transactions, and other business reorganizations and restructurings. He also has a law degree from the University of Calgary.

Kevin William Glasgow, MD'88, was recently appointed to the position of National Executive Director for Crohn's and Colitis Foundation of Canada. Dr. Glasgow brings extensive experience in the health sector, serving as CEO for the Cardiac Care Network of Ontario, the Brant County Board of Health, and a biotechnology start-up. He was also Associate Vice-President for a major pharmaceutical company and Senior Medical Consultant with the Ontario Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care. He has served on non-profit boards, including Habitat for Humanity Toronto, the Association of Local Public Health Agencies, and the Institute for Infection and Immunity of the Canadian Institutes of Health Research.

Jason Michael Somer, BSc'89 (Biology), was recently appointed Senior Director of Business Development of Suntech Power Holdings Co., Ltd. Somer was hired as the Senior Director of Business Development to be based in the United States. He was previously the Director of Legal Affairs at IronPort Systems, an e-mail and Web security appliance company in San Francisco that was acquired by Cisco Systems. In addition to his degree from Western, he received an LLM from Boston University and an LLB from the University of British Columbia.

Patrick Dion, BSc'89, Vice President Consulting, SUMMA Strategies Canada, has been appointed as one of the inaugural members of the Board of Directors of the Mental Health Commission of Canada. Prime Minister Stephen Harper announced the final selection of the Board for the newly created Commission of Canada on August 31. The Commission is a non-profit organization created to focus attention on mental health issues and to work to improve the health and social outcomes of people living with mental illness.

Michael J. Hunter, HBA'89 (Business Administration), was recently appointed VP Marketing, Olympus Imaging America Inc. Hunter, who joined Olympus on August 13, will report directly to Katsuhiko Inadomi, Senior Vice President, Olympus Imaging America Inc. He brings a wealth of knowledge and experience across multiple product lines and channels of distribution, including 15 years of global and domestic consumer marketing at Whirlpool, Eastman Kodak and Campbell Soup.

Jian Chien, MA'89 (Economics), was recently appointed VP Finance, Canadian Solar Inc. Chien became a director of CSI in December 2005. Until recently, he was managing director of Beijing Yinke Investment Consulting Co. Ltd., a company which provides financial consulting services and manages its own investment projects. Before joining Beijing Yinke, he was Chief Financial Officer of China Grand Enterprises Inc., a diversified investment holding company based in Beijing, China. Chien also holds a Bachelor of Science degree from the University of Science and Technology of China.

David John Wodar, BA'89 (Economics), was recently appointed President and CEO of Industrial Minerals, Inc. Wodar originally joined Industrial Minerals as a corporate communication specialist, having spent the past 20 years in marketing, and business and strategic planning for numerous emerging companies. Wodar will be responsible for the implementation of the business plan, including financing, construction, marketing, and general liaison with the investment community as the company moves toward development of its graphite property at Bissett Creek in Maria Township, Ontario.

1990s

Leslie S. Auld, BSc'90 (Pharma/Tox), was appointed recently as Chief Financial Officer for Fralex Therapeutics Inc., a medical technology company developing neuromodulation therapy. Auld's professional focus has been on Canadian biotech companies. Most recently, she was senior director of finance at Luminex Molecular Diagnostics (formerly Tm BioScience Corp.) where she provided leadership in the strategic planning process, and was directly responsible for developing the company's overall risk assessment process. She also was responsible for implementing best practices for high-risk financial segments and all financial reporting. Prior to Tm BioScience, Auld was chief financial officer at Helix BioPharma.

Mitchell Muroff, BA'90 (Finance/Economics), was recently hired as a Manager in the San Francisco office of Edgar, Dunn & Company, (EDC) a leading independent global financial services payments consultancy. Muroff is a widely respected expert in e-commerce payment risk management, with more than 22 years experience serving some of the world's pre-eminent multi-national e-commerce and technology firms. He will provide EDC clients with strategic and operational consulting in all aspects of global payment processing with an emphasis on the development of efficient, reliable and scalable approaches to the management of e-commerce payment operations and fraud/abuse risks.

Patricia Nemeth (Pankoff), BA'90 (Economics and Psychology), and Steven J. Nemeth are proud to announce the birth of their second son, Nathaniel James, born March 2007 in London, Ontario.

