

The University of Western Ontario

Alumni Gazette

Fall 2008

Western's Alumni Magazine since 1939

Building a new volunteer base

How retiring Boomers may leave
Canada in a bind



• NEW WWI MEMORIAL

• FROM LAB TO COUNCIL CHAMBERS

• HABS TURN 100



THE CLARSIGHT INVESTMENT PROGRAM AND HARTFORD INVESTMENTS: NOW WORKING TOGETHER FOR WESTERN ALUMNI.



The ClearSight Investment Program from Wellington West is pleased to provide University of Western Ontario alumni with a strong partner in Hartford Investments.

Hartford Investments give you the peace of mind of working with a company with a nearly 200-year legacy of helping clients. You gain access to top money managers—some of the brightest investment pension managers in the business. And you have the choice of 14 exceptional core funds—the foundation of any sound investment portfolio.

TO GET THE STRENGTH OF HARTFORD INVESTMENTS WORKING FOR YOU, CONTACT THE CLARSIGHT INVESTMENT PROGRAM FROM WELLINGTON WEST TODAY.



FREE BOOK OFFER FOR WESTERN ALUMNI

Sign up online to receive our free e-newsletter, *The ViewPoint*, and receive a free copy of *Portfolio First Aid; Expert Advice for Healthier Investing*.*

Promo code: 19A0908PFA

Visit www.clearsight.ca/western/offer
1.877.464.6104



*Book offer available until June 30, 2009 or while quantities last. Some conditions apply. Offer subject to change. The ClearSight Investment Program is available through (1) Wellington West Capital Inc., and (2) Wellington West Financial Services Inc., a member of the Mutual Fund Dealers Association of Canada. Paid for in part by Hartford Investments Canada Corp. and ClearSight Inc. Commissions, trailing commissions, management fees and expenses all may be associated with mutual fund investments. Please read the prospectus before investing. Mutual funds are not guaranteed, their values change frequently and past performance may not be repeated. C2049



On the cover: USC President Stephen Lecce, BA'08, started the Burgundy Brick Foundation that supports affordable housing projects and donated \$53,000 to Habitat for Humanity.
(Photo by Shawn Simpson)



CONTENTS

FEATURES

10
Are we headed for a volunteer crisis?
How retiring Baby Boomers could create chaos for Canada
By Krystyna Slivinski, BA'89

12
Healing wounds beneath the surface
Toronto clinic volunteers services to victims of violence
By Carly Weeks, MA'04

14
Giving back after graduation
Kinesiology grad puts studies into action in Central America
By David Scott

16
Recognizing the signs in time
Shaking the stigma of mental illness
By Patrick Dion, BESC'89

18
Cancer survivor helps kids battle same
The work of Dr. Jeffrey Taub, BSc'83, MD'87 at Children's Hospital of Michigan
By Tom Nugent

20
From laboratory to council chambers
Windsor Mayor Eddie Francis' path to politics
By Nicole Laidler, BA'03, MA'04

22
New plaque honours Western's soldiers of Great War
Memorial unveiled November 11th on campus
By Pat Currie

30
Hockey in DNA of Montreal fans
New book highlights 100 years of Habs
By David Scott

31
When life imitates art
Science fiction becomes science fact in Scott Bakker's new book
By David Scott

08
Campus Journal
Globe ranks Western #1 for seventh year

32
Who's On
Exit Lines, by Londoner Joan Barfoot, BA'69, her 11th book

35
Almanac
Alumni award winners from Homecoming 2008

ONLINE ONLY FEATURES

Churchill & cigarettes board at port
The full-length version of Stuart Paddon's adventures aboard HMS Prince of Wales

What could be more worthwhile?
Alumnus Joel Tiller, BA'08, travels to the Philippines to volunteer

DEPARTMENTS

05
Letters
Olympics issue enjoyed by son of medalist



Early lessons in volunteering lead to lifelong giving

They say time is money and organizations who rely on volunteers know their value. This issue features articles on volunteers and their contributions in a variety of capacities. That desire to 'give back' starts at a young age and probably has a lot to do with the home of your childhood.

Living next door to the Seaforth Manor in the early 1970s was 'interesting' as a child. There was a mixture of regular elderly and off-the-wall borderline psychotic residents, the overflow from regional psych units. Because of our close proximity and the fact my mother worked there part-time as a nurse, I became familiar with a number of the residents. Some had relatives who never came to visit or just no relatives. It made for lonely scenes at Christmas.

I would occasionally play checkers with an old guy named Cecil who had fairly severe cerebral palsy. He beat me in checkers every single game (even

when I tried). Someone had given him or the Manor one of those tabletop hockey games. The only way he could score on me with his shaky hands was if I left my goalie wide open, which I did.

I suppose you can classify my time spent with Cecil as volunteer. Not really formal or structured, and benefitting an individual more than an organization.

Hanging around the Seaforth arena as a kid and watching the now defunct Junior D Centenaires hockey team play was an entertaining thing to do on a Friday night or Sunday afternoon. Along with all the other 'rink rats' we would help Roy 'Red' McGonigle shovel the snow off the ice or scrape the remnants the ice flooder left behind, in the years before the Zamboni. That was more spontaneous, unstructured volunteer time.

Maybe it makes sense after living in Toronto for about eight years, I returned to my hometown to work for the Huron Expositor and volunteered on the executive of the Seaforth Centenaires for four years. If you want to learn what makes a community tick, go to the arena. Or work the bar at an arena function. Bleary eyed and shoes sticking to the floor cleaning up spilled drinks at 3 a.m. on New Year's Eve when all the revelers have left the building. Your love of community and hockey or something keeps you motivated.

It was probably that community contact and a desire to give back that led me almost on a whim to run for mayor of Seaforth in 1997. My one-term foray into politics was an eye-

opening, passion evoking, exhausting and rewarding three years. That 'extra money' I made (\$4,000 and change), above my meager community paper editor's salary at the Lakeshore Advance in Zurich & Grand Bend, was thinned out even more when I realized there were many events I was expected to attend and not be paid for in a volunteer mayoral capacity.

But it all evened out. The amount of free (delicious) roast beef dinners (by the Legion Ladies Auxiliary Branch 156) at various functions that I was fortunate to consume got me through the strenuous times – and helped me balloon up to my all-time heaviest weight of 215 lbs.

As a Londoner now, I could probably do more volunteering (if I could find the time). There are a lot of people out there in both categories when it comes to volunteering: The doers, the non-doers (and the do-till-you-droppers).

Here's an idea – make volunteer hours tax deductible just like cash donations to registered charities. Then the Canadians who give billions of volunteer hours a year (yes, two billion hours according to the 2004 Canada Survey on Giving, Volunteering and Participating) can actually be rewarded in real terms if time is indeed money.

But for some people, the reward is in the giving.

David Scott
dscott24@uwo.ca

P.S. Happy Holidays!

Fall 2008 (ISSN 1189-6272)

Editor
David Scott

Executive Editor
David Dauphinee

Publisher
Helen Connell

Art Director
Terry Rice

Staff, Faculty & Volunteer Contributors

Steve Anderson, Jess Bechard, Kris Dundas, Karmen Dowling, Susanna Eayrs, Ann Hutchison, Douglas Keddy, Scott May, Paul Mayne, Ann McFadden, Joyce Peralta, Rob Potter, Matt Quin, Jeff Renaud, Malcolm Ruddock, Angie Smith, Marcia Steyaert, Allison Stevenson, Heather Travis, Kathy Wallis, Andy Watson

Design
Cara McCarthy

Photography
Cathy Chatterton, DMC Medical Photography, Renata Frankovich, Paul Mayne, Tova Plashkes, David Scott, Shawn Simpson, Heather Travis

Advertising Inquiries
Denise Jones, (519) 661-2111, ext. 85460;
denise@uwo.ca

Editorial Advisory Board
Gary Blazak, MA'79, Carol-Lynn Chambers, BSc'82, MPA'01, Helen Connell, MBA'96, David Dauphinee, Jim Etherington, BA'61, Ann Hutchison, Terry Rice, BFA'98, MA'00, Malcolm Ruddock

Guest Contributors
Pat Currie, Patrick Dion, BESC'89, Ted Garrard, Nicole Laidler, BA'03, MA'04, Tom Nugent, Krystyna Slivinski, BA'89, Carly Weeks, MA'04, Paul Wells, BA'89

The Alumni Gazette is published three times annually by the Department of Communications & Public Affairs in partnership with Alumni Western and the Department of Alumni Relations & Development.

For publication dates or to make submissions, contact the managing editor at 519-661-2111 ext. 87482, e-mail at dscott24@uwo.ca or mail at The University of Western Ontario, Suite 360, Westminster Hall, London, Ontario, N6A 3K7. Forward change of address information to advser@uwo.ca or call (local) 519-661-4176 or (toll-free) 1-800-420-7519.

Printed in Canada.
Publication Agreement #40069342
Return Undeliverable Canadian Addresses to:
University of Western Ontario,
Suite 360, Westminster Hall,
London, ON N6A 3K7

Read the Gazette online at:
www.alumimagazine.ca



Olympics issue enjoyed by son of medalist

(Re: The lore of athletic legend John Loaring, Summer 2008)

My brother is G.R. John Loaring, and he was kind enough to give me a copy of the Summer 08 Gazette with excellent articles concerning the fine Olympic accomplishments of Western athletes, including our father John Loaring. An alumni who is a friend previously had told me about the article. The whole issue is so nicely done, and we enjoyed and appreciated all of the stories.

Some years ago I was fortunate enough to attend the special dinner where our father was honoured as one of Western's athletes of the half-century. And so I feel a little like alumni myself. I attended Riverside Secondary School in Windsor in a class that eventually produced a harvest of many physicians, amongst them formerly close friends that became Western students: John Kelton (Dean of Medicine at McMaster), Paul Cooper, Jim Gall, and a number of others.

The same school has sent many students to Western over the years. My brother-in-law, Dr. Fraser Fellows (a Queens grad), may still teach Obstetrics at Western.

Thanks so much for producing this issue. It is very well done indeed.

David Loaring

Photo of pearling lugger, not pirate ship

(Re: Photo contest winners, Spring 2008, page 31)



I knew as soon as I saw the "sails in the sunset" that it was Broome, Western Australia. We are visiting our daughter who lives in Broome so I thought I would send you a postcard of a famous pearling lugger, similar to the one in the sunset scene in your spring magazine.

My point is I don't think they were used as pirate ships but rather to collect pearl shell/pearls.

P.S. Enjoyed Homecoming last year!

W. Cowan, BA'57 (Geology)

Western should stop supporting bloody regime

I am writing to express my concern about the investment practices of Western and to call alumni to take a stand against the university's financial support of a country perpetrating a massacre of human lives.

The student group STAND Western (Students Taking Action Now, Darfur) formally petitioned the university in June to divest its funds in Sudan. The Sudan has been experiencing a genocide since 2003 that has been internationally recognized. Recently The International Criminal Court's chief prosecutor has charged Sudanese President Omar Hassan al-Bashir with genocide and crimes against humanity.

The response by the university to STAND was weak and soulless. The Board of Governors (BOG) offered the reasoning that meeting STAND's request would "create a precedent and there would be no practical way to draw the line between one request and another." (Western News, June 25).

How can such a weak slippery-slope argument stand up against the cruel, unjust, and inhumane treatment of human lives that are at stake? Western must take responsibility for financially supporting an internationally recognized bloody regime. To do anything less for such a serious, globally shocking issue reflects not just a lack of ethical investment strategies but a blatant disrespect and disregard for human welfare.

Not all of the university's financial strategies, nor its other investments, must be examined to realize that basic point. Further revision of Western's investment strategies may be decided on independent ground if they are deemed so fit and at whatever time seems relevant. Now is the time to act. We alumni must express our outrage and disappointment in the BOG decision as best we can.

S.J. Burrow, PhD'03 (Philosophy)

Alumnae role models for Canadians, including young ones

(Re: Life after Olympics for rowing alumnae, Summer 2008)



Potential third generation Western alumna, Julia Singh-Biggs enjoys her mother's Alumni Gazette.

Thanks for providing a great publication with a good balance of feature articles.

I particularly enjoyed reading the article "Life after Olympics for rowing alumnae" and learning about McBean's and Laumann's continuing contribution to physical activity.

Both women continue to be great role models for all Canadians.
Susannah Biggs, BA'90, MBA'93 (WLU)

Letter promoting business irks reader

(Re: Takin' care of summer camp business, Summer 2008)

This letter from Mr. Pearse was the most blatant example of bragging I have ever seen. Did he think that anyone would be the slightest bit interested in his ancient "accomplishments"? The irony of the matter is that he used the Takin' Care of Business theme of the Spring edition to promote his business, yet all of the entrepreneurs featured in that issue established their businesses while he apparently took over an established family business.

Halfway through the letter Mr. Pearse stops talking about himself for a brief moment to mention that his wife is a Western English grad. It's unfortunate that he did not ask her to edit his submission.

When Mr. Pearse 'flips' through the next edition, perhaps he will conclude (as I'm sure the majority of readers did) that most of what he said would have been better left unsaid.

Ross Williams, MEng'71

Letters

Science stories sought from grads

Several articles in past issues of the Western Alumni Gazette have highlighted how Western is justifiably proud of its "research intensity." Now, to complement its strong record in research, the Faculty of Science has initiated a project to explore and expand "learning-intensity."

The project is an Appreciative Inquiry that aims to collect stories of

particularly intensive undergraduate learning experiences from current students, faculty, staff, alumni and emeriti. Major themes arising from these narratives will be used to inform a Town Hall Meeting where members of the community at large will generate ideas for new programming that will enhance our effectiveness as a learning intensive, as well as research intensive, faculty.

I encourage Science Alumni to contribute their experiences of intensive undergraduate learning by contacting the facilitators by email at growingintensity@uwo.ca.

Tom Haffie
Learning Development Coordinator
Faculty of Science

EDITORIAL POLICY

Publication is at the discretion of the Editor. Letters may be edited for length, style and clarity. Maximum: 300 words. Opinions published do not necessarily reflect those of the Western Alumni Gazette or the University of Western Ontario.

YOUR RIGHT TO PRIVACY

Western respects your privacy. At any time you have the right to request that your personal information cease to be used for alumni programs, to provide information about alumni services, or for fundraising purposes.

For more information, please go to the following website

www.advser.uwo.ca/privacy.htm or contact Advancement Services Phone 519-661-4176 or 1-800-420-7519 (Canada & U.S.), Fax 519-661-4182 or email: advser@uwo.ca

**Read the Alumni Gazette online at:
www.alumnigazette.ca**

Keep the issues coming...

To help us off-set the ever-increasing costs of printing and mailing the Alumni Gazette please consider making a donation today. For your support of \$25 or more, we will send you a tax receipt and our pledge

to continue to make your alumni magazine the best it can possibly be. If you have supported the magazine with a donation in the past, thank you for your generosity.



\$25 \$50 \$75 Other: \$ _____

I would like to pay by:

VISA Mastercard American Express

Name of card holder _____ \$ amount _____

Card number _____ Expiry _____

Signature _____

Name _____ Address _____

Postal _____ Tel _____ E-mail _____

Alumni number (7-digit number on your magazine mailing label) _____

Check off any of the information below that is relevant to you:

- The address above is a new address for the recipient of this magazine.
- The graduate for whom this magazine was intended has moved and no forwarding address is available.
- I/We receive more than one copy of the magazine at the address above. In the future, send only one copy of the Gazette to this address.
- I/We no longer wish to receive the Gazette. Remove the address above from your mailing list for future issues of the magazine.

Please mail cheques (made payable to the Western Alumni Gazette) with the accompanying form to: Western Alumni Gazette, C/O Westminster Hall, Suite 260, 361 Windermere Road, London, Ontario, Canada, N6A 3K7. Please fax credit card donations to: Western Alumni Gazette C/O Advancement Services 519-661-4182

What will YOUR legacy be?



Commitment

Mary's endowed bequest to Foundation Western is an expression of her hope that future generations of students will forever benefit from receiving the kind of education she had at Western.

Hope

Although he may never know Mary, Andrew will receive the best education possible at Western because of a donor's belief that every generation deserves the opportunity to excel.



Invest today for Western's tomorrow.

Making a planned gift to The University of Western Ontario enables our alumni and friends to empower leaders of tomorrow.

By endowing a legacy gift, you transform your commitment into the next generation's hopes, and through Western, *anything* continues to be possible.

- Give a gift of life insurance
- Donate securities
- Reallocate retirement benefits
- Bestow a bequest

Please **make a difference**. Contact Hallie McClelland at hmccllell@uwo.ca or call 519-661-2111 ext. 85585 for more information.

The University of
Western Ontario

www.givingtowestern.uwo.ca/legacies



Globe ranks Western #1 for seventh year

The University of Western Ontario has received Canada's only 'A' grade for overall student satisfaction among its 16 Canadian peer universities (large – more than 22,000 students). This is the seventh year in a row Western has come out on top among large Canadian universities.



Western was also rated first by students for quality of education, again scoring the only 'A' among its peers in this category. Western has the second highest entering grades in the province of Ontario.