Nicola Catherine Baigent Wilberforce, BSc'90 (Physiotherapy), having gained a medical degree from McMaster's is now practicing Family Medicine in Thunder Bay, Ontario. She has also recently qualified for the Canadian Triathlon team and will be competing in the championship race in British Columbia next year.

Jonathan Gordon Ehrlich, BA'91 (Political Sci), **MBA'96**, was recently appointed new President and Chief Operating Officer of Communicate.com Inc., an Internet commerce and media company. Ehrlich was, from November 2003 until recently, Executive Vice-President, Online at Indigo Books & Music Inc., Canada's largest book retailer, where he was responsible for that company's Online business. Prior to joining Indigo, Ehrlich was an Entrepreneur-in-Residence at Mosaic Venture Partners and before that

was a Co-Founder and Vice President of Marketing for MobShop Inc., a pioneer in online e-commerce.

Krista Baigent, BA'93 (Anthropology), graduated in the Summer Convocation from Lakehead University, Thunder Bay with a Bachelor of Nursing degree and she is presently employed as a mental health nurse in Thunder Bay and lives in Kekabeca Falls.

S. Joy Birch, BA'94 and her husband John (Stevenson) and sons Nolan (2.5) and Owen (6.5) returned to London (after 10 years in Toronto) and are especially glad to be back in the Forest City. Joy has launched her business: Sam Hamilton & Company - providing marketing, advertising and people development services. joy@samhamilton.ca, www.samhamilton.ca

After practising real estate law at private law firms for more than five years, Nicole W.S. Suen, HBA'97, has joined Stewart Title Guaranty Company as Counsel - Underwriting in August of 2007. Stewart Title is located in Toronto. Nicole would like to hear from old friends and colleagues. Please email her at nwssuen@hotmail.com.

Michael J. MacKenzie, BSc'98 and MSc'01, was recently selected to participate in the prestigious Leaders for the 21st Century Fellowship program by Zero To Three, the National Center for Infants, Toddlers, and Families in Washington, D.C. His current position is Assistant Professor in the School of Social Work at Columbia University. During the two-year Fellowship program, Dr. MacKenzie will investigate how high stress levels can negatively impact family members' perceptions of their infant's crying/feeding/sleeping behavior and potentially lead to maltreatment.

Timothy Aubrey, MBA'99 was recently appointed as Independent Member to the Board of Directors of Q9 Networks Inc, a leading Canadian provider of outsourced data centre infrastructure. Most recently, Aubrey was the Senior Vice President, Finance for Fairmont Hotels and Resorts. During his tenure with Fairmont, Aubrey was responsible for the standardization of accounting policies and processes and the harmonization of reporting across the company. In addition, he held responsibility for Information Technology and under his leadership the centrally managed computing infrastructure was successfully outsourced to Q9 Networks. Aubrey also holds a Bachelor of Commerce degree from McMaster University.

2000s

Ryan Baker, BSc'00 (Comp Sc/Stats), was recently appointed Associate of KPS Capital Partners, LP. Baker was formerly a mergers & acquisitions Associate at Paul, Weiss, Rifkind, Wharton & Garrison LLP. He graduated from the University of Toronto's Joseph L. Rotman School of Management with a MBA and the Faculty of Law with a J.D. Baker received a BSc in computer science and statistical sciences from Western.

Megan K. Davren, BA'00 (Kinesiology), loves soccer so much so, she has moved half-way around the globe to teach the world's most popular sport to youngsters in Abu Dhabi, the gulfside capital city of the United Arab Emirates. Since Sept. 2006, Davren has been working as a coach and administrator at Football For All, an Abu Dhabi-based organization. She expects to stay in Abu Dhabi until 2010 when her residency visa expires. There's talk of expanding Football For All to nearby nations such as Qatar and Bahrain.

Ms. RYANNE E. THOMAS BA'01 (English) was married on August 2004 and is now Mrs. RYANNE LANGERIN.

Geoffrey Grace, BA'04 (Psychology), has begun his career as a realtor. Earlier this year, he spoke to the graduating class of the Schulich School of Medicine about the basics of home ownership and assisted many with smooth transitions as residents across Canada. Always looking to give back to those who have helped him, Grace has announced a generous program whereby a percentage of his income is donated back to the University, when helping Western alumni or students with the sale or purchase of a property. He encourages alumni to visit his website www.gracehomes.com and email him geoffrey@gracehomes.com for more information.

André Louis Heywood, BSc'05, MMus'07, is the new artistic director of The St. John's Boys' Choir. He recently received a master's degree in choral conducting from Western (where he also received an undergraduate degree in biochemistry) and took over the choir when Brother Paul Richards retired in June. Heywood already seemed at ease during the choir's weeklong day camp this past summer at St. John's University. He has been honored on the national stage for his writing by the Canadian Music Educator's Association.

Two Western alumni have entered the Pennsylvania College of Optometry's (PCO) Doctor of Optometry program this fall. The new professional students are: Sam Baraam, BSc'06 and Stacey Baugaard, BMS'06. The Doctor of Optometry (O.D.) degree stands at the core of Pennsylvania College of Optometry's programs. This four-year, post-graduate program provides students with a solid, scientific understanding of vision while developing their clinical skills for professional practice. One of 17 accredited optometry programs in the U.S., PCO graduates 90 percent of the practicing optometrists in Pennsylvania and 20 percent nationwide.

Nicholas Jay Mosey, PhD'06 (Chemistry), currently a researcher at Princeton University, has won both the Howard Alper Postdoctoral Prize and an NSERC Doctoral Prize for his work as a computational chemist at Western. His efforts hold the promise of providing valuable clues that could lead to the development of improved, more environmentally friendly engine lubricants.

Joshua D. Lambier, MA'06 (English), was awarded the prize to pursue his work studying the evolution of modern human rights discourse by focusing on Romantic-era literature. Created in 2002 with a \$125-million endowment from the federal government, the Pierre Elliot Trudeau Foundation is an independent, non-partisan charity. Lambier has completed two degrees at Western and is now learning German at the renowned Goethe Institute. He's completing research for his project, drawing on works from such famous European thinkers as Kant, Hegel and Schelling. Lambier will use his award to fund his research in Canada, the U.S. and Europe.

In Memoriam

Ruth Evelyn Swartzen, BA'37, passed away on May 26 in Gloucester, Ontario. An award is presented in her name every year at graduation at Ridgemont High School (Ottawa), the Ruth Swartzen Trophy: Awarded to the senior girl who combined high scholarship, outstanding athletic ability, and all-round leadership in the life of the school.

E.A. (Gene) Westendorp of Meaford, Ontario passed away in June 2007. He was a member of the Mustangs football team (1939-40). He joined The Essex Scottish Regiment before he graduated, fought at Dieppe and was a Prisoner of War from 1942 to 1945. The Essex Scottish Regiment was an infantry regiment of the Canadian Armed Forces during World War II and was among the first Canadian units to see combat in the

European theatre during the invasion of Dieppe. By the end of The Dieppe Raid, the Essex Scottish Regiment had suffered 121 fatal casualties, with many others wounded and captured. Gene is predeceased by his spouse, Mary Isobel, BA41. His son, Mike Westendorp, is also an alumnus of Western (Arts'69).

Robert David McMurdo, HBA'53 passed away in June. Bob loved life and people loved him. A former member of the Mustang Football Team, McMurdo had a successful business career serving as President of McKay-Cocker Construction Ltd of London, Ontario from 1974 to 1991. Following his construction career, he became the Co-CEO of The Workplace Health and Safety Agency, a bipartite government organization established to reduce accidents and deaths in Ontario.

John Angus Weir, MBA'55, age 76, passed away suddenly at Queen Elizabeth Hospital while visiting his beloved cottage in Prince Edward Island. He was born in Charlottetown on October 29, 1930 and throughout his years there was more commonly known as 'Jack.' After graduating with a BA from St. Dunstan's University (now UPEI) in 1953, he went to London to continue his education at Western. There he attained his MBA in 1955 and at that point moved to Kitchener-Waterloo to work at Electrohome. It was during this time that he met Ann, whom he married in 1959, and when he formed some of the friendships that would endure throughout his lifetime. John and Ann subsequently moved to South Bend, Indiana so that he could continue his education. This culminated in John receiving his PhD in Economics from Notre Dame University in 1964. They moved to Winnipeg where he became a Professor at the University of Manitoba and it was there that their boys John and David were born. In 1965 they moved back to Kitchener-Waterloo so that John could take a position at what would ultimately become another great passion in his life: WLU (Waterloo Lutheran University) when he arrived, later Wilfred Laurier University). After returning to Waterloo, John and Ann welcomed Michael and Gregory to their family. John served WLU in a variety of capacities

over the years: Professor, Chairman of the Economics Department (1968 to 1978), Vice President Academic (1978 to 1982), and finally as President (1982 until his retirement 1992).