The Globe and Mail's 2007 Canadian University Report (formerly the University Report Card) released October 16 surveyed more than 43,000 students from 55 universities.

In those published results Western ranked number one in the following categories:

- Most satisfied students... A
- Quality of education... A
- Quality of teaching... A-
- Course availability/variety... A-
- Buildings and facilities... A-
- Student residences... A-
- Campus atmosphere... A
- Extracurricular activities... A

Full results are available online at: www.globecampus.ca using the Campus Navigator Tool. "Western students know it is true," says university President Paul Davenport. "We have an exceptional learning environment that combines strong academics, first class research and the opportunity to participate in extracurricular activities that also contribute to personal development."

Davenport adds the culture at Western is possible because faculty, staff, students and alumni all believe, and

contribute in ways that create Canada's best student experience in a research-intensive university.

Hospitality Services pours its way to a \$1,500 donation

As of early November Western United Way reached 25 per cent of its 2008 goal as donations hit the \$142,000 mark.

Avid coffee and tea drinkers were helping the campus United Way campaign on November 3 at the annual Drink Coffee Today for United Way program. Guest pourers, including Western campaign co-chair Julie McMullin, pictured below, helped to raise close to \$1,500.

As the largest single donor to the United Way of London Middlesex campaign, Western faculty, staff, students and retirees will be looking to surpass an impressive total of \$516, 819 donated in the 2007 campaign.

The city-wide campaign is in full swing, with \$1.3 million (21 per cent) of its \$7.3 million goal already raised. The United Way of London & Middlesex is pursuing the eighth consecutive year of passing its campaign goal. Visit the



United Way of London & Middlesex web site at www.uwlondon.on.ca to find out more.

Since 1992 Western faculty, staff, students and retirees have contributed over \$5.5 million.

Iveys support stroke research

Richard M. Ivey, a name synonymous with making a difference, delivered more good news to The University of Western Ontario on November 5 as a gift of \$500,000 was announced in support of the Kathleen & Dr. Henry

Barnett Chair in Stroke Research at Roberts Research Institute.

The announcement was made at the 22nd Annual Roberts Dinner as friends and family of Western's scientific community celebrated the work of two of the world's leading researchers and now J. Allyn Taylor International Prize in Medicine recipients, Michael E. Greenberg and Roger Nicoll.

Ivey and his late wife, Beryl Ivey,



Dr. Henry Barnett

have been longtime supporters of Roberts, from its founding in 1986. Previous gifts allowed Roberts to establish the Beryl and Richard Ivey Centre for Cardiovascular Imaging in 2003.

"In addition to honouring this dynamic and generous couple, the Chair will boost Roberts' distinctive research strengths with a view to expanding the scope of our national and international influence on the prevention and treatment of stroke," says John MacDonald, Scientific Director, Roberts Research Institute.

In addition, the Ivey family is donating \$300,000 to the Paul Davenport Theatre in Talbot College.

The \$300,000 gift to the theatre includes \$200,000 from Ivey and an additional \$100,000 from the Estate of Mrs. Beryl Ivey. The gift was made in honour of Western President Paul Davenport, to support the renovation of Talbot College Theatre within the Don Wright Faculty of Music.

"With an overall fundraising goal of \$3 million for the theatre renovation, this is a tremendous start to a project that, once completed, will recognize Dr. Davenport's incredible leadership at Western over the past 15 years," says Ted Garrard, Western's Vice-President (External).



Greg Kopp in preparation to 'raze the roof' at right of the Three Little Pigs house. (Photo by Paul Mayne)

'Most realistic hurricane simulation' nets results

Despite some huffing and puffing, the "Three Little Pigs" project at The Insurance Research Lab for Better Homes wasted no time before providing researchers with important discoveries as its first tests got underway in September.

The project, which is the first of its kind in the world to subject full-scale houses to simulated hurricane-force winds, provided researchers with unanticipated results right from day one. "This was the most realistic hurricane simulation ever created in a lab," said Engineering professor Greg Kopp.

Initial tests showed the roof did not fail where researchers believed it would. Instead of failing on the side from which wind pressure was directed, it failed on the leeward side. They also found that, even in the event of a real hurricane, the roof would not actually fly right off the house. In fact, following the study, the roof did not look damaged at all, which has led the team to believe many people are living in homes that survived hurricanes, but which are no longer structurally sound.

As it is too expensive to engineer an entire house, researchers hope to make them safer through basic additions and amendments, with minimal cost to homeowners.

Mini-ecosystems open for research

The relationship between bugs, water, soil and air may hold the key to understanding, and eventually repairing,

our ailing environment. The new Biotron Experimental Climate Change Research Centre at Western, which officially opened behind the Biology & Geology building on September 18, provides scientists with an unparalleled opportunity to delve into these interactions.

The new \$30-million facility is set to become not only a cornerstone of ecological studies on campus, but also a leading international centre for climate change research. Already, researchers from more than a dozen countries have expressed interest in conducting studies at the Biotron.

Key to the international-nature of research at the facility is the capacity to control nearly all aspects of studies remotely from anywhere in the world through imaging technology and high performance computing provided by SHARCNET. Researchers are also able 'grow' their projects from molecule to mini-ecosystem, all within the same building. This degree of scale and control over environmental research was previously impossible.



President Paul Davenport welcomes Norm Hüner, Principle Investigator, Biotron Experimental Climate Change Research Centre to the podium at the official opening in September. (Photo by Paul Mayne.)

By providing a unique, controlled environment in which researchers can study the responses to, and consequences of, global climate change on earth and water ecosystems, research at the Biotron will facilitate a better understanding of the future of agriculture, forestry and plant diversity around the world. It will also support and stimulate the shift of growth markets toward a 'bioeconomy' in the areas of medicine and agriculture.



Researchers changing the way we take medications

First, Dr. David Bailey, a professor of clinical pharmacology at the Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry, discovered grapefruit juice can boost the dosage of some blood pressure medications to dangerous levels. Now, he and colleagues George Dresser, MD'94, PhD'04, and Dr. Richard Kim have found fruit juices including grapefruit, orange and apple can wipe out the beneficial effects of several critical medications including those taken for cancer and heart problems. It also affected cyclosporine, an anti-rejection drug taken by organ transplant patients.

In the study, participants were given the allergy drug Allegra. Researchers found the medication worked normally in those who took it with water, but it had barely any affect when taken with grapefruit juice. Only one-half to one-third of the medication was being absorbed. Bailey garnered world headlines after presenting the study to the American Chemical Society, along with a warning that this could be just the tip of the iceberg for food and drug interactions.

Bailey's recommendation, "Take your medications with water, two hours before consuming fruit juices or eating fruit, to prevent or reduce the chance of drug interaction."

No benefit to knee surgery?

A landmark study conducted at Western and published in *New England Journal of Medicine*, has found that a routinely performed knee operation provides no better relief for patients with osteoarthritis than physical therapies and medication. The study's co-authors hope this will end the practice of using arthroscopic knee surgery for arthritic knees.

Are we headed for a volunteer crisis?

How retiring Baby Boomers could create chaos for Canada

By Krystyna Slivinski, BA'89



When it comes to Canada's volunteer force, the ongoing lament is there never seems to be enough. To put a value on what volunteers give seems to be impossible but it surely impacts on our quality of life. Recreational sports, the arts or driving a senior to a doctor's appointment or

holding the hand of a dying child, can't be simply measured in dollars.

While recruitment has always been a struggle, today's trends show more Canadians becoming increasingly savvy about how and where they want to spend their time. That means many not-for-profit organizations, especially traditional service organizations, who are facing economic uncertainty and fierce competition, will need to come up with a different approach to lure volunteers.

"The baby boomer generation is more interested in opportunities that will utilize their skills. They want to do very specific tasks and do it for a defined period of time and then leave."

According to the 2004 Canadian Survey of Giving, Volunteering and Participating, a research initiative conducted by Statistics Canada, most of the work done by volunteers is in the hands of the few. In Canada, 77 per cent of all volunteer work was done by 11 per cent of the population. It's estimated that volunteers provide two billion hours of service annually which translates roughly into one million jobs.

"We are seeing volunteers who are being asked to do too much and are getting burned out," said Ruth MacKenzie, president of Ottawa-based Volunteer Canada, an advocacy group for volunteerism.

To change that around, and as a way to draw volunteers, MacKenzie suggests that organizations offer a more substantial role that

utilizes a person's acquired skill, such as accounting or designing web sites over that of the traditional volunteer tasks of stuffing envelopes or answering phones.

"The Baby Boomer generation is more interested in opportunities that will utilize their skills" MacKenzie said. "They want to do very specific tasks and do it for a defined period of time and then leave. There's a much stronger interest in being flexible in terms of what they're doing."

But what happens when Baby Boomers become the consumers of the very same services in which today they serve as volunteers?

It's an issue that Linda Graff, president of Linda Graff and Associates Inc., in Dundas, Ontario, grapples with when she meets with not-for-profits in Canada.

Graff, an expert in nonprofit management whose company provides training and consulting, believes the system could be in "chaos" within five years. She and Paul Reed, a senior social scientist at Statistics Canada have launched a national campaign, entitled "Who Cares?" (www.Canadawhocares.com), to raise awareness about the importance of volunteering and what's at stake without it.

Graff points to the participation rate on volunteering as following stages in our life cycle. For instance, participation rates among 15 to 24 year olds is high with more than half of all youth engaged in providing their services. While volunteer rates decrease with age, the number of hours served goes up. Consider if you will that for young people, they contributed on average 139 hours annually compared to seniors who clocked in an average of 245 hours in 2004.

"Baby Boomers have been doing it in great numbers, but they're about to hit that magic number when all the surveys show that people back out of volunteering," Graff said. "At age 55, it starts to drop and sharpens at 65... We think people are retiring, they have free time, au contraire. People move out of volunteering."

To combat what may end up becoming a crisis for those who rely on their unpaid workforce, Graff says organizations need to come up with new

opportunities combined with flexible commitment levels.

“Our response to those organizations is to open new positions that will sincerely engage people’s skills,” she added. “Those organizations who do so will find unprecedented riches ...the ball is in the court of the non-profit.”

Case in point: Habitat Humanity Canada. The non-profit offers volunteers a myriad of choices when it comes to working either behind the scenes or at one of their build sites. People who volunteer to build a home can do so by offering their services for the day. In that one day, they can see tangible results from the fruit of their labour and feel a real sense of accomplishment which makes for an attractive combination.

“There are some cases we have to turn away volunteers because we have so many people who want to come out and help but there are other locations where they’re clamoring to find volunteers,” said David Hughes, BA’91 (Economics) President and Chief Executive Officer at Toronto based Habitat for Humanity Canada.

“Baby boomers have been doing it in great numbers, but they’re about to hit that magic number when all the surveys show that people back out of volunteering.”

Away from the building site, Hughes says it’s always a struggle to find people with specific skills who are willing to put in the time. However, by offering people a choice, Hughes says they’re able to cast a wider net in a bid to keep operating costs down.

“Most people think it’s about swinging a hammer but the reality is we need board members, people to help in marketing, fundraising, building green homes, people with specialized expertise,” added Hughes. “These are areas where we’re always looking for volunteers.”

Getting the message out and providing potential volunteers with examples of how they can help is the key, officials say. People volunteer because they care about the mission but for many, the simple act of getting started or who to

talk to can become an obstacle. For this reason, the first ever Hands Up! Volunteer Expo and conference was recently held in Moncton to help organizations better inform people about their mission and how they can help.

Others, such as University Students’ Council President, Stephen Lecce, BA’08 (Political Science) decided to come up with his own way of giving back.

After spending a week in New Orleans helping out in the rebuilding efforts following Hurricane Katrina, Lecce was motivated to create his own foundation that supports affordable

a time when she wouldn’t be available to lend a hand.

“If you look at the pace of our lives, being a mother, full time job, it’s manic sometimes...but what I find is even volunteering is another responsibility,” she said from her home in London.

“But if you look at it the other way, it can be down time. Some of the stuff I do with her (Little Sister) is go out for dinner, or bowling...it actually ends up providing me some breathing time... If you look at it the right way, it can be a piece of sanity in an otherwise hectic life.”

If volunteer rates were to decline,



Western student Kimberly Service volunteers in Peru as part of the Alternative Spring Break Program.

housing projects. Using his skills honed as an administrator, Lecce established the Burgundy Brick Foundation whose board is comprised entirely of students.

“I really want to emphasize that Western truly encourages participation amongst its students,” said Lecce adding that so far this year, his foundation has raised \$53,000 which will be donated to Habitat Humanity’s Toronto branch.


“I think a lot of students leave here with a spirit of philanthropy ... I have lots of friends who have moved on but still have the same activism they had at Western.”

That holds true for Clare Tattersall, BA’98, a longtime volunteer, Big Sister, mother of two and Coordinator of Graduate Student Recruitment and Retention at Western. While she expects to scale back her volunteer commitments due to her growing family and work demands, Tattersall can’t imagine

Kul Bhatia, a Western economics professor, says services would have to be scaled down.

“First of all, it clearly helps the well being of the recipients,” said Bhatia during a telephone interview. “For instance, people who do mentoring of young entrepreneurs or tutoring...they are helping the productivity of the affected individual or group.”

Without those volunteers, the quality of life of those who need those services most, such as the poor or the elderly, would diminish.

“Consider those areas where no substitutes can be found,” added Bhatia. “They will have to find incentives to pay people to do the work...and where are they going to find the money?” 



Healing wounds beneath the surface

Toronto clinic volunteers services to victims of violence

Former Western student Dr. Lisa Kellett and alumnus George Diavolitsis at DLK on Avenue clinic in Toronto. (Photo by Cathy Chatterton)

By Carly Weeks, MA'04

It's often said that emotional scars are more painful than physical wounds. But for those who bear the marks of accidents or domestic violence, the outward scars can serve as painful, unwanted reminders of the past.

While it's possible to undergo treatment to reduce the appearance of raised, red marks that can cover the face or body, such procedures are often costly and can be too much for some people to afford.

Now, DLK on Avenue, a cosmetic laser surgery clinic in Toronto's upscale Yorkville neighbourhood, is offering new hope to people who want to live free of their unsightly scars but don't have the means to do it.

"Our health care system does not pay for services deemed cosmetic so unfortunately there are many children and adult victims of violence who are unable to experience the improvements in scars, birthmarks and other disfiguring skin disorders that laser treatment can accomplish," says George Diavolitsis, BA'98 (Visual Arts), who manages business strategy and development for the clinic.

The idea of 'DLK Cares' came from Dr. Lisa Kellett, who studied science at Western from 1986 to 1988, earned her MD from U of T and returned to Western for her residency and interned in internal medicine from 1992 to 1994.

Principal dermatologist at DLK on Avenue clinic, her list of clients includes Hollywood celebrities who come to her so she can zap away brown spots, wrinkles, spider veins and stretch marks. But what many people don't know is that Kellett devotes a substantial - and growing - portion of her time to helping victims of abuse or accidents regain confidence in their physical appearance. And she does it all free of charge, on a volunteer basis.

"For good or for bad, we're judged on our appearance, It will kind of restore their faith in humanity, that there are lots of good people out there, even though something bad has happened."

"Sometimes it's difficult for them to move on because people will say 'What's wrong with your face, what happened there?' It's like a constant reminder," says Kellett. "I do it because it's my way of giving back. It's also my way of sharing this awesome technology. It's a shame to just have one segment of the population be able to use it."

For the last few years, the DLK on Avenue clinic has been opening its doors to children who have scars as the result of abuse or injury. They are referred to by Toronto's Hospital for Sick Children, and undergo a series of laser treatments that help reduce the appearance of scars.

Children the clinic treats may have suffered serious burns, dog bites, been injured in a car accident, or have congenital problems that the dermatologist can address.

"It makes a scar flatter, smoother and less red," says Dr. Kellett. "Those are the biggest things."

Patients who want to take advantage of the free laser treatment only have to meet a few conditions before they receive treatment in the clinic. First, they shouldn't be able to afford

the procedure on their own. They also have to be good candidates for laser surgery. And, in lieu of payment, Kellett asks the patients she treats to do a good deed for someone else.

"This to me is one of the truly most inspiring aspects of working for Dr. Kellett, and I know as a manager at her clinic that she inspires all our staff in much the same fashion," says Diavolitis.

Stefania Santelli is one of the people who is living proof of the positive impact DLK's free laser treatment service can have on a person's life.

Stefania, a 20-year-old student from York University, was just a toddler when an accident in her family's home left her with three visible scars on her face. Stefania and her older sister were playing in the bathroom when she was injured. Stefania had been sitting on the sink and grabbed onto the towel rack as she tried to lower herself to the floor. Even though she was just four at the time, the glass-and-ceramic towel rack couldn't hold her weight. It fell to the floor and shattered, injuring Stefania's face.

Doctors had told her she needed to wait until she got older and her face matured before she could have treatments to reduce the scarring from the accident. In that time, Stefania said she became self-conscious about the marks on her face and remembers coming home crying after her peers questioned and even insulted her physical appearance.

"There was many times when people would be like 'Oh, you have lipstick on your face and that really bothered me,'" says Stefania.

But all that changed when her doctor referred Stefania to the clinic.