Enzo Ugo Sivilotti, MD'62, died December 4, 2006 in Delaware, Ontario. He was born March 14, 1934 in Fort Erie. He first went to Ryerson where graduated in 1955 in Electronic Technology. Not happy in this field he entered Medical School at Western, graduating in 1962. Dr. Sivilotti practiced family medicine in London until his retirement in 1998. His practice included a strong representation from the clergy, academia, Italian and the Muslim communities. His waiting room was a microcosm of the world. It was cramped, loud, where the atmosphere was more like a social gathering. Many patients described it as "like coming home." Enzo was an avid woodworker, loved music, in particular, early jazz and classics. After retirement he spent the rest of his life, with his wife Kathryn, happily busy on their farm just outside of London. Enzo was a man that is not easily forgotten, to some he presented a stern exterior, but underneath was a man with tremendous wit, humor, compassion and empathy that touched those who knew him. He is also survived by three daughters and five grandchildren.

David F. MacDonald, HBA'70, died suddenly, in a car accident in Nobel, Ontario, while vacationing with his family on Georgian Bay. David leaves to mourn, his beloved wife, Janice, their two daughters, Christina and Katrina and son William, also his parents Sheila and Bill MacDonald, sister Joan, brother Bruce, nieces, nephews and other relatives. David served 4 years in Tanzania with CUSO and CIDA, he then traveled extensively in his career as comptroller of hotels. David graduated from Western in 1970. He was currently C.F.O of Dellisart Lodging based in Atlanta, Georgia. He was a devoted family man with a laconic manner and quick wit. He will be sorely missed.

Esther Winnifred (MacMath) Ross, BA'77, passed away peacefully at Alexandria and Marine Hospital Goderich on December 11, 2006 at 89 years. Loving mother of John

and his partner Warren Schell, dear wife of the late Ewan Ross (1987). Esther was a graduate of London Normal School (1937) and Western (1977). Born in Goderich on March 24, 1917 she was a life long resident of Goderich Township. Esther taught in Huron County for many years and then became a social worker with the Goderich Children's Aid for almost 25 years, retiring in 1978. Esther is also survived by one sister Maude Armstrong (Bill), Bayfield. She is predeceased by her parents Winnifred Goodwin (1950) and Samuel MacMath (1946) two sisters Helen Collier (2003), Grace Thaler (2006) and three brothers William (1914), Hugh (1916), Sheldon (1940).

Debra A. James, BA'87, wife of Ray G. Young, HBA'84, passed away in Sao Paulo Brazil on September 14, 2007 from complications relating to surgery. She was 42. Debra lived a full and rewarding life, having lived in all four continents of the world and traveling extensively which was her love. She is survived by Ray, her parents and her sister.

Christopher Mathew Dixon, BA'96, MLIS'00 and PhD candidate passed away suddenly, at age of 34 at home in the arms of his beloved wife on July 2. Predeceased by his paternal grandparents and his maternal grandfather, he leaves treasured memories with his best friend and soul mate Sandra, MLIS'01, his grandmother Connie Lou Moore, his parents Janis and Dennis Dixon, and his younger brother Ryan. He will also be sadly missed by extended family and many dear friends. Chris was born in London but grew up all over southwestern Ontario as well as northern Ontario where his parents were both teachers. His steel-trap memory was legendary and he wielded it to great advantage in such diverse settings as family arguments and trivia contests. Chris passionately loved music and it was here that he was most able to find expression and comfort for all of life's ups and downs. He kept family and friends laughing heartily with his brilliantly dry humour. Chris lived his life with quiet fortitude, never wanting pity or hero worship for his kidney failure.

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Hard sciences aren't answer to problems in Afghanistan, Canada

By Paul Wells, BA'89

Every NATO country gets a turn at running ISAF, the International Security Assistance Force in Afghanistan -- there have been Italian and Canadian and German mission commanders -- but more or less by the luck of the draw, the guy in charge when I went down there was an American straight out of central casting.

Gen. Dan K. McNeill is a paratrooper from Fort Bragg, NC, small of stature but fierce of gaze, and to call him tough as nails would be to flatter nails. Over dinner in October in the officers' mess at ISAF HQ in Kabul, I mentioned a recent book about the Iraq war to Gen. McNeill. He said his own bedside reading these days includes Winston Churchill's *The River War*, an account of Churchill's adventures in and around Afghanistan in the 1890s. "Not much has changed," McNeill said.

Later he mentioned he could describe the ingredients in local rice dishes in a half-dozen Afghan provinces, because he has had ample

opportunity to get to know them during shuras -- meetings with local dignitaries following a principle older than the Quran -- all over the country.

So welcome to the 21st century. Here's a four-star general in the most sophisticated fighting force in the history of mankind, savouring rice dishes during ancient tribal rituals with local factions whose peculiarities were explained to him by a junior officer writing in the heyday of the British Empire.

This is not the way it was supposed to work out. Only six years ago, Afghanistan was the showcase for Donald Rumsfeld's "Revolution in Military Affairs," or RMI. The former US Defence Secretary's application of high-technology weapons systems, computer science and other cutting-edge technologies was designed to render old styles of warfare obsolete. If you could guide precision weapons onto any target; model the reaction of your opponent to any attack using computers; insert your troops covertly or keep them right out of the theatre thanks to satellites and high-altitude drones; then a small, agile force could be certain of quick and low-cost victory. Before the wars in Afghanistan and Iraq Rumsfeld sent battle plans back to his generals for countless revisions because he found them burdened with old-fashioned thinking.

Tested in battle, the RMI worked a charm, at first. The Taliban regime lasted only a few weeks, the vastly more contemporary government of Saddam Hussein in Iraq barely longer. Fighter-bombers circling lazily so high you could barely see them from the ground dropped armaments of exquisite refinement within inches of their targets. Two regimes' infrastructures were expertly dissembled. By historical standards the attacking forces were never in serious danger.

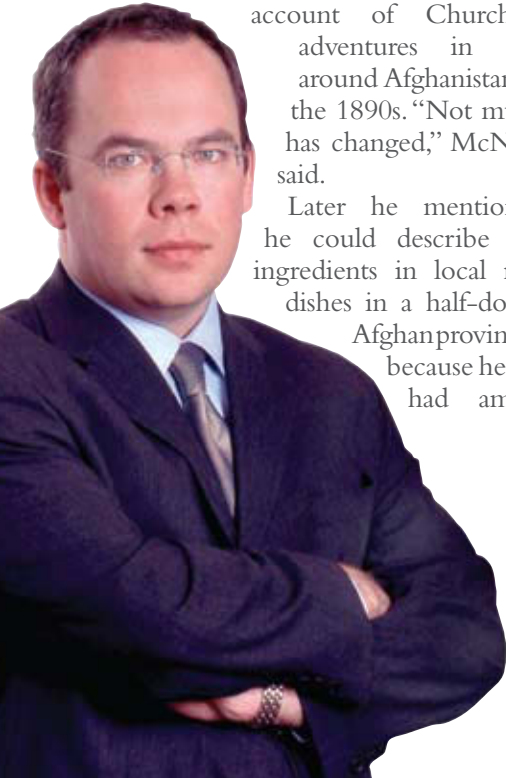
The surprise was how little of this mattered. Surviving resisters simply melted away and came back later. Technology would be a help in undoing them, but less so than an appeal to local traditions or a steady application of ageless lessons in counterinsurgency, local governance, tribal studies and a hundred other rustic arts.

In short, Afghanistan represents a victory of the social sciences and humanities over the hard sciences. Or it would, if anyone coming from outside had paid any attention to social-sciences considerations before it was perilously late in the game.