Stefania said she has noticed a major difference in her face and can no longer see the dark, deep, red scars that have been on her face for years.

Now, Stefania said she feels confident and is no longer self-conscious about her appearance.

"It's been such a difference," Stefania said. "Dr. Kellett helped me and I know the way it made me feel. Knowing that other children have an option now, it's a good feeling. It's really nice."

The clinic has been overwhelmed with interest from plastic surgeons and

patients since it began the free service several years ago.

In fact, it has been so successful that Dr. Kellett recently decided to expand her services to the victims of domestic violence.

Women who have had their faces and bodies disfigured by cigarette burns, knife wounds and even gun shots have come to DLK on Avenue for physical as well as emotional healing.


"It significantly affects their lives," says Kellett. "They often are quite teary as they see the improvement it just makes them feel better about themselves."

Not all women the clinic helps are victims of domestic violence. Nadia McLean came for treatment after she made national headlines when someone threw a chunk of concrete from an over-

pass on Highway 401 near Oshawa, Ont.

Nadia's injury was the result of a "very rare act of violence" between people who didn't know each other, Dr. Kellett said.

Many times, the women treated at DLK have been through emotionally and physically traumatic experiences at the hands of people they care about. And Kellett has learned that helping to erase the appearance of their physical wounds plays a major role in their emotional healing as well.

"For good or for bad, we're judged on our appearance," Dr. Kellett said. "It will kind of restore their faith in humanity, that there are lots of good people out there, even though something bad has happened." 



Stefania Santelli benefitted from free laser treatment for facial scars at DLK. (Photo by Cathy Chatterton)

Giving back after graduation

Kinesiology grad puts studies into action in Central America



High school student Amilcar, alumna Tova Plashkes, and American medical student Alex Luger at Santa Marta, El Salvador. (Photo courtesy Tova Plashkes)

By David Scott

Instead of pursuing a comfortable job in a modern clinic treating sports injuries of the physically elite, kinesiology grad Tova Plashkes, BSc'07, decided to volunteer following graduation at a clinic in Santa Marta, a repopulated community in former war-torn El Salvador.

Her final two years at Western were busy as a student athletic trainer for the women's varsity hockey team, doing independent studies and various volunteer endeavours.

But Plashkes feels strongly that as a 'privileged Canadian' she has a responsibility to make a contribution to the world. After a lengthy search she found Doctors for Global Health (www.dghonline.org), an organization that promotes health projects around the world. One of them is a physical rehabilitation centre in Santa Marta, a

small farming community in northern El Salvador in Central America.

During the 12-year civil war that tore El Salvador apart from 1980 to 1992, populations of communities like Santa Marta in guerrilla-held areas were forced to leave the country because of atrocities committed by the government forces. Its civilians lived in a refugee camp for six years and then returned to their destroyed homes, only to suffer through five more years of war.

Plashkes arrived in El Salvador in October 2007 fluent in French and with two weeks of Spanish school under her belt. "I went to the community by a four-hour bus ride. I began working five days a week at the rehabilitation centre, teaching basic anatomy and treatment as well as helping with patient treatment."

The community has a lot of uneven cobblestone streets and in rainy season that would create slippery,

muddy surfaces. As a result, the clinic treated a lot of injuries from falls. "A lot of broken wrists would go months without treatment, to the point where people couldn't move their hands. We had no ultrasound. We used hot packing and whatever techniques we could come up with."

The clinic also had a steady stream of patients needing respiratory therapy for breathing problems, some from spraying pesticides on their corn, or from childhood asthma and bronchitis. What they used for treatment was a nebulizer, a device used to administer medication to people in the form of a mist inhaled into the lungs. "Any age would come in. Children to adults. They'd have a session with the nebulizer, put the mask on for 10 to 20 minutes. Sometimes kids would have to come back if they had asthma – they don't have puffers there."

She admits when she first arrived in Santa Marta her Spanish was so bad that teaching at the clinic was impossible. “It was definitely difficult being in a town where I knew no one and only one other person spoke fluent English.” Living with a family in the community her Spanish eventually improved and she was able to appreciate her experience more.

“As I got to hear their amazing and sad stories, I began to really enjoy myself. I was very lucky living in this home. This woman lost her first husband during the war and got remarried and lost her second husband. She supports her family by hosting foreigners and making dinners for foreigners.”

Plashkes said El Salvador has a very matriarchal society. “A lot of husbands aren’t there any more. The women are very powerful forces in the community.” And women lead the charge for AIDS prevention, sexual education, health education and leadership training.

In the three-room cinderblock house, Plashkes had a room to herself. The kinesiologist’s diet in her five-month stay included lots of rice, corn, tortillas, chicken, beans and soup. The house had electricity, TV, lights and a radio.

Once she felt more comfortable speaking Spanish, Plashkes taught a

course on basic anatomy and created a manual, written in Spanish – “manuel de anatomia y rehabilitacion fisico.” She wrote it by hand there and typed it up upon her return to Canada. She has since sent the clinic the finished copy.

Plashkes also tried in her best Spanish to share the ‘Canadian experience’ and explain concepts like snow and skating. “They’ve seen people skating in cartoons and movies. It’s hard to try and explain it. Like sliding around on knives. It was pretty funny. I didn’t make any sense.”

She was fortunate to be in Santa Marta when university students were home on break.

“The town is very unusual in that there are many university students there. Because most of the families rely on subsistence farming, the costs of university make it a difficult endeavour.”

The students believe their university educations can help their families and their community. They go to school five days a week, come home on a four-hour bus ride and then run community discussion circles with other youth, forums, radio programs, health education seminars and much more.

“They redefined my understanding of commitment and cemented my

understanding that education truly can make a big difference no matter where you are.”

The kinesiology grad was so moved by what she saw she is helping to raise money for these students in Santa Marta. [W](#)

See www.santamartagoestocollege.com/about.shtml for more information.



About Santa Marta

Santa Marta is a small community of about 500 families in rural El Salvador. The community was greatly affected by the trauma of the 12-year Salvadoran Civil War. Since the war ended in 1992, conditions have improved greatly, and although poor, the community moves forward with great dedication. Today, Santa Marta is a vibrant, no longer war-torn, yet still impoverished, community. The poverty rate is near 70 per cent, and 40 per cent of adults are illiterate.

El Salvador in Numbers:

- 2 million youth ages 10-24
- 42 per cent of youth live in poverty
- Avg. rural salary no high school: \$79/mo.
- Avg. rural salary w/ high school: \$275/mo.
- Rural illiteracy: 32 per cent

Political History Leading up to the Civil War:

In 1932, Salvadoran General Maximiliano Martínez led a murderous campaign to eliminate political organizing by peasants and workers, killing an estimated 30,000 Salvadoran citizens. Over the next 50 years, every Salvadoran president was a military officer, and those who protested fraudulent elections were threatened, attacked, arrested or killed. By the 1970s, Salvadoran citizens were forming armed political organizations to demand reforms. When a final attempt to establish civilian government failed in 1979, five opposition organizations united as the Farabundo Martí National Liberation Front (FMLN). Twelve years of civil war ensued, during which time 75,000 were killed, mostly civilians. Before the UN-brokered Peace Accords in 1992, there would be more than 1 million refugees.

Sources: *Encuesta de hogares de propósitos múltiples 1998/1999/2000* DYGESTIC; FLACSO-UNICEF, 1998; *Encuesta Familiar de Salud Familiar*, FESAL, 1998;



Clockwise from left: Maria Dolores Levia, Tova, Ana Elizabeth Beltran and Yessica Leiva (Maria’s daughter). Maria and Ana are both rehabilitation health promoters who run the clinic in Santa Marta. (Photo courtesy Tova Plashkes)

Recognizing the signs in time

Shaking the stigma of mental illness



By Patrick Dion, BESC'89

When young adults begin their university years the pressure to perform in a competitive academic environment, coupled with a new life away from family, often stirs deep anxiety. The combination of new pressures and experiences can trigger, for those who are predisposed, the first symptoms of a mental illness. A lack of widespread awareness for how to identify the early signs of mental illness often inhibits getting treatment, leaving many young adults to endure their first episode feeling frightened, alienated from their peers, and vulnerable.

While my years at Western will be remembered as some of my most cherished, my brother's university experience was fraught with managing the hardships of mental illness. My brother's mental health began to unravel while a first year student in Western's Faculty of Science. While not until years later did we fully understand or acknowledge the extent of his illness, in the spring of 1988 a dramatic slide in his academic performance and irregular behavior signaled that all was not well. Until final exams, his studies were near perfect. By the middle of second-term, distracted thoughts and an inability to concentrate produced exam scores that shattered his final grades. His descent into mental illness hit at the very heart of any good student's worst fear - failure.

But my brother's journey, while emotional, has awakened me to the insidious discrimination faced by the 20 per cent of Canada's population living with mental illness.

My brother returned home that summer very defeated. Somber reflection on the events of his final months as a freshmen produced few answers. Given our family's then naiveté, a rational explanation was not obvious. As summer lumbered along, my brother's frustrations and fears grew stronger; his dreams of a career in medicine or dentistry became uncertain. He and we returned to

one painful question: “What happened?”

The summer following first year was difficult, to be sure. My brother wrestled with the injustice of how his nimble mind had suddenly become his burden. He sat for hours on the chesterfield in my parents’ living room, his first year math and science text books scattered around his feet, seized with reassembling the knowledge that had inexplicably escaped him. He was determined to prove, if only to himself, that his mind had not betrayed him. Although denial would prevent us from openly believing that my brother was experiencing the early stages of a mental illness, privately we began to worry about his health.

Among the members of our immediate family, his academic future was the subject of hushed debate. But as September approached, the only issue more certain than our family’s concern that all was not well, was my brother’s resolve that he would be returning to Western to resume his studies.

Upon returning to Western, his illness seized him further, tightening its hold on his brilliant mind. Following a series of anxious months, my brother took the first meaningful step toward getting professional help. Western’s on-campus caregivers, however thoughtful and current on the treatment of mental illness, were unable to meet his needs. For a second time he took leave from his studies to assess his future, returning again to my parents’ home.

In spite of his aim to quickly return to good health, my brother’s condition continued to deteriorate, bringing him further into the murky shadows of mental illness. Eventually, he decided to formally withdraw from his studies at Western, regrettably never to return. Notwithstanding his attempts to pursue different avenues of academic study, his post-secondary studies would end painfully. The difficult lesson: mental illness dashes the dreams of many, but particularly the dreams of young Canadians who must adjust to coping with their harsh new reality.

In his years since Western, my brother has fought courageously toward recovery. Establishing himself as a successful entrepreneur and a productive member of society is proof that strength

of character and the unwavering support of family can overcome even the most difficult of life’s challenges. His journey would transform our lives forever, first stretching but then strengthening the bonds of unconditional love and support.

But my brother’s journey, while emotional, has awakened me to the insidious discrimination faced by the 20 per cent of Canada’s population living with mental illness.

“Our family was quick to learn that increased awareness, fundraising, and activism around eliminating soul-destroying stigma plays a meaningful role in improving the lives of Canadians.”

While Canada is considered among the world’s most progressive nations, acknowledged as having a comprehensive system of universal health care, mental illness has forever been the orphan of our health system. Even more troubling is that stigma - the negative and prejudicial ways in which people living with mental illness are labeled - is so vicious that people living with mental illnesses are often viewed no longer as a person, but merely a label. Among those who live with mental illness, stigma is the single largest barrier to obtaining proper health care treatment.


Notwithstanding centuries of inattention and neglect, the future of mental health in Canada is improving. In August 2007, Prime Minister Harper struck the Mental Health Commission of Canada, an independent body funded by the federal government. The Commission, chaired by former Senator Michael Kirby, whose Senate Committee report “Out of the Shadows at Last” was the driving force for its creation, is a strong indication that federal and provincial policy-makers now acknowledge that mental health must now be counted amongst the most pressing matters to address as a country.

Our family was quick to learn that increased awareness, fundraising, and

activism around eliminating soul-destroying stigma plays a meaningful role in improving the lives of Canadians. To share a loved one’s frustrations and heartache can move one to action. Following a particularly grim period along my brother’s road to recovery, I elevated my involvement in Canada’s mental health movement.

Until recently, my volunteerism focused on effecting change at the grass-roots level, a very important but often overlooked sector. Over several years, I increased my activism gradually. As part of the Government of Canada’s launch of the Mental Health Commission, I was appointed as one of the members of its board of directors. My involvement with the board remains voluntary, but comes with the great privilege of working together with very talented, passionate men and women dedicated to establishing a national framework that would allow mental health and the treatment of mental illness to be brought out of the shadows forever.

Over the past year, the Commission’s board and senior staff have been advancing plans to bring forward elements of a national strategy that will meaningfully improve the mental health care system in Canada. Background information on the Commission and updates regarding its progress can be obtained by visiting: www.mentalhealthcommission.ca

My brother’s experience crystallized my conviction that Canada’s health care system needs to become more responsive to the needs of Canadians living with mental illness. The creation of the Commission places Canada at an historic crossroads. I am confident that when its work is complete, Canada will be a society that values and promotes mental health, helping people living with mental illness to lead meaningful and productive lives. 

Patrick Dion is Vice President of Summa Strategies Canada and a voluntary Director of the Board of the Mental Health Commission of Canada

Counseling services available:

Student Development Services provides professional, confidential psychological services free of charge in room 210 of the University Community Centre.

For more information, visit: www.sdc.uwo.ca/psych/



Cancer survivor helps kids battle same disease

Jeffrey Taub, MD and Ana Xavier, MD with Isabella and Madeline Dunn, 8-months old. (Photo by DMC Medical Photography)

By Tom Nugent

Ask pediatric oncologist Jeffrey W. Taub, BSc'83, MD'87, to tell you about his life as a doctor who treats kids with cancer, and he'll respond by describing a birthday party he recently attended.

The joyful party was for two little girls – the one-year-old Dunn twins, Madeline and Isabella – both of whom had been diagnosed with a potentially fatal form of cancer in the summer of 2007.

Both girls had nearly died of the rare 'neuroblastoma' cancers they'd developed in their mother's womb before winding up as Dr. Taub's patients in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit at the Children's Hospital of Michigan (CHM) in Detroit late last summer.

So weak that they often needed the help of a ventilator to breathe, both

Maddie and Bella Dunn spent more than 40 days in intensive care at CHM, while Dr. Taub and a specialized team of pediatricians and nurses struggled around the clock to keep the two babies alive.

For the 46-year-old Dr. Taub, a former Western chemistry major and medical student and a native of Windsor, the battle to save the two girls with state-of-the-art cancer chemotherapy was a grueling, touch-and-go effort that for several weeks remained in agonizing doubt.

But on this joyful occasion, the passionately dedicated clinician and pediatric oncology researcher eventually managed to prevail. After a two-month stay at the highly regarded CHM in Detroit (where the tiny tots soon became favourites among doctors and nurses), both girls returned to the waiting arms of their parents in Grand Blanc, Michigan and then were the

guests of honour at the huge birthday bash last July.

Jeffrey Taub also attended that party, and he says he'll never forget the joy he felt when the two healthy and bouncing beauties were served yummy slices of their colourful birthday cake.

"I've treated hundreds of young children with cancer during my 20 years at Children's," the Western-trained physician would later recall, "and that was easily one of the most gratifying outcomes I've ever experienced."

The parents of the twins, Michael and Alissa Dunn, were equally ecstatic. "This was an absolute miracle," said Alissa Dunn at the party that day, "and we will never be able to thank Dr. Taub enough for everything he and the other doctors and nurses did for our two little girls."

For Dr. Taub, who has three grade

school-aged children of his own, helping Maddie and Isabella Dunn to survive their neuroblastoma was especially meaningful – since he himself had been a childhood survivor of a potentially fatal cancer.

Born and raised in Windsor as the son of an Ontario business attorney, Jeffrey Taub was stricken with Hodgkin's Disease at the beginning of Grade 10 in high school. During his ensuing treatment at Children's Hospital in nearby Detroit (now part of the Detroit Medical Center) and also at a medical facility in Windsor, the youthful Canadian-American developed a strong interest in medical science. "I was very fortunate," he says today, "because I was



Dr. Jeffrey Taub.
(Photo Courtesy of Children's Hospital of Michigan)

treated by a deeply caring and compassionate pediatrician who helped me get through what was obviously a challenging experience."

After surviving the disease and then enrolling as a chemistry student at The University of Western Ontario in the early 1980s, the youthful Taub eventually decided to continue on to medical school. There he says he was deeply impressed by the dedication he witnessed in a teaching clinician, the late Dr. David Meltzer, who encouraged him to sit in on consultations with patients once a week. "I followed him around and I sat with him in his office," Dr. Taub remembers, "and I was struck by the great compassion he had for all of his patients.

"Because of Dr. Meltzer and several other professors, including Dr. Barrie deVeber at the med school, I

gradually realized that I wanted to be a doctor – and a doctor who takes care of children."

Since arriving at CHM in 1988, Dr. Taub has treated several hundred children with life-threatening cancer. He's also gained a growing national reputation as a frequently published researcher who's made several significant contributions to our understanding of the biochemistry at work in both acute lymphoblastic and acute myeloid leukemia, two forms of the disease that often attack children.


For Jeffrey Taub, surviving childhood cancer and then studying it at Western was the start of an amazing personal odyssey that continues today, as he makes the rounds of his youthful patients each morning.

"Working as a children's cancer doctor can be very difficult at times, and especially when you have to give parents bad news," he says. "Medicine has gotten much better at treating pediatric cancer in recent years, but there are still times when you realize that you can't save the patient. When that happens, you have to try and focus on the good outcomes you've had, and not allow yourself to become depressed by the losses you must occasionally face.

"But when things go right – as they did recently with the two twins, Maddie and Bella Dunn – there's simply no way to describe the joy you feel."

Just recently, Dr. Taub revisited the two twins and found they were "both doing very well these days. They've been through four rounds of chemotherapy by now," he says, "and they're eating and sleeping much better as a result. We're guardedly optimistic at this point and right now, we have every hope that they'll go on to live normal, healthy lives."

Then, with a cheerful smile, the upbeat physician did his best to describe his current life as a passionate clinician-researcher who throws all his energy into caring for struggling kids:

"I feel very fortunate to be working in this field, and I sure do love coming into the Children's Hospital of Michigan and seeing my young friends each day. 

Volunteering starts as a student at Western

Volunteers In Progress

Volunteers In Progress is a program offered by the Student Development Services that is designed to provide Western students with rewarding opportunities that build on their experience.

What is VIP?

VIP stands for Volunteers In Progress. It is a student volunteer program created by Western students in 1983. It was designed to complement students' academic life by providing them with an opportunity to develop skills and gain career-related work experience. Additionally, it enables the Student Development Services to offer a wider variety of programs and services to Western's community.

What does a VIP do?

Volunteers work with professionals in the Student Development Services to assist Western's students with a variety of concerns. Volunteers are involved in many different types of volunteer experiences:

Group facilitation - Research - One-to-one work with clients - Peer helping - Program design and implementation - Resource development - Computer-related projects - Public relations and reception - Program management, coordination, and administration - Committee work - Marketing and promotions

Who Should Apply?

We are looking for students who possess certain special qualities. If you are:

- Motivated
- Enthusiastic
- Committed
- Eager to Learn
- Dependable
- People-Oriented
- Able to Manage Time
- Want Career-related skills

Join the VIP Team – visit: www.sdc.uwo.ca/vip/



Matt Prekupec volunteering in Niger

From laboratory to council chambers

Eddie Francis' path to politics



Windsor Mayor and Western alumnus Eddie Francis

By Nicole Laidler, BA'03, MA'04

Windsor Mayor Eddie Francis didn't plan on becoming a politician. "If I had known, I never would have spent that many days in the science lab," laughs Francis,

BSc'97 (Chemistry and Biochemistry), who became the youngest city councillor in Windsor history when he was first elected in 1999 at the age of 25.

Like most science undergraduates, Francis hoped to enter medical

or dental school, or pursue a career in research and development. But life took him in a different direction.

Francis' parents immigrated to Windsor from Lebanon in 1974. His father opened one of Ontario's first pita bread bakeries, running a successful small business until his retirement in 1995.

"This is a guy who worked seven days a week, 24 hours a day. Sitting at home wasn't appealing to him," Francis says. "In 1997, just as I was graduating, he decided to open up another pita bread operation. But he became ill, and couldn't continue."

Francis returned home for the summer to help his brothers, Roger and Fred, get the business off the ground. The three quickly expanded distribution into London, Toronto and 12 states in the US. In 1999, Francis was awarded the Windsor Chamber of Commerce Business Excellence Award as Young Entrepreneur of the Year for his work with Royal Pita.

The award, and Francis' growing involvement with the local Business Improvement Association, raised his public profile. At the same time, an opening came up on Windsor City Council.

"I remember getting a call from a reporter from the Windsor Star who asked if I wanted to comment on the rumours that I was running for council. I said I didn't know what he was talking about," Francis says. The next day, his photo appeared in the paper with 15 others who were rumoured-to-run.

Most observers immediately dismissed Francis for his youth and inexperience. And that was just the motivation he needed to launch a campaign. With his brothers' help, Francis went door-to-door to convince the electorate that council needed new blood and that he had the energy and passion to make a difference. "Fortunately, it worked out," he says.

Just two weeks before election day, Francis received his acceptance to the University of Windsor Law School. "That first year, I sat on city council, went to law school and ran the business," he says. By the time he began articling, something had to give. Royal Pita was sold so the brothers could concentrate on their respective professions.

Francis was called to the Bar in 2002 and articulated with the international law firm

of Miller Canfield Paddock and Stone.

Having won a second term on city council in 2000, he had a big decision to make in the summer of 2003 – leave municipal politics for a career in law or run for mayor. In the end, his wife convinced him to run. “She said, you can be a lawyer any day, but you can’t always be mayor,” Francis remembers.

The opposing candidate argued that Francis was too young for the job. Francis responded by sticking to the issues, and in November 2003 became Windsor’s youngest mayor at the age of 29.

“I think age is a state of mind,” Francis says, citing the energy of Mississauga’s 87-year-old mayor, Hazel McCallion. “It’s a matter of the attitude and perspective that one brings to the office and what you are prepared to do to make things happen.”

Francis, who was re-elected in 2006, is the first to admit that Windsor is going through tough times. With the highest auto industry concentration in Canada, the city has been hit hard by the economic woes of the American Big Three.


But Francis believes Windsor has already begun to reinvent itself, and science plays a key role in his vision for the future. A \$110 million Engineering and Innovation Centre is under construction at the University of Windsor, and Prime Minister Stephen Harper recently committed \$80 million to help Ford Motor Co. develop a new research centre for environmentally friendly technologies in the city.

“It’s a matter of the attitude and perspective that one brings to the office and what you are prepared to do to make things happen.”

“Coming from a science background, I have a true appreciation for research and development. It really factors into a lot of my discussions,” Francis says. “We have these great universities and colleges and all these thinkers generating ideas. The challenge is taking these ideas and commercializing them in the most ef-

fective way possible. Those are the economies that will succeed in the future.” In fact, Francis says his days as a Western science student have benefited all areas of his professional life. “To be successful in science, you have to see the bigger picture, identify the issues, crystallize those issues and then map out a strategy to resolve them.” That disciplined approach comes in handy as a lawyer and has helped him deal with many of the complex issues he faces on a daily basis as mayor, he says.

Francis is non-committal when asked if he plans to run again in 2010. “Never say never, but I’ve always said there’s more to life than politics.” His priorities have changed since the birth of his 14-month-old daughter, Sienna, he says.

Besides, there are plenty of young people capable of taking over. “I hope more young people will get involved with community groups and municipal, provincial and federal politics,” the 34-year-old mayor says. “At the end of the day, young people have a lot to contribute and a very important stake in the future.” 

Now there are 2 ways to receive your Alumni Gazette:

Mailbox or Inbox?

About 150,000 copies of this issue of the Western Alumni Gazette were printed and mailed to alumni and friends of The University of Western Ontario in Canada and around the world.

Western has one of the largest alumni bases of any university in Canada. Each year that number grows by the thousands. We publish the Alumni Gazette three times a year.

If you would like to opt out of the print version of the magazine and receive an e-mail reminder when a new issue of the Alumni Gazette is ready to view, please visit: www.westernconnect.ca/gazetteonline

Read Alumni Gazette online at:
www.alumnigazette.ca



New plaque honours Western's soldiers of Great War

By Pat Currie

The echoes of a terrible war that has now receded beyond human memory was reawakened at The University of Western Ontario on Remembrance Day, November 11.

On the 90th anniversary of the end of what was then called the Great War, the struggle of 1914-18 that we now call the First World War, the Western Alumni Association officially unveiled a plaque dedicated to the memory of the students, faculty members and alumni of the university who gave their lives in the conflict.

The plaque also commemorates those with Western connections who died in a second global disaster that was unfolding even as the last shots were fired from the trenches in the final seconds before the guns fell silent on the stroke of the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month of 1918. That was the pandemic of what was then called Spanish Influenza, a scourge that killed at least 20 million people – double the death toll on all the battlefields of the Great War – and maybe as many as 100 million all over the world.

November 11 is the date first specifically dedicated by King George V, on November 7, 1919, to the memory of members of the armed forces of Britain -- and by extension to all of the British Commonwealth -- who were killed during war. Since then, the names of the dead of the Second World War, the Korean War and many peacekeeping operations have been added to the mortal tally.

The plaque honouring Western's First World War dead will take its place -- in the University College Memorial Tower -- beside a plaque listing Western's dead of the Second World War. The new memorial will be "a rich-looking tablet similar to the World War Two tablet," said Alumni Relations Director Gary Blazak. The plaque project is being headed by Alumni Association



Jim Etherington and Anne Millar pose with the First World War plaque unveiled on November 11. (Photo by Heather Travis)

past president Jim Etherington.

Graduate student Anne Millar, MA'07, undertook the laborious task of tracing, verifying and assembling the list of those from Western – which was then a very small school of some 150 students -- who died in the Great War of 1914-18 and 1918-20 flu pandemic.

"After doing some preliminary research, I quickly discovered that while there was a memorial plaque for the First World War on campus (but) a list of those who had fallen in the war has never been officially compiled. I believe this is an important and missing part of Western's history," said Millar, who is in the first year of her PhD at the University of Ottawa where she is researching the effect of the two world wars on Canadian universities.

The Western 19 range in rank from private to lieutenant-colonel. The youngest had graduated from university in 1917 and the oldest in 1894. One, Major Archibald Valency Becher, a graduate from Western's medical faculty in 1900, was a veteran of the South African War. While in service in 1915, he died of pneumonia, leaving behind a widow and son. His brother, Lt.-Col. Campbell Becher was

killed at the Battle of Givenchy in 1914.

Many of the Western band were connected to the medical service – the Canadian Medical Corps and various service hospital units.

One of those includes Captain Henry Ardagh Kingsmill, Canadian Army Medical Corp, who died in 1920 of the influenza he contracted from sick Canadian soldiers returning from the war. He is buried in Woodland Cemetery.

"He was my grandfather's brother. The Ardagh in his name is the name of a place in Tipperary (Ireland) where the family came from to Canada," said Fred Kingsmill, current patriarch of the clan who has owned stores in downtown London since 1865.

Kingsmill said he is 'very pleased' that the Western contingent of war dead is at long last being recognized alongside their Second World War comrades.

Another of the Western band, Captain Alfred Edwin McKay, a former arts student, was flying a Royal Flying Corps 24 Squadron DH 2 fighter over the trenches near Douai, France, on Oct. 28, 1916, when the unit tangled with German fighters led by German ace Oswald Boelcke (40 kills).

During the melee, Boelcke swerved to avoid the ever-aggressive Manfred Von Richthofen (the Red Baron) and collided with a fighter flown by fellow German Erwin Böhme.

Boelcke was killed. Local reports credited MacKay with shooting Boelcke down. MacKay himself was killed 14 months later. **W**

Western's First World War toll

Following is the full list of names, with graduation majors and dates, service branch and date of death:

- ◆ Maj. A.V. Becher (Med., 1900) CAMC, Dec. 1915.
- ◆ Capt. J.C. Forsyth (Med., 1894) CAMC, 1st CGH, 1918.
- ◆ Capt. D. G. K. Garrett (Meds 1912) RAMC, 133rd Field Ambulance, 1918.
- ◆ Pvt. William Griffiths (Huron Arts student), CAMC, 1916.
- ◆ Capt. T. R. Guilfoyle (Med., 1914) CAMC, 1st CSH, 1918.
- ◆ Lt. L. F. Jamieson (Arts/Med. student) RFA, 1918.
- ◆ Hon. Capt. E. F. Johnston (student) Cdn. Army Chaplains Dept., 1918.
- ◆ Pvt. C. F. Jones (Arts student) Cdn. Pioneers, 2nd Div., 1917.
- ◆ Capt. R. J. Kain (Huron Arts 1916) Cdn. Army Chaplains Dept., 1916.
- ◆ Lt. Col. R. G. C. Kelly (Med., 1908) 149th Batt., Cdn. Infantry, 1915.
- ◆ Capt. H. A. Kingsmill (Med., 1895) CAMC, 1920.
- ◆ Capt. A. C. McCormack (Med., 1917) CAMC, 1920
- ◆ Capt. A. E. McKay (Arts student), Royal Flying Corps, 1917.
- ◆ Maj. J. R. Meredith (Arts 1899) 95th Batt., Cdn. Infantry, 1916.
- ◆ 2nd Lt. G. B. Patterson (Arts student) D Battery, 168th Brigade, RFA, 1918.
- ◆ Pvt. Harold Payne (Huron Arts 1916) 2nd Batt. Cdn. Infantry 7th.
- ◆ Pvt. W. F. D. Smith (Huron Arts student) 7th Batt., CMR, 1915.
- ◆ Pvt. E. H. Stephenson (Huron Arts 1917) CAMC, 11th Stationary Hospital, 1919.
- ◆ Lt. J. M. Young (Med., 1917) 70th Batt. Cdn. Infantry, 1919.

CAMC – Canadian Army Medical Corps; CGH – Canadian General Hospital; RAMC – Royal Army Medical Corps; CSH – Canadian Stationary Hospital; RFA – Royal Field Artillery; CMR – Canadian Mounted Rifles.



Members of the audience at the Remembrance Day unveiling of a First World War plaque honouring Western soldiers. (Photo by Heather Travis)



Grab Hold of your Career

If your next career step includes working with and leading a global team of experienced multi-disciplinary professionals, consider AMEC. We offer:

- The opportunity to work with the best people on challenging projects.
- Dedication to achieving your career goals
- Fair and competitive compensation
- A 100 year history in Canada
- Over 150 locations across the country

We are the Earth & Environmental division of one of Canada's largest engineering and consulting companies and we need quality people like you, dedicated to making a difference through leadership and mentoring. Our highest career demands include:

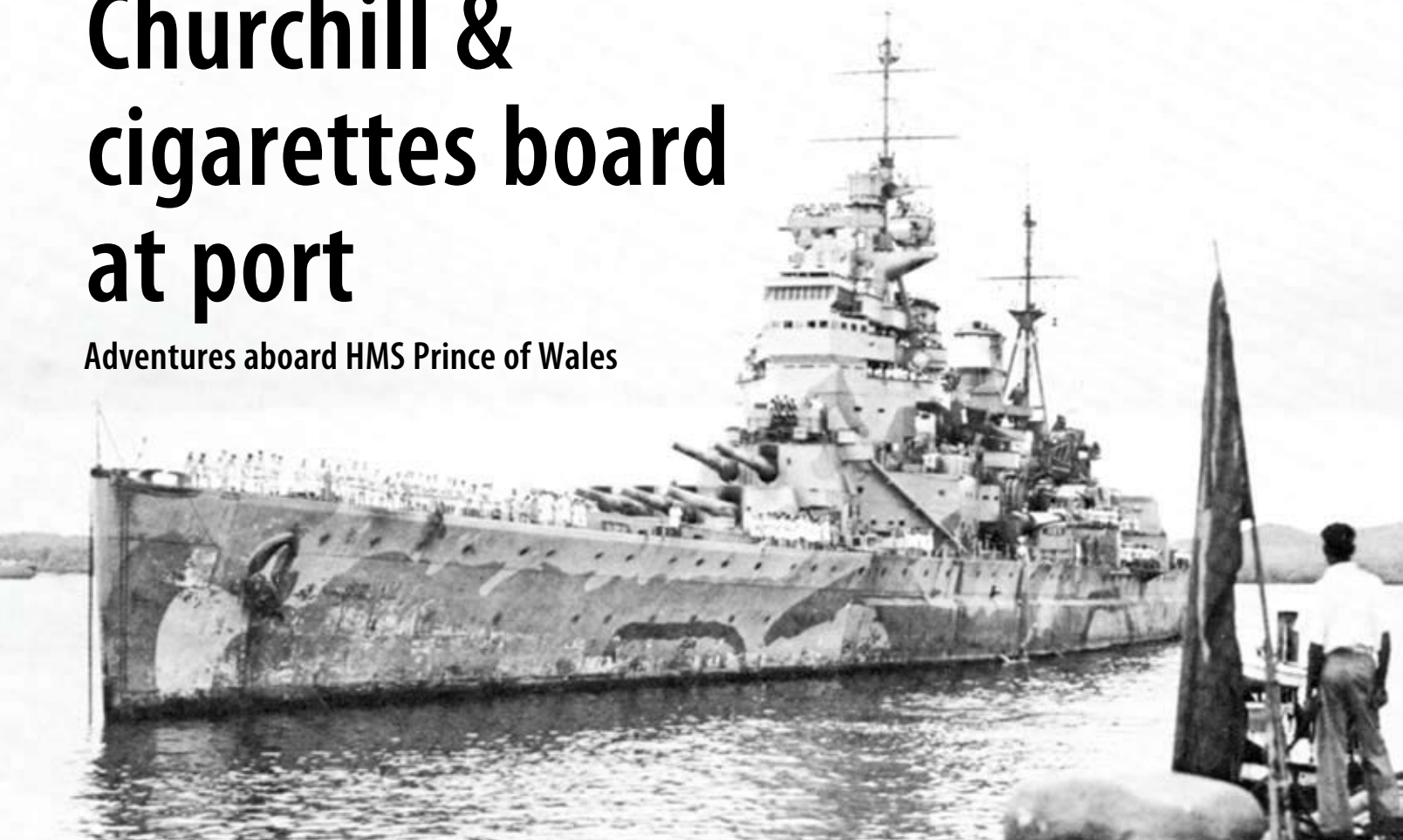
- Mine Waste Management
- Surface Water Hydrology/Hydraulics
- Hydrogeology
- Geotechnical Engineering
- Environmental Sciences and Management

www.amec.com/careers

World Skills on
Your Doorstep

Churchill & cigarettes board at port

Adventures aboard HMS Prince of Wales



The following is an excerpt from the late Stuart E. Paddon's account as a Radar Officer aboard HMS Prince of Wales in World War II. He joined the Royal Canadian Volunteer Reserve in London, Ont. as a Sub-lieutenant in 1940 and retired as a Rear-Admiral, RCN, in 1972. This excerpt is reprinted by permission from Salty Dips, vol. I, published by Ottawa branch of The Naval Officers' Association of Canada, 1983.

By Stuart E. Paddon, BA'40

The next event worth mentioning was that we were very surprised to receive British Prime Minister Winston Churchill, whom we transported to Placentia Harbour in Newfoundland, where he met United States President Franklin D. Roosevelt for what is now called the Atlantic Charter meeting.

We were a private ship (HMS Prince of Wales), no Flag Officers carried; however we had a tremendous amount of brass present on this

occasion: all the Chiefs of Staff and a myriad of staff officers who were in Churchill's entourage.

On the approaches to the Canadian area, or at that time the Newfoundland area, we were met by three Canadian destroyers. This was my first opportunity to see the Canadian Navy at work. They escorted us into Placentia Harbour.

I was very disappointed not to be allowed to take leave in Canada and go home. The Americans had put on a complete security blackout. The only officer in our ship who got ashore was our Supply Officer who went for fresh vegetables.

I have a host of memories of this occasion. One of these was going over to HMCS Restigouche to buy some Canadian cigarettes, which I had been without for too long a period. I knew none of the Canadian officers, but I was well received in the Wardroom and asked to join in a crap game in progress on the deck. The person at my left turned out to be Franklin

Delano Roosevelt Junior, then a young ensign in the U.S. Navy. He had been invited to this occasion, along with his brother, who was in the Army, in order to meet Churchill.

I purchased 10,000 Buckingham cigarettes and these occupied two huge cartons. I was intending to call my ship to send a boat, when FDR Junior suggested that he take me back in the boat allocated to him. I was duly delivered to my ship along with my 10,000 cigarettes.

Another memory is, I got aboard – I believe it was USS Augusta – for a magnificent steak, the only steak I can recall having since leaving Canada a year or so before. It was a beautiful meal and much appreciated.

At one point all the officers of the Prince of Wales were introduced to Mr. Roosevelt. He took particular interest in me because I was at that time one of only two Canadian officers in the Wardroom, the other being Ralph Ripley.

Each evening during the crossing, both going over to Newfoundland

and on the way back, Churchill would come directly into the Wardroom after dinner and there he would have a showing of his own personal films, of which he had brought a huge supply. We officers were invited to sit in and watch the movie, but he was the only one who made any comments as the movie was shown.

On one occasion things went in a different manner. He had just arrived when the phone rang and one of the officers answered it. The caller said that the Prime Minister had been down in the Gunroom with the midshipmen and had allowed himself to be questioned about many things, and this was a tip-off to us in the Wardroom. So, we found to our delight that he was willing to answer questions from us and about 20 or 30 of us stood around Churchill, I would say for an hour-and-a-half, asking any questions that came to mind, and admiring the ease with which he satisfied everybody with his replies, while saying exactly what he wanted to say.

Two questions which he answered come to mind. First: "Why did (Rudolph) Hess go to Britain?" His reply was that Hess fully expected to lead the British Lion back to Hitler by the tail. And Hess was, as you know, badly mistaken. The other question was: "Would Moscow... (which at that point was under siege)... hold out?" He replied with full confidence that there was no doubt in his mind at all that Moscow would withstand in that period.

An earlier story which I find amusing happened the first night out of Scapa Flow, where Churchill had joined us. He was accommodated in the Captain's day cabin, which was in the stern of the ship, directly over the screws. We were not long at sea and not long before dark the noise became too much for him. He demanded to be transferred elsewhere. It was arranged that he would take over the Captain's sea cabin which was forward in the bridge structure. A young sublieutenant (E) just out of Keyham was detailed to

escort the Prime Minister up forward in the dark (we were blacked out). They went over the main deck, over the upper deck, to the bridge structure. At one point, the sublieutenant placed his hand on Churchill's elbow as if to help him along, and was told in no uncertain terms to keep his hands off him. Mr. Churchill was perfectly capable of looking after himself. He'd been to sea before this boy was born and would he please just lead him up to the bridge.

There were numerous occasions during the Atlantic Charter meeting when he saw both Churchill and Roosevelt. They went back and forth between ships. Sunday church service was held on the quarterdeck of Prince of Wales. All the brass, including the President and the Prime Minister, were in attendance. We officers were allowed to stand behind this august group.

"Two questions which he answered come to mind. First: 'Why did (Rudolph) Hess go to Britain?' ... The other question was: 'Would Moscow... (which was under siege)... hold out?'"

We finally left Newfoundland and proceeded back on our own as we could do 30 knots. I remember very well, at one point, we passed through a huge convoy of ships, which I guess was doing about eight or 10 knots, and at this time Churchill made his famous 'V' sign to many of the merchant ships as we passed them. I have seen many pictures of this in later years. He finally left us with his group at Iceland, at Reykjavik. We then returned to Scapa Flow. I presume he took passage in some other smaller ship back to England from Iceland. W



The full chapter of Paddon's account including his encounter with the Bismarck, and surviving being torpedoed by Japanese bombers, is available online to read at: www.alumnigazette.ca

One million jobs worth of volunteering in Canada

By Ted Garard, Vice President, External

Every day Canadians from across the country donate their time to charities and other non-profit organizations, help their neighbours, friends and family and connect with one another through their community groups. What do these people have in common? They believe in giving selflessly of their time to help build better communities. They understand that voluntary action is the cornerstone of a civil society. They enrich the lives of the people that they touch because they care to make a difference.

According to the 2004 Canada Survey on Giving, Volunteering and Participating (CSGVP) almost 12 million Canadians or 45 per cent of the population aged 15 and older volunteered. Their contributions totaled almost 2 billion hours, an amount equivalent to 1 million full-time jobs. Volunteers contributed an average of 168 hours over the course of the year. The survey also found that Canadians were most likely to volunteer with sports and recreation, social services, education, and religious organizations. The most common activities they performed were organizing, supervising

religiously active. The survey also identified a number of barriers that keep people from volunteering including never having been asked, not knowing how to get involved, and concern over the financial cost of volunteering.

Volunteerism is alive and thriving at Western. We are privileged to have hundreds of volunteers, many of them alumni, involved in organizing University and alumni events, recruiting and mentoring students, helping raise private funds and playing an active role in Western's governance. Most graduates don't appreciate that the University of Western Ontario Alumni Association appoints four alumni to the University's Board of Governors, three alumni to the Senate, and two alumni to the Honorary Degrees Committee. This allows alumni to have voice in key University decisions.

Western's faculty and staff are leaders in London when it comes to volunteering. In a recent survey two-thirds of Western employees volunteered in the past year with 58 per cent of these volunteering with two or more organizations. Western students also have an impressive record of volunteering and raising funds for local, national and international charities. Their involvement in Shinerama, the Terry Fox Run and the annual USC Charity Ball sets the standard for student volunteerism.

The first reference to the word volunteer was made in the 1449 version of the Oxford English Dictionary and has not changed in five centuries. It is associated with other words such as "free will," "freedom from constraints," "generosity of spirit," and "giving of oneself for the benefit of others." It is a noble act and makes our University and Canada better places. [W](#)



Habitat for Humanity Canada president David Hughes (second row from front on steps with blue & white lanyard) at a Habitat worksite with former U.S. President Jimmy Carter in front row with red kerchief. (Photo courtesy Habitat for Humanity Canada)

Pierre Trudeau understood this when in 1978 he reflected on the value and importance of voluntarism. He said, "The voluntary sector could be made to flourish. Historically, they have been the source of humanizing social movements which were the life-blood of our liberal democracies. Surely we need this sector and the efforts of volunteers."

or coordinating events and fundraising, followed by serving as unpaid members of committees or boards.

The CSGVP revealed that the highest rates of volunteering are among youth, those with higher levels of household income and education, those who have children in the household, and among individuals who are

Be a winner

Enter the Arlie Laxton Alumni Photo Contest

ENTRY FORMAT

8" x 10" (or larger) print (Do not submit 4 x 5-inch snapshots). Digital e-mail attachments will not be accepted. Judges require a printed photo for judging.

FOUR CATEGORIES

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

People

Portrait, candid or activity photos of family, friends, other alumni, or complete strangers – as long as you have their permission. Subjects can be young, old and preferably alive. *[Public performances or crowd shots do not require permissions]*

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 size adjustments or cropping that can be done in a 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 23, 2009

Winners will be announced online at www.alumnigazette.ca and in the Spring 2009 issue of the Western Alumni Gazette

Send entries to

Western Alumni Gazette – Photo Contest, Communications and Public Affairs, Ste. 360, Westminster Hall, The University of Western Ontario
London, ON - N6A 3K7

For more information, please e-mail:

dscott24@uwo.ca





Celebrating 60 years of journalism at Western

By Paul Benedetti

In the summer of 1957, a young reporter named Clark Davey was one of only three journalists in the country to get an interview with the newly minted prime minister John Diefenbaker.

They were in Prince Albert, Saskatchewan and Davey had to get his copy back to Toronto – fast. He banged it out on a manual typewriter, handed it over to a telegraph operator who took it to the railway station and sent it back “on a brass key,” said Davey, speaking to a rapt audience at a reception for the 60th Anniversary of Journalism at the University of Western Ontario on Oct. 16.

It was a different world back then, said Davey, 80, who went on to become a managing editor of the *Globe and Mail* and later served as the publisher of several major Canadian dailies including the *Montreal Gazette* and the *Vancouver Sun*. But, he emphasized, despite the decades that separate them, today’s journalists are inextricably linked to the reporters who practised their craft 60 years ago.

“The best tools they have at their disposal are still words,” said Davey, who graduated along with 26 other

men and women from the very first journalism class at Western in 1948.

Avis Favaro (Class of 1982) agrees. The award-winning medical correspondent for CTV National News, Favaro’s first job in journalism was as a news writer for Global Television in 1982. “It was my foundation in the business. I had to learn to write quickly and for different voices,” said Favaro, 48, in an email interview. “I studied how senior reporters wrote to pictures, and how to construct a TV story.”

Favaro, whose work has won her a Gemini among other awards, says Western’s journalism program gave her a foundation. “Journalism school taught me the basics. However, once you get out into the real world, you must start anew. The technology is always changing... you are learning all the time.”



The class of 1948 attendees from left to right are: Clark Davey, Hugh Macaulay, William French, John Cranford, and Neil MacCarl.

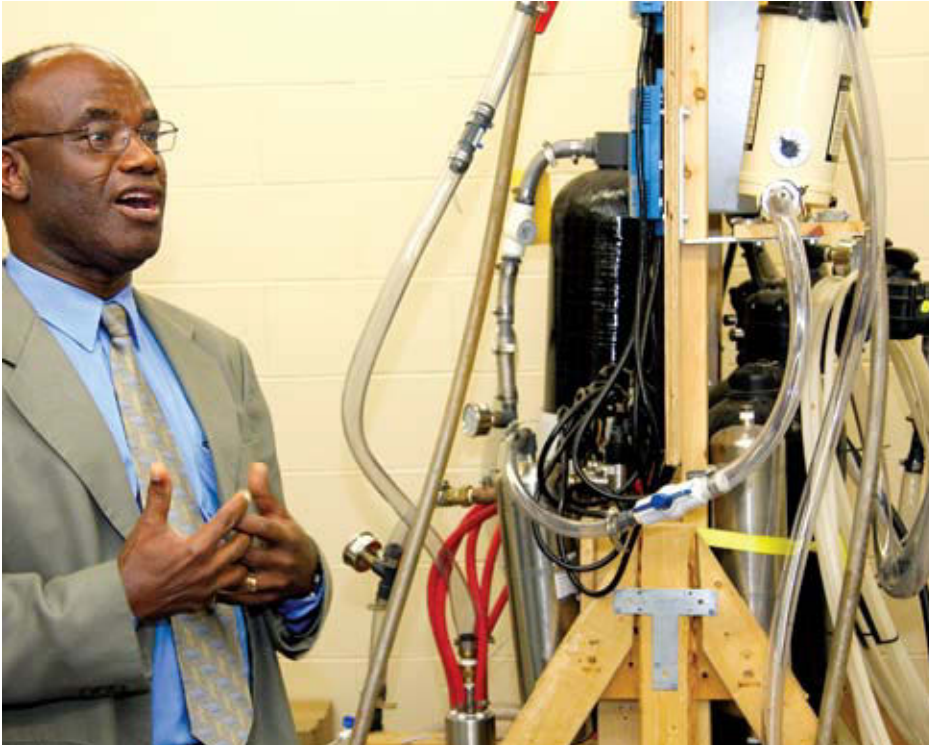
Carly Weeks (Class of 2004) has been learning non-stop since her graduation only a few years ago. The 28-year-old has already had five different jobs in two countries and just recently landed her dream position in the Life section of the *Globe and Mail*. She’s covered life in London, politics in Washington, D.C., Ottawa’s city hall and worked in CanWest’s Parliament Bureau. For Weeks, journalism school gave her a sense of what working in a newsroom would be like. “It was good practice in terms of writing and preparing for the demands of editors.”

Those demands, which now include filing for the Internet and using digital technology, continue to grow. That’s why, in a strange way, Peter Desbarats, 75, former long-serving dean of the program, does not regret the crisis in the early ’90s when the program was almost closed down by the university. Desbarats, a former news anchor at Global Television, with the help of many alumni, rallied and saved the school, but the event forced the faculty to move the program to a new model. “We were rather lucky that the shock had occurred...because we thought about it differently and new technology was adopted,” said Debarats.

Other graduates of the class of ’48 who attended the party at the Intercontinental Hotel in Toronto, were John Cranford, former editor of the *Sherbrooke Record*, William French, the *Globe and Mail*’s famed books editor, much-loved baseball reporter Neil MacCarl and Hugh Macaulay, who in his storied career served as the Chairman of Ontario Hydro and the Chairman of the Board of Directors of Canadian Tire Corporation.

Paul Benedetti is a fulltime faculty member who teaches in the graduate journalism program in the Faculty of Information and Media Studies.

Mobile water treatment hope for remote areas



Civil and Environmental Engineering Chair professor Ernest Yanful, pictured here with a prototype unit, talks about the new mobile drinking water treatment project, which he hopes will be complete by summer 2009. (Photo by Paul Mayne)

By Paul Mayne

From the most remote villages of Africa, to First Nations communities of northern Ontario, the need for access to safe drinking water is an urgent matter. The scarcity of energy or major infrastructure challenges can also make it difficult to get safe drinking water to these communities.

“The science works, we’ve proved that. The students now need to visualize where the units will go and gear their work towards that.”

Western Engineering is close to developing a solution to a crisis facing

millions of people with the creation of a mobile drinking water treatment project.

With the help of London’s Trojan Technologies Inc., a prototype unit has been fabricated and engineering students will spend the next few months ‘working out the bugs’ to ensure proper operation.

Civil and Environmental Engineering Chair professor Ernest Yanful, who has been involved in a number of engineering projects in developing countries, first proposed the project and approached Trojan Technologies.

“I talked with Trojan and they had a similar idea in the works about treating water in areas that have low or no access to power,” he says.

The equipment now sits in a lab in the Spencer Engineering Building where civil, chemical and electrical Engineering students will begin to work

on a solution.

Martin Bracken, head of intellectual property at Trojan Technologies, says he’s thrilled to work with Western Engineering on a project he says hasn’t been done before.

“The science works, we’ve proved that,” he says. The students now need to visualize where the units will go and gear their work towards that.”

While a mobile drinking water treatment project would have worldwide applications, it will require specific adaptations according to the pollutants found in various regions of the world – from algae and fluoride to arsenic and bacteria.

“The idea that water is water is water around the world is not the case,” says Bracken. “It is so different is so many ways, depending on where you are.”

A number of modules will need to be adapted for each system, from the nature of its power source to specific pumping, filtration, disinfection, polishing and containment modules.

When up and running, the system will function around the clock, producing 10 gallons per minute - enough to sustain a community of 1,000.

Yanful has invited two students from the University of Nairobi in Kenya (John Wabomba and Faith Mwangi), to work on this project along with their PhD.

“This will be something they can bring back home with them,” says Yanful of the knowledge behind the mobile drinking water treatment project.

“But there may be certain items they will have to adapt for their region. They need to think locally.”

Yanful is hopeful the project will be completed by summer 2009, when they will test the final design at an Ontario First Nations reserve.

Hockey in DNA of Montreal fans

New book highlights 100 years of Habs

By David Scott

It's where a game became a sport, where shinny evolved into hockey. The first indoor games were played there. It's where the rules were conceived. It is the birthplace of the National Hockey League: Montreal.

The Montreal Canadiens are a storied franchise in professional sports. They are second only in North America to the New York Yankees in terms of championships won. (24 Stanley Cups vs 26 World Series wins). And this season they celebrate 100 years in existence.

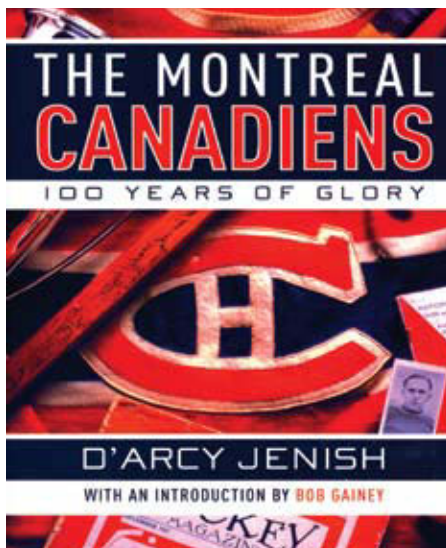
Hockey fan and alumnus D'Arcy Jenish, BA'74, traces the Habs' roots of success in his latest book: *The Montreal Canadiens – 100 Years of Glory* published by Random House Canada with an introduction by Bob Gainey, current executive vice president, general manager and former Canadiens player.

"It's embedded in the psyche of the citizen and in the fabric of the culture. It's really part of the DNA of Montreal," Jenish speaks of Montrealers' love of hockey.

The Montreal Canadiens have won Stanley Cups in every decade from 1916 to 1993 – the last time a Canadian team won the coveted Cup. They've had super scorers like Howie Morenz, Rocket Richard and Guy Lafleur. They've had stellar goaltending starting with Georges Vezina, whom the NHL goaltending award is named after, going through the decades with George Hainsworth (22 shutouts in a 44-game season in 1928–29), Bill Durnan, Jacques Plante (brought the goalie mask into vogue), Charlie Hodge, Gump Worsley, Ken Dryden and Patrick Roy. All of those goalies are Vezina Trophy winners, all won Stanley Cups for the team and most, along with a pile of other Montreal players, are in the Hockey Hall of Fame.

But it's not all stats and names that Jenish was after in his tribute book. He wanted to share the stories and emotion that have made this team a legend in Canadian sports. And one of those stories is how the Canadiens ended up with the nickname, the 'Habs.'

The standard story was that a newspaper editor in New York or Boston was looking for some sort of short form for 'Canadiens' for headline writing. He asked reporters in the newsroom 'what does that H in the Canadiens emblem stand for?' And someone said 'Habitants.' "That's the alleged story I've always heard and it's in the Canadiens presentation of its own history," said Jenish.



But when he started doing research he came across some clues in early editions of a newspaper called *La Patrie*.

"This is February 1916, the first year they won a Cup. I'm reading along and I see in quotes: 'l'equip d'habitants' – the team of the habitants. Further down he's referring to the Canadiens as 'habitants' – it's in quotes and lower case, too."

Jenish said the reporter put that in quotes because that's what he heard the fans calling the team. The miniscule fan base in those days was the working class French from the east side of Montreal, many of whom were descendents of the Habitants, who had moved from farms to the city for factory jobs. They still called themselves 'habitants' and began calling this team, the 'team of the habitants.'

By the way, the emblem on their jerseys has nothing to do with 'habitant.' The 'H' is for hockey as in: 'le club de hockey Canadien.' In Mon-

treil's second season, George Kennedy acquired the team. "He was the president, the driver, the promoter of this organization called 'the club athletique Canadien' – it was like a YMCA, like a gym. He was training wrestlers, then branched out into boxing, and wanted to get into hockey," said Jenish.

For four years the crest of the team was CAC – club athletique Canadien. Then in March 1916, CAC got into some financial trouble. The hockey operation was sound, so he separated the hockey part from the rest of it, and formed a new organization called CHC. And that's where the crest comes from, according to Jenish's research.

There wouldn't be sports without rivalries. And hockey has plenty. But are the Toronto Maple Leafs really still Montreal's arch rivals?

"Going to a Leafs-Habs game is still one of the most entertaining sports events in the country today – mainly because of the fans. It's like these two tribes – they're like hockey's version of Shiites and Sunnis," says Jenish. But the rivalry may burn more brightly in people's memories than in actual fact.

"It was very significant because it seemed to embody all those larger struggles and those tug of wars that went on in Canada between French and English, Protestant and Catholic, Montreal and Toronto. It was overlaid with so much economic and cultural subtexts."

But Jenish claims that rivalry really peaked between 1940s and 1967. "The rivalry has been kind of robbed of its oxygen for the last 40 years because the Leafs have been lousy." With the Leafs not making the playoffs the last three years, it's kind of hard to keep that alive. As the author puts it, the rivalry is more in the minds of the fans than the hearts of the players.

Regardless of what NHL team you root for *The Montreal Canadiens – 100 Years of Glory* captures the spirit of the game that Canadians love.

www.randomhouse.ca/catalog/display_perl?isbn=9780385663243

When life imitates art

Science fiction becomes science fact in Scott Bakker's new book

By David Scott

When Scott Bakker, BA'95, MA'97, departed from his genre as a fantasy author for his latest book, *Neuropath*, a psycho-thriller published by Penguin Canada, he didn't realize some of the 'fiction' he was writing would turn out to be fact.

The dark and disturbing novel deals with a neurologist working for the National Security Agency in the US who has gone over the edge in a spree of terror centred on the human brain. The novel questions the existence of free will and our perceived control over decisions.

Bakker says in researching *Neuropath* he read up on existing trends in neuroscience, cognitive psychology and cognitive science and extrapolated pessimistic 'future facts' – things he says if trends continue, will likely be facts.

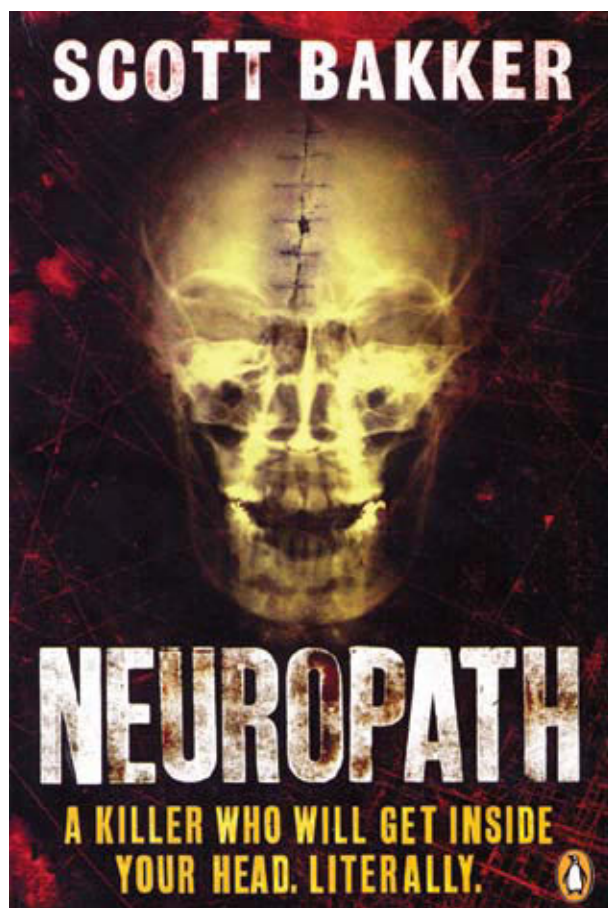
"One of those future facts I put in the book was an experiment where scientists, simply by monitoring the brainwaves of people making decisions, were actually able to with total reliability predict decisions that people would make given their MRI data. In some cases seconds before they are even conscious of making the decision. And that was fiction when I wrote this book. A professor named John-Dylan Haynes at the Max Planck Institute in Germany has since made that real. He's actually able to anticipate decisions people make seconds before they're actually conscious of making that decision."

According to Bakker, *Neuropath* is about the revolution in brain science going on right now. "The way science has revolutionized our understanding of the world we have no reason to expect it will be any different when it comes to our brains. The question that *Neuropath* asks is 'what will this revolutionary con-

cept look like?' And the scary possibility is that it's not going to be anything we'll recognize," predicts Bakker.

"The question is where are we going to be in a hundred years? It's the difference between a phonograph and a Blu-ray."

Neuropath contains pieces of Bakker's unfinished philosophy dissertation. Following an undergraduate degree in literature and a master's in theory and criticism at Western, the Londoner headed south to Vanderbilt University



in Nashville to pursue his PhD in philosophy. A roommate with connections to the publishing world encouraged him to submit a manuscript.

What resulted was a publishing offer and decision to make. "I never expected to be published. I always thought I'd be a philosophy professor," said Bakker. After asking himself some difficult questions about a career in writing, the

author wrote and published a fantasy trilogy with a holy war as a through line. The Prince of Nothing trilogy has since been translated into 17 languages and has sold hundreds of thousands of copies worldwide. He is presently working on the first book in a trilogy sequel: *The Judging Eye*, due to be published in January, with a second book, *The White-Luck Warrior* scheduled for the summer of 2009.

Bakker's fantasy trilogy however might reach a wider audience yet. He's been talking to Chris Weitz, who is one of the producers of *American Pie*, and most recently was the director of *Golden Compass*, about the possibility of turning the fantasy trilogy into a cable TV series. "He's a huge fan of the series, and a very intelligent and enthusiastic man. The thing is with Hollywood projects is to remember usually nothing comes of it. If something does, so much the better."

While his fan base is international, Bakker's work is not often acknowledged or recognized in his own country. *Neuropath* has been printed in all the major European languages with more translation deals coming in, according to the author.

"*Neuropath* was not reviewed by a single paper in Canada. The London Free Press reviewed it only after we directly contacted them. The Globe and Mail hasn't reviewed a single book of mine. It goes back to 'you write genre and you write crap. So, you're not even worth looking at.' Which misses the paradox. That to me is why genre is the only interesting place to be. But it makes it a tougher row to hoe."

Bakker is well aware of the perception fantasy has among the literary establishment. "I ask myself which genre of fiction has the least amount of credibility. The thought being that likely that is where literature is likely to happen."

www.penguin.ca/nf/Book/BookDisplay/0,,9780143168713,00.html

PRESS

ENTITLEMENT

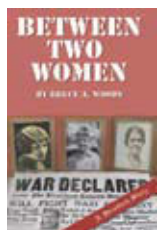


Jonathan Bennett's (BA'95) latest book is *Entitlement: a novel*. He is the author of three previous books including the critically acclaimed novel, *After Battersea Park*, a book of poetry, *Here is my street, this tree I planted*, and a collection of short stories, *Verandah People*,

which was runner up for the Danuta Gleed Literary Award. *Entitlement* is the tragic, wrenching story of Andy Kronk. After a lifetime intertwined with the Aspinalls, one of Canada's wealthiest families, Andy has finally forged a clean break. Mere months pass, however, before his past returns, and he finds himself, obediently, digging. At its heart, *Entitlement* is a story about identity—about who we think we are and where we really stand. Set in rural Ontario and with excursions to Toronto and New York City, the novel takes a provocative and honest look at class, power, male relationships, death, and the familial bonds that tie, protect and harm us most.

www.amazon.ca/Entitlement-Jonathan-Bennett/dp/1550228560

BETWEEN TWO WOMEN



Between Two Women by **Bruce Woods, BA'55** is more than a story about a boy growing up with two caregivers. In this youthful tale of interaction between a mother and a grandma there are five stories going on at once. Bruce Woods is a humourist in the style of Stephen

Leacock who makes us laugh at ourselves, and when he is finished, like Leacock makes us homesick even if we never left home. The first and obvious story is that of a precocious growing-up kid who reminds us of our own growing pains. One story is about World War II as seen by a teenager too young to go to war but old enough to follow the events of those cataclysmic days. His account of hometown hero George Johnston is enough to move anyone to tears, where the twists and turns of fate take him to New York, Calgary, Vancouver, and back again to Stratford.

www.betweenwomentwomen.net

A BEAR IN WAR



A Bear in War by **Stephanie Innes, BA'88** (Huron), (and co-author Harry Endrulat) was inspired by the true story of "Teddy," a stuffed bear that was sent to the front lines during World War I. Teddy belonged to ten-year-old

Aileen Rogers, who lived with her family on a farm in East Farnham, Quebec. Her father, Lawrence Browning Rogers, enlisted in the First Canadian Mounted Rifles in 1915. Aileen sent her beloved Teddy overseas to help protect him. However, it wasn't enough. On October 30, 1917, Lawrence died at the battle of Passchendaele. Teddy now sits in the Canadian War Museum in Ottawa, Canada, where he is one of the museum's most popular exhibits. *A Bear in War* is the story of Teddy's journey to the front lines told by Harry Endrulat and Stephanie Innes, who is Lawrence's great-granddaughter. The illustrator is Canadian artist Brian Deines.

www.keyporter.com/BookDetail.aspx?ISBN=1554700973

SLICES: OBSERVATIONS FROM THE WRONG SIDE OF THE FAIRWAY

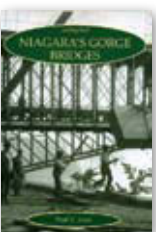


To the low-and-high-handicapper alike, golf represents an ongoing quest and an exhilarating challenge. In *Slices: Observations from the Wrong Side of the Fairway*, award-winning author **I.J. Schecter, BA'94**, explores the lighter side of golf, embodying the valiant efforts of

weekend hackers everywhere by undertaking his own dogged pursuit of the sport's elusive Holy Grail—breaking 100—with often hilarious results. Clinging to boundless, and often groundless, optimism, Schecter attempts to untangle the secret to good golf in increasingly desperate ways—like playing five different courses in five days, accompanying a greenskeeping team on their pre-dawn rounds, trying to replicate one of Tiger Woods' legendary shots, subjecting himself to hypnotherapy, and turning to a three-year-old for guidance. Called "an eloquent, witty celebration of both the game and the unwavering efforts of those who try again and again to tame it."

<http://ca.wiley.com/WileyCDA/WileyTitle/productCd-0470837349.html>

NIAGARA'S GORGE BRIDGES



Niagara's Gorge Bridges - The Architectural and Engineering Triumphs of the Niagara Gorge is the latest book by author **Paul E. Lewis, MLIS'71**. Lewis joined the Niagara Falls Bridge Commission as its archivist a number of years ago to assist in the efforts to organize the Commission's

collections in a more systematic fashion. The project resulted in Lewis unearthing a marvelous cache of engineer's photographs from the building of the steel arch bridges in the late 1890s. The book takes readers back over a century and a half, tracing the development and construction of the various bridges

that have spanned the river. Lewis' book is part of the Looking Back series, published by Vanwell Publishing of St. Catharines, Ont. The publication is available from various local book outlets or directly through Vanwell Publishing.

GOING FOR THE GREEN



What links business, politics, and power? Money? Patronage? No. The answer is golf, and no one knows this more than award-winning National Post columnist and bestselling author **Robert Thompson, BA'95, BA'97**.

Going for the Green: On the Links with Canada's Business and

Political Elite chronicles the thoughts, successes, failures, and philosophies of Canada's top business and political leaders as they play a casual round of golf with Robert Thompson, one of Canada's best known business and sports writers. Removed from the confines of their plush offices and freed of their suits and ties, Canada's top business and political minds relax and offer insights into their lives and their work, proving that you can learn more from spending four hours on the golf course than a week in the boardroom. It turns out all the powerful really want is a reliable drive and the ability to get up and down from a bunker occasionally.

www.amazon.ca/Going-Green-Canadas-Business-Political/dp/1552639932

WRITING THE LOST GENERATION



Writing the Lost Generation: Expatriate Autobiography and American Modernism by **Craig Monk, MA'93** explores members of the Lost Generation, American writers and artists who lived in Paris during the 1920s. Rebellious against increased commercialism and the ebb

of cosmopolitan society in early twentieth-century America, they rejected the culture of what Ernest Hemingway called a place of "broad lawns and narrow minds." Surprisingly the literary world has paid less attention to their autobiographies. In *Writing the Lost Generation*, Craig Monk unlocks a series of neglected texts while reinvigorating our reading of more familiar ones. Well-known autobiographies by Malcolm Cowley, Ernest Hemingway, and Gertrude Stein are joined here by works from a variety of lesser-known—but still important—expatriate American writers, including Sylvia Beach, Alfred Kreymborg, Samuel Putnam, and Harold Stearns. Craig Monk is associate dean in the Faculty of Arts and Sciences and an associate professor of English at the University of Lethbridge, Lethbridge, Alberta, Canada.

www.amazon.com/Writing-Lost-Generation-Expatriate-Autobiography/dp/1587296896

CANADIAN SPELLING BEE DICTIONARY

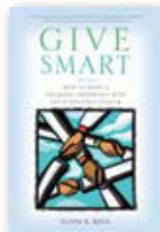


Western graduate **Lisa Devries, MA'05**, is one of the editors behind Oxford's brand-new *Canadian Spelling Bee Dictionary*, the first-ever dictionary designed specifically with Canada's quarter million spelling bee contestants in mind. Devries is one of only three lexicographers that Katherine

Barber, Canada's Word Lady and Editor-in-Chief of Oxford Canadian Dictionaries, handpicked for the demanding task of editing dictionaries.

A crucial marker of our Canadian identity is under attack. Our spelling. More than 90 per cent of Canadians polled recently by the Canadian Oxford Dictionary Department believe that Canadian spelling is threatened by American spelling. And three-quarters think maintaining distinctive Canadian spellings in the face of this threat is important. But they worry that young Canadians don't care about correct spelling or Canadian spelling. But in fact, nearly a quarter-million kids across Canada compete in spelling bees, over 225,000 of them in the Canwest Canspell National Spelling Bee alone.

www.oupcanada.com/catalog/9780195429855.html



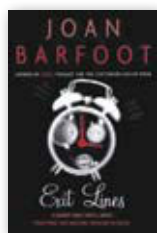
GIVE SMART

Give Smart: How to make a dramatic difference with your donation dollar is a new book by **Elaine R. Kelly, BA'83, MBA'91**. Right now, there are

millions of people in Canada who do not have a will. Nor do they realize the negative implications of not having such a document in place to protect their assets. Those who work in the nonprofit sector, particularly development professionals, also see the untapped potential that exists for deferred (or planned) gifts. Unfortunately, they aren't usually in a position to advise individuals about the writing of their will. Written for those who are not in the business of financial planning or fundraising, this book explains often complex financial scenarios in easy-to-understand terms, using familiar and relatable characters to deliver the information. Plus, it is geared toward Canadians and includes the latest tax information and giving statistics.

www.ecwpress.com/books/give_smart_how_make_dramatic_difference_your_donation_dollar

EXIT LINES



Exit Lines, by **Joan Barfoot, BA'69**, her 11th published book, explores life in the Idyll Inn, a retirement home, which is not as peaceful and boring as one would imagine. In this comedic and provocative novel, Barfoot tells the story of four Idyll Inn residents who become

friends out of need for companionship, but soon find themselves wrapped up in a complex drama. From the residents' important secrets to the interconnectedness of residence and staff in the small city retirement home, *Exit Lines* is an involved and emotion-provoking novel. Seniors begin to settle into the latest retirement facility in their small city. Four of them become their own little group dedicated

to small acts of pleasurable rebellion, not least the consumption of decent wines. In their pasts they've had a few connections, both faint and bold, with each other.

www.randomhouse.ca/author/results.pperl?authorid=1387

ALL THINGS CONSIDERED



In All Things Considered by **Patricia Stone, BA'74, BEd'75**, we observe Margaret Lovell at crucial stages in her life, beginning at 10 when she ponders Einstein's question, "Is the universe a friendly place?" and imagines that Marilyn Monroe is her real

mother. We observe her as a teen when she develops a rebellious, risk-taking nature and we follow her steps during the drug and feminist days of her university experience in the 70s; love affairs; and a forbidden infatuation for a 23 yr. old student while she is in her late 30s. Finally, events converge to bring Margaret long-awaited contentment in her retirement years. Patricia A. Stone's first collection of stories, *Close Calls*, was published in 1991 (Cormorant Books). Her second collection, *Through Any Window*, appeared in 1996 (NuAge/Signature Editions). She has published stories in literary journals for many years. Her work has been included in McClelland and Stewart's *Journey Prize Anthology*.

www.patriciastone.ca

Beryl Ivey legacy lives on for students

The philanthropic spirit of Beryl Ivey, BA'47, will live on at Western with the creation of the largest financial assistance award for an entering student at the university. The Beryl Ivey Continuing Entrance Award begins in the 2009-10 academic year.

Beginning in the 2009-10 academic year, the Beryl Ivey Continuing Entrance Award, endowed at Foundation Western, will be awarded to a Canadian secondary school student entering the first year of any program, based on financial need and academic achievement (minimum 90 per cent average).

This entrance award, valued at \$16,000 per year (\$64,000 over four years),

also recognizes a candidate's engagement in a range of extra-curricular activities such as the arts and athletics, as well as community service through contributions to school and community life.

Ivey, a well-known and generous member in the London community who died Dec. 25, 2007, provided guidance and support to Western throughout her lifetime.

"The Beryl Ivey Continuing Entrance Award is one of the most generous scholarships ever to be funded by a private donor," says Ted Garrard, Vice-President (External). "Mrs. Ivey was herself a scholarship recipient and she understood the tremendous impact that student financial assistance could have for deserving students who might otherwise not be able to come to the university."

Garrard adds Mrs. Ivey's generous legacy will benefit students for generations to come and serves as an inspiration to all donors who wish to help Western students.

To be considered for this award, candidates need to follow the application process established for the award, which includes an application, a one-page statement written by the candidate on how his or her activities contribute to his or her home or school communities and impact the lives of others, and a letter of nomination from his or her school principal or a teacher.

A new first-year recipient will be selected each year and the award will continue for a maximum of four years provided the recipient maintains a 70-per cent average.

Olympics omissions

We asked for your help in building our records of Olympic contributions and you responded enthusiastically. A big thank you to alumni who alerted us about incorrect information or omissions in the list of Western alumni who competed in past Olympic Games and the recent Beijing Games that was published in the Summer 2008 issue. In some cases names were correct but incomplete information was published. Your emails, letters and phone calls have helped make our lists and records more accurate.

The following alumni were unintentionally missed in our summer issue or information was not complete:

- **Paul Shaw, BA'71, LLB'74**, participated in trap shooting in Atlanta Summer Games 1996.
- **Renata Frankovich MD'94**, mission staff in 2004 & 2008 as a physician.
- **Patricia Reid (Washburn), BA'67**. Team Leader for curling at 1998 Olympic Winter Games in Nagano, Japan and also on mission staff for the Salt Lake City Olympics in 2002. She was also a Canadian Olympic Committee

Executive Committee Member for many years, and served on some IOC committees.

- **Reed Oldershaw, BESC'76**, and his brother Dean competed in the Canoeing event during the '72 and '76 Olympics.
- **John Kerr, BA'73**, is a Western grad and won Bronze medal sailing with Hans Fogh in the 1984 Olympics in LA. He is still in sailing too – publishes Canadian Yachting magazine.
- **Alison Bradley, BMus'02, BEd'03**, member of 2004 & 2008 Canadian Olympic Softball team at Beijing 2008 Summer Games.
- **Heather Davis, MBA'05**, Rowing 2000.
- **Brad Farrow, MBA'83**, Judo, 1976, 1980, 1984 (Brad did not compete in 1980 because of the partial boycott of the Moscow Games).
- **Linda Jackson, HBA'84**, Cycling, 1996.
- **Murray McCaig, MBA'99**, Sailing, 1992.
- **Tim Gayda, HBA'89**, Director of Sport, 2010 (Vancouver).
- **David Leighton**, Professor Emeritus (Ivey), President and CEO, Olympic Games. Organizing Committee, 1988 (Calgary).
- **Gordon Peterson, MBA/LLB'87**, Canadian Olympic Committee member representing Diving.
- **Larry Tapp**, Dean Emeritus (Ivey), Master Official 1976 (Montréal).
- **Ken Read, BA'84**, was also Chef de Mission for the 1992 Summer Team to Barcelona (in addition to being on the Men's Downhill Skiing team).
- **Tanya Porter (nee: Wheeler), BSc'87**, was USA delegation staff or mission staff, for the following Olympic Games during her 21 year ten-

ure with the US Olympic Committee: Summer Games – 1996, 2000, 2004; Winter Games – 1988, 1994, 2002, 2006.

- **Dr. Doris Miller** of the Western PE Faculty, 1996 Olympic Games, Diving Research Grant for the IOC – Sports Science Commission.
- **Jacqueline Brooks, BA'90**, Canadian Equestrian team, Dressage.
- **Jody Anderson, BA'91**, (King's) DC, Sports Medicine, Laser Therapy Team Leader, Beijing 2008.
- **Ken Dool, BA'87**, (in addition to listings in the summer magazine) Head Coach, Olympic Yachting Team (and High Performance Director), Athens (2004), and Head Coach, Beijing, 2008. The Star class won the silver medal in Athens.
- **Bill Abbott, BSc'72**, Yachting – 1980, 1996, 2000, Yachting Coach – 2008.
- **Joanne Abbott, HBA'77**, Yachting – 1996, Yachting Coach – 2000.
- **Matthew Abbott, BA'89**, BEd'96, Yachting, 2000.
- **John McIntyre, BA'69**, Rowing, 1968, Mexico City.
- **Jim Waite, MEd'82**, Coach, Canadian Men's Curling Team, 1998, 2002, 2006.
- **Susan Harris, BA'63**, Gymnastics official, 2000 Games, Sydney.
- **Andy McInnis, BA'80**, in addition to listing in the summer magazine was also Track & Field Coach in 1980, 1988. Was at 1984 and 2000 Games as Support Coach and with CBC TV in 2004.
- **Norman Elder, BA'62** (Huron), Equestrian team, Rome, 1960 and Mexico City, 1968.
- **Moffat Dunlap, BA'62** (Huron), Chef d'Equipe for Equestrian Jumping, Los Angeles, 1984.



Alumna Renata Frankovich, MD'94 (at right) and Dr Connie Lebrun on the left at the 2004 Summer Games in Athens. Frankovich is an Executive Board Member, Canadian Academy of Sport Medicine and Past Chair, Ontario Medical Association Sport Medicine Section. (Photo courtesy Renata Frankovich)

2008 Alumni Awards of Merit

Alumni Western celebrated the outstanding achievements of four Western graduates at Homecoming. Their accomplishments represent the best of Western.

John Nash, BA'63 - Dr. Ivan Smith Award

You might be forgiven for wondering at times whether alumnus extraordinaire John Nash, BA'63, works full-time at Western. Right now, Nash is a member of Western's Board of Governors but he is also the incoming president of Foundation Western's Board of Directors.

And since joining the 'W' Club in the mid 1970s, the popular London jeweller has also handled stints as volunteer canvasser for the Western Renaissance Campaign, reunion chair for his 1963 Physical Education class, campaign chair for King's University College Building Futures Campaign, chair of the Western Athletics Fundraising Campaign, Student Recreation Centre Project, and the Michael Kirkley High Performance Centre Project.



It was for this continued connection and contribution to Western that Nash was honoured at the Homecoming dinner October 3 with the Dr. Ivan Smith Award, Alumni Western's highest tribute in recognition of sustained and significant contributions to alumni and the university.

"The greater the involvement, the greater my commitment," says Nash.

"When one truly understands the

complexity of universities, and accurately perceives the relative position of Western among them, it is very easy to commit to an outstanding performance. We have come so far academically, structurally, and socially. It's a wonderful balance."

As a Western student in the early '60s, Nash was active playing football and running on the track and field team. After graduating from Western, he went to the University of Illinois for his Master's and then Ohio State University for a PhD. This led him to become an educator and author in the field of health and human kinetics.

Nash took his knowledge back to the classroom, teaching at the University of Windsor, University of Waterloo and at Western in Health Sciences. He also served as vice-president of what is known today as Physical & Health Education Canada and was chairman of the Canadian Health Education Specialists Society.

But when you say Nash's name in the London community, the first thing that comes to mind is jewelry.

Purchasing the family jewelry business in 1976, which was started by his grandfather, Nash pursued his passion of gemology, becoming Canada's second Certified Gemologist Appraiser in 1978 and developing the first Canadian AGS Accredited Gemological Laboratory at Nash's in 1980.

Nash's community contributions go well beyond Western.

Other volunteer activities have included memberships with the London Downtown Business Association, Canadian Jewellers Association, Canadian Gemological Society, Ontario Leadership Club, London Downtown Improvement Association, The Mayor's Task Force on Downtown Revitalization, London Health Sciences Foundation, Thames Valley Children's Centre and London Chamber of Commerce, and many others.

The community work has been possible, he says, because of the support of those around him, including his wife of 37 years, Margi, and their six sons.

"I am fortunate in having family, partners and friends that encourage effort, permit flexibility, recognize achievement, and overlook inadequacies," he says.

Christine Elliott, LLB'78 - Community Service Award

Christine Elliott says her time at Western helped set her on the path to where she is today.

"I was exposed to a wide variety of thoughts and opinions by my professors and fellow students, which have challenged and directed me forward to my present life. I was also taught how to deal with and resolve legal problems using a very focused and direct approach, which has served me well in my law practice, my work as an MPP, my volunteer work and my life in general."

Christine is a founding member



and partner of Flaherty Dow Elliott & McCarthy, with offices in Whitby and Toronto. She co-founded (with husband, MP Jim Flaherty) the Abilities Centre Durham, which seeks to build a world-class recreation, athletic and performing arts facility for persons with disabilities.

She entered politics when she won the March 2006 by-election for the riding of Whitby-Ajax, and was re-elected in 2007 for Whitby-Oshawa. As an MPP, she has been an active volunteer supporting children and adults with disabilities and people with mental health difficulties, as well as the Toronto Symphony Orchestra, Leukemia and Lymphoma Society and her local church.

She lives in Whitby, with her husband and their triplet sons, John, Galen and Quinn.

Louise Pitre, BMus'79, DMus'06 - Professional Achievement Award

Louise Pitre says Western opened up her horizons.

"Western gave me life-long friends,

a small group of very good friends who I met the first week I came to Western. The five of us are in different walks of life which I also love, and they have been huge supporters of my work over the years.”

Pitre cites some professors as having a huge impact, notably Peter Clements, Don McKellar and Clifford von Kuster. During her final year at Western Pitre got the acting bug, performing in a Purple Patches musical production.



Known today as a theatre superstar, it was a long haul to her first big break as the lead in “Blood Brothers” in 1989, to a standout performance in Mamma Mia on Broadway in 2002. Her

awards in theatre include three Dora Mavor Moore awards, San Francisco Critics’ Circle, New York Theatre World and a Tony nomination. She has honorary degrees from Humber College, Royal Conservatory of Music and Western.

Memorable roles include productions of Piaf; Sweeney Todd; Jacques Brel Is Alive and Well And Living in Paris; Les Miserables; Rock ‘n’ Roll; and Annie Get Your Gun.

Today, Pitre lives near Toronto with her husband, Joe Matheson.

Stephan Moccio, BMus’94 - Young Alumni Award

Musician Stephan Moccio, who grew up in Niagara Falls, says Western helped him to be highly disciplined and focused in a creative world.

“I wasn’t distracted by other things in London – I was able to hide away while I spent hours practising and honing my craft. I lived and breathed music.”

The pianist, composer, songwriter and arranger has seen great success since graduation. He has written for and with Celine Dion, Randy Bachman, Sarah Brightman, Josh Groban, Olivia Newton-John, ‘N Sync and Oscar Peterson, as well as the

Toronto Symphony Orchestra and Los Angeles Philharmonic.

While a student, Moccio told Celine Dion backstage at Alumni Hall that someday he would write a hit song for her. Less than 10 years later, her album with his title track “A New Day Has Come” sold more than 14 million copies. In 2006, he released his first album, Exposure.



Moccio has given back to Western by speaking to students in the degree program in Popular Music Studies and has made himself available for critiques and advice.

The 35-year-old married his high school sweetheart in 2003 and welcomed their daughter in 2005.

Women’s Athletic Alumnae Awards Elfrida Berzins Award

The Elfrida Berzins Award commemorates the Western coach and Director of Women’s Athletics from 1956 to 1970. Honorees have excelled as athletes, coaches and administrators, made further contributions in life, contributed to development of women and acted as a role model.

Marion Munro, BSc’70 - Women’s Athletic Alumnae Elfrida Berzins Award

Marion Munro arrived at Western in 1968, having competed in tennis and

volleyball at the national level. Her father and three older brothers graduated from the university.

Munro was the Ontario University Singles champion in tennis for Western in 1968 and 1970. She was co-captain of the Ontario Volleyball Team that won the gold medal in the first



Canadian Winter Games (under 21) in 1967 and played on the National Volleyball team from 1970-1972.

In addition to the Varsity team, the university players started the London Junos Volleyball Club, offering many clinics to high school players. The Western volleyball team had remarkable success, including a Canadian Interuniversity Sport (formerly CIAU) championship in 1972.

In 1972, Munro was the recipient of Western’s F.W.P. Jones award as most valuable women’s athlete. After Western she continued to play volleyball at the Senior Open level, winning the Quebec Provincial championships. In 1976 her son Dylan was born and three years later her daughter Marta. Munro moved to Vancouver permanently in 1980.

Natascha Wesch, MSc'98, PhD'08 - Women's Athletic Alumnae Elfrida Berzins Award

Natascha Wesch came to Western in 1994 for her Master's, after studying at Concordia University in Montreal and having played rugby both provincially and nationally.

Western women's rugby team needed a coach, so she co-coached the first year while playing. The following year she became head coach and has been ever since.

Since 1994, the team has made the playoffs every year, has finished in the top four in its division every year. It captured four OUA Championships and two CIS Championships. Wesch was named CIS coach of the year in 1998 and OUA coach of the year in 1998, 2005 and 2006.

Wesch completed her master's in Exercise Biochemistry in 1998 and joined the Western faculty that year. After retiring from rugby, she played for the varsity women's hockey team from 2003-2005. She completed her PhD in August 2008.



This year Wesch stepped down from Western to do post doctoral studies at McMaster University. She will continue to live in London with her husband and young daughter, and is still coaching the Western women's rugby team.

Patricia Kitchen, BA'74, BEd'75, MA'77 - Women's Athletic Alumnae Elfrida Berzins Award

Patricia says Western instilled in her a love of sport and physical activity.

She had many years at Western, first as a student and athlete, then as a staff and faculty member in Campus Recreation and the Department of Kinesiology.

Kitchen swam the 100 and 200



breaststroke and 200 and 400 Individual Medley. She came in first at two Canadian Interuniversity Sport championships in 1974 and 1976, and won first place medals at Ontario University Athletics championships. Kitchen was outstanding female swimmer for a number of years and was also team captain. Western recognized her achievements with a Bronze W, Purple Blanket and the F.W.P Jones trophy in 1977.

Kitchen is Associate Director of Recreation and Facilities at Wilfrid Laurier University. She has been an active volunteer for The Life Saving Society Canada, Parks and Recreation

Ontario and Canadian Intramural Recreation Association.

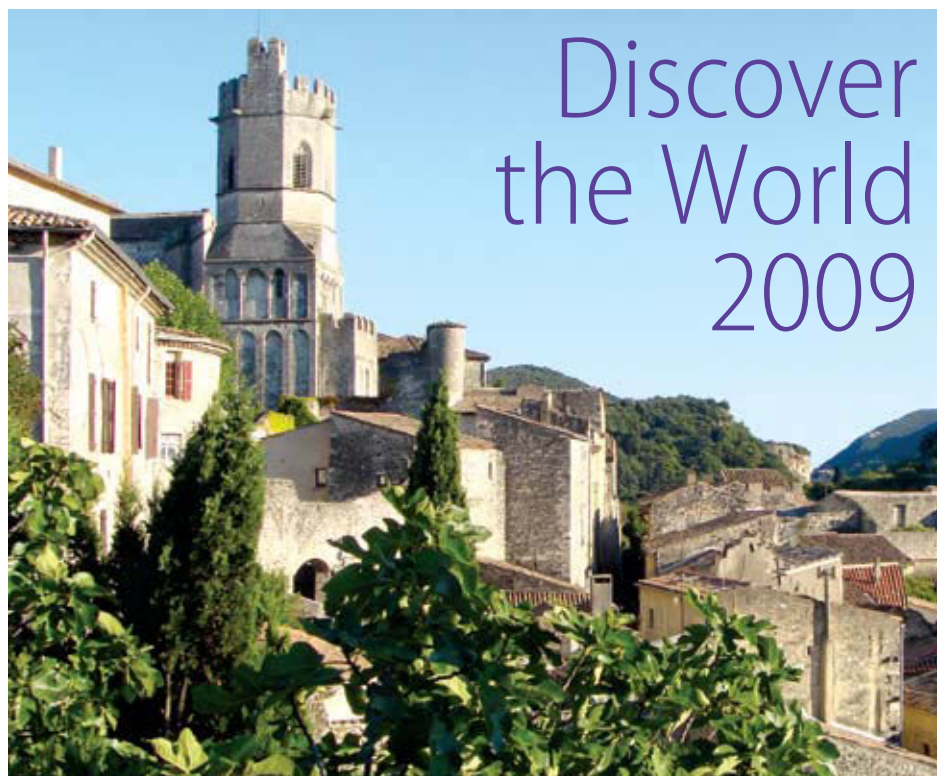
Her son is a heavy equipment operator and her daughter is a Kinesiology student at Western and co-captain of the women's swim team.

Swimming still plays a role in her life. She has participated in several water races over the years, completed ½ iron man races in 2000 and 2002, and competes in triathlons every summer.

Stacey Allaster, BA'85, MBA'00 (Tennis) - Women's Athletic Alumnae Elfrida Berzins Award



story continued on page 45



Discover
the World
2009

Educational Travel Programs for Alumni & Friends of The University of Western Ontario

To be added to our mailing list, call Susan Henderson 519-661-2111 ext 85871 or 1-800-258-6896 or e-mail discovertheworld@uwo.ca

www.alumni.uwo.ca/travel

'W' Club Hall of Fame

The members of this group will be remembered long after the playing field lights have been shut off. As athletes, coaches and administrators, their contributions have stood out, even in a crowd of exceptional individuals.

Barry Mitchelson, BA'64 - 'W' Club Hall of Fame Inductee

Barry Mitchelson says his academic and athletic experiences at Western were life altering.

While at Western, he played varsity football and basketball from 1961 to 1964, was named Freshman Athlete of the Year, All Round Athlete of the Year twice and was awarded the Purple Blanket.

"My athletic experiences at Western were the pinnacle of all my sporting experiences," says Mitchelson, a first round draft choice of the Edmonton Eskimos.

In addition, Mitchelson enjoyed academics at Huron University College. "Learning is about understanding concepts, principles and ideas and applying them to solve the problems and challenges in our day-to-day lives."

Mitchelson played for the Eskimos for three seasons, while continuing his education at the University of Alberta. In 1967, he joined the faculty and became head coach of the varsity basketball team. He completed a PhD from Ohio State University.

In 1978, Mitchelson was recruited by the Government of Alberta and held roles including Deputy Minister and Board of Directors of the Calgary Olympics. Returning to the University



of Alberta he oversaw creation of a new MBA program in Leisure and Sport Management. Since 1989 he has specialized in leadership development.

Mitchelson is married to Robin, and has daughters, Janet and Laurel, and grandson, Nolan.

Jens Kraemer, BA'85, BEd'86 - 'W' Club Hall of Fame Inductee

During his years at Western, Jens Kraemer didn't realize the impact university would have on his life.

"Western allowed me to continue to be involved in sport, varsity soccer and intramural hockey and basketball," says



Kraemer, who came to Canada from Germany in 1967.

"I was able to travel, meet persons of a great many differing backgrounds through the common bond of soccer and sport, and most importantly, it allowed me to further my education."

Today Kraemer is a high school educator at Pickering High School and Head Coach at a soccer club. He says those Western years shaped him physically, socially, emotionally and intellectually.

During his Western soccer career, Kraemer was a Canadian Interuniversity Sport (CIAU) 1st Team All-Canadian (1983 & 1984), Ontario University Athletics (OUAA) 1st Team All-Star (1981, 1983 & 1984), MVP for Western (1982 & 1983), Captain of the Western soccer team from 1982-1985, received three First Colours, a bronze "W" award and a Purple Blanket.

Today, Kraemer enjoys spending time with his wife Cindy and their two children Cody, 13, and Shae-Lyn, 11. And he still enjoys playing many sports and coaching soccer, basketball, volleyball and hockey at his high school.

Joe Dell'Aquila, BA'78 - 'W' Club Hall of Fame Inductee

Joe Dell'Aquila had an impressive wrestling record before he came to Western and he continued to impress in university competitions and world arenas. Dell'Aquila fell into wrestling more by default than by design.

"Once I was on the mat, wrestling felt natural to me," says Dell'Aquila. "My technique always suffered for the lack of formal training but with the coaching expertise I had in my university years, I managed to excel."

After three years at Ryerson, he came to Western where his skills soon shone.

His accomplishments included four national championships, first in his weight class at the Canadian Interuniversity Sport in 1974, 1975 and 1976 and, in 1977, being voted Outstanding Senior Wrestler at the National Championships and Canadian Wrestler of the Year.

A favourite memory was represent-



ing Western at the 1977 World University Games in Bulgaria.

"That was a remarkable time period where over half of the national wrestling team was from Western. It was a tribute to the coaching wizardry of Glynn Leyshon."

Today, Dell'Aquila is the National Sales Director at Independent Paper Converters, a paper processing manufacturer. He is married to Patricia, who he met at Alumni Hall, and has three children, Jessica, Erica and Evan.

Ted Hessel, BA'58, BA Honors'67 - 'W' Club Hall of Fame Inductee

Ted Hessel recalls some of the lessons learned from his Western professors - always strive to achieve your potential, and the harder you work, the greater



your rewards. And he has lived them. "I hope that my passage through life will

have left the world a little better place than when I arrived."

When he came to Western, he played football in the Intermediate League (similar to intramural leagues today, but with the opportunity to play against other universities). Hessel says great coaches set an example for when he coached teams in the air force, high school and in the community.

The former fighter pilot who served with NATO in Europe went on to teach and coach at Central Elgin (St. Thomas), Oakridge, South Secondary, Montcalm

and was vice principal at Beal, Wheable and Saunders secondary schools.

He has been an active volunteer with the Alumni Association, Homecoming, Western's Senate, and for 24 years, with The 'W' Club.

"It all comes back to one's roots," reflects Hessel. "I was raised in a warm, caring, and encouraging environment. That background allowed my wife and me to provide similar qualities for our two children. We are proud of them and their achievements."

Inaugural Spirit of Western Award presented to London Branch of Alumni Western

By David Scott

Carol-Lynn Chambers, BSc'82 (Biology), MPA'01, officially took over the helm of Western's Alumni Association at its 58th Annual General Meeting and Homecoming Kick-off October 2 at the Labatt Lounge at T.D. Waterhouse Stadium overlooking the soggy field where Mustang players were practicing for their Homecoming game (and win) against the Windsor Lancers.

The weather didn't dampen spirits of those who came to hear remarks from outgoing association president Jeremy Adams, BA'94 (Political Science), and Western President Paul Davenport, who awarded the inaugural "Spirit of Western Award" to the London Branch of Alumni Western. The concept for the Spirit of Western Award came from members of the Alumni Executive Committee and other alumni volunteers

in an effort to recognize 'grass roots' volunteer efforts within the Alumni Association. The Spirit of Western Award recognizes a Western alumnus or group of alumni who embody the Spirit of Western through their volunteer commitment to the University and exceptional efforts to enrich the university



Outgoing Alumni Association President Jeremy Adams receives a gift honoring his contributions from incoming President Carol-Lynn Chambers. (Photo by David Scott)

community and the lives of its students and alumni.

Recipients of the 2007/8 Spirit of Western Award were: Debbie Acton, Deborah Cupello, Eileen Denomy, Jo-Ann Gramlich, Tom Gramlich, Gary Groulx, Bruce Johnson and Chris Patrick.

Chambers reflected on Adams' legacy of injecting enthusiasm into the Alumni Association and working on many fronts to attract young alumni to become more involved with Western. Alumnus Ron Potter announced a \$225,000 donation from Foundation Western, along with a \$25,000 donation from the Alumni Association, towards the renaming and refurbishing of the Talbot Theatre to the future Paul Davenport Theatre.

A video presentation highlighting the many efforts of the Alumni Association, produced by TV Western, was warmly received.

Official points of business included passing the Alumni Association budget and nominating a slate of officers.

The slate of new directors includes: Lindsay Cunliffe, BA'05, and Mark Millar, BSc'04.

First-term officers include:

Robert Collins (Executive & Director), BA'77, Chair, Alumni Outreach Committee; Aubrey

LeBlanc (Executive & Director), BA'69, Chair, Communications Committee; Hillary Bassett (Director), BA'04; Anne Baxter (Director & Homecoming Chair), BA'91; Simon Chen (Director), BA'91; John Eberhard (Director), BA'66, LLB'69; Gary West (Director),

HBA'68; Joanne DeLaurentiis (Western Board of Governors), BA'75, MA'77; Wayne Dunn (University Senate), BA'80; Christine Scrimgeour (Foundation Western Board), BA'81; Jim Etherington (Honorary Degree Committee), BA'61.

Interview with Carol-Lynn Chambers

Western Alumni Gazette editor David Scott sat down recently with incoming Alumni Association President Carol-Lynn Chambers. Chambers now represents the interests of more than 235,000 graduates.

Alumni Gazette: How does it feel to be at the helm of the Alumni Association?

Carol-Lynn Chambers: It's really an honour. I look around at the leadership of the organization and tonight (at the Alumni Association's AGM) there are past presidents, past committee chairs, people who have really helped shape this organization. It's a pretty big job ahead but one that I'm looking forward to. I'm excited about it, there's lots of opportunity and I always like a good challenge.

AG: Do you have any personal goals for your two-year term, things you'd like to accomplish?

Chambers: I tend to be very goal-oriented. So, being involved in the development of the Strategic Plan (for the Alumni Association) was key for me. It is an important guidepost. Personally throughout my term I want to be gauging us back against the commitments in that Strategic Plan. We need to further accomplish what we set out in that plan. That's pretty important to me.

AG: What do you think is the biggest challenge the Alumni

Association faces in the coming year?

Chambers: I think looking around at who the Alumni Association serves. I place a lot of value in service for an organization – and when you look at who the constituents are for this organization we obviously have young alumni and even students, long-serving alumni with relationships with the university. The challenge is to continue to attract young people to the Alumni Association early in their careers – and continue to engage and value the contribution of our senior alumni. Each one brings a different perspective. So, the challenge is to bring those varied and diverse perspectives to the table and channel that toward some productive work for the organization to benefit all our constituents. To me, that's a pretty important challenge.

AG: How do you connect with an alumni body that ranges in age from people in their twenties to nineties?

Chambers: When it comes to programs and services I think both our staff and committees do a very good job of what's called target marketing. Looking within the different constituencies of our alumni association, our communities, our young people, our geographics, our chapters and we certainly have a good handle on what attracts people back. Events and programs are really key. I think we do a good job of that now and will continue doing that. Creating the right programs for the right audiences and getting good feedback which helps make programs better. The branches and chapters have grown. Dr. Davenport talked about the growing number of alumni (235,000+). Every time we have a graduation we have a new generation of alumni that we need to pay attention to.

AG: Why did you decide to volunteer time to give back to your alma mater – even when you're living in Toronto?

Chambers: For me the attachment to the Alumni Association came very strongly after I graduated the second time (Masters of Public Administration, 2001). At a point when I was relatively established with my family, my career life and I felt a desire to contribute

back something to the university. The Alumni Association is the perfect way to do that. It's hard to describe but I came back forever when I came back the second time. I met a tremendous group of friends. We still have an alumni function for the program I graduated in and we have a strong network of alumni in there. I think through that group - The Local Government Alumni Society – I really came to recognize the value you can get from those relationships. I looked for opportunities to give back and found out the Alumni Association was a good place to do that – and I haven't looked back. Here I am two terms later.


AG: What would be on your money-isn't-a-factor wish list for the Alumni Association?

Chambers: Well, from a visionary perspective, whether or not it's practical, ideally connect everybody (alumni) back to Western – either virtually, physically, emotionally. For everyone to go 360 degrees once. To experience what it's like to come back and stay back and to stay connected to Western. To me, everything else flows from that.

AG: Next July when the new president starts at Western, what central message about alumni would you like her or him to know as they begin their term?

Chambers: First of all, the 235,000+ people the Alumni Association represents figure prominently in the university community. We have an important role in helping further the university's goals. We have a strong voice on issues of importance and we have a lot to contribute in terms of social, intellectual and leadership capital to this university.

AG: How important are volunteers to the success of the Alumni Association?

Chambers: Volunteers are absolutely critical. There is a tremendous professional staff but volunteers really round out that spirit of the Alumni Association. Internationally volunteerism is critical to the association. The time people invest to this organization is tremendously valuable. 



Canada

Calgary, Alta.

Calgary Flames vs. Dallas Stars *March 18, 2008*

Durham Region, Ont.

Alumni Speaker Reception *February 2009*

Edmonton, Alta.

Yuletide Celebration at the Edmonton Symphony *December 6, 2008*

Elgin County/St. Thomas, Ont.

69th Annual Alumni Dinner Picnic *June 10, 2009*

Guelph, Ont.

Guelph Storm vs. London Knights *February 25, 2009*

Macdonald Stewart Art Centre Reception *March 19, 2009*

Hamilton, Ont.

Golden Horseshoe Alumni Networking Reception *November 25, 2008*

Kitchener, Ont.

Kitchener Rangers vs. London Knights *March 5, 2009*

London, Ont.

London Knights vs. Sarnia Sting at the JLC *December 14, 2008*

London Knights vs. Sarnia Sting at the JLC *January 2, 2009*

London Knights vs. Guelph Storm *January 16, 2009*

Aroma Chef's Club Cooking Event *February 7, 2009*

Mustang Scholarship Breakfast *March 24, 2009*

SilverStang Co-Ed Alumni *April 3-5, 2009*

Hockey Tournament *June 5, 2009*

4th Annual Love Your London *June 5, 2009*

Montreal, Que.

Alumni Networking Reception *January 13, 2009*

Niagara Region, Ont.

Niagara Wine Appreciation Evening *February 13, 2009*

Ottawa