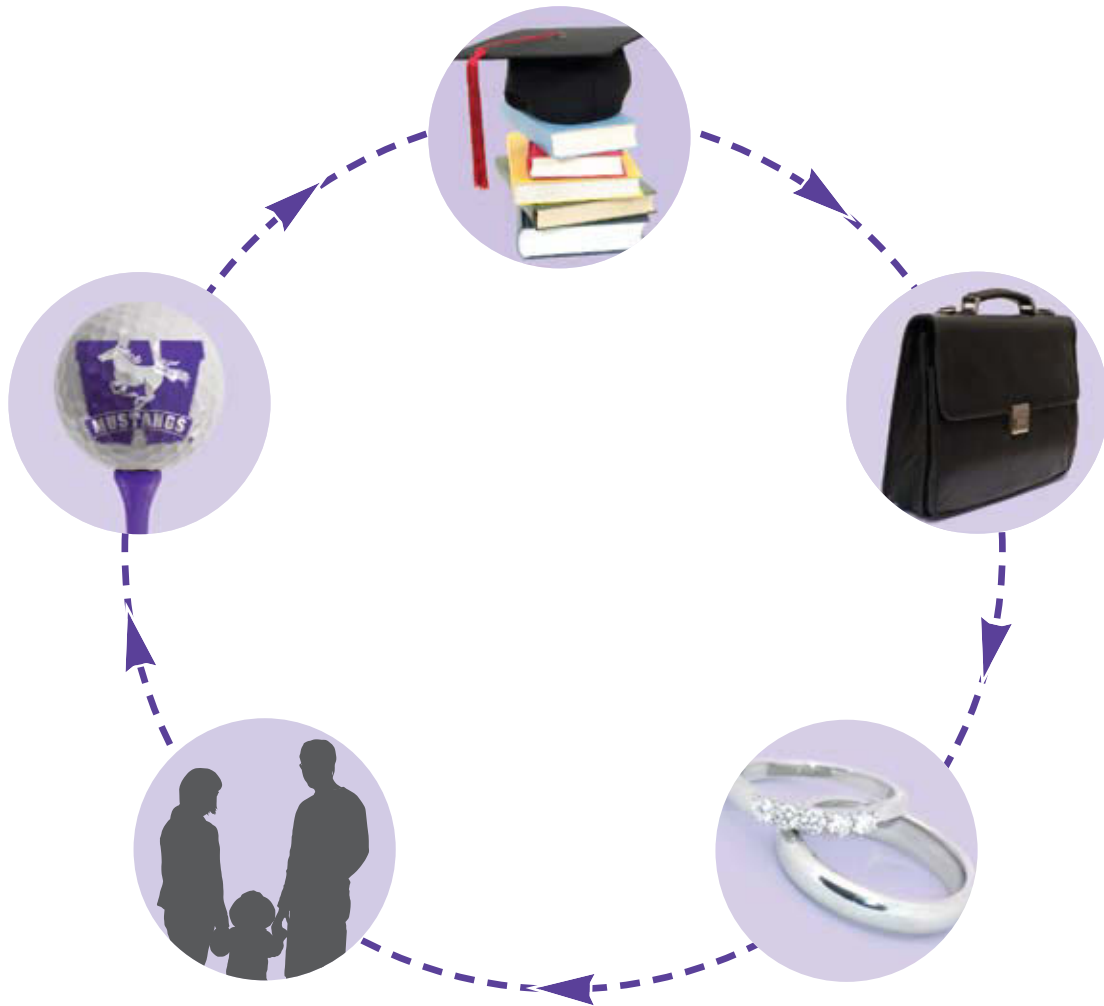
The social sciences have a hard time of it these days. This is a shiny new century and we are coming off a decade of massive federal and provincial investment in university labs across the country. The north end of the Western campus is nearly unrecognizable compared to my days there, and the new chemistry and life sciences facilities there have done much to establish Western at the front rank of Canadian universities. But the social sciences and humanities have had to live a little further from the sunlight and the budget spigot. Sociology, psychology, political science, epidemiology, anthropology, law -- they're squishy and anecdotal, they resist revolutions when they don't openly mock them, and it is hard to accompany them with polished labs, a cabinet minister who can pose in front with a pair of scissors and an oversized cheque.

So, budgets for social science research have lagged behind budgets for the lab-coat sciences. This state of affairs began under the Chrétien government and accelerated under Paul Martin and Stephen Harper. There are probably more PhD historians and political scientists close to Harper than for any prime minister at least since Trudeau, but they are obsessed with seeming frugal and unsentimental. They are aghast at the thought of using public funds to help dusty old profs study hokey ancient rituals.

But in Afghanistan, in the clash of civilization some see in Europe or in downtown Canada, in the plight of our First Nations or the maps of our cities, what we see are public problems no breakthrough in physics or molecular biology can wish away. It is not less important today to understand what awaited Napoleon in Egypt or Churchill in the Sudan or Sayyid Qutb in Greeley, Colorado. It is not hard-headed to ignore the myriad ways we live and love and hate and try with endless ingenuity to reconcile all our different humanities.



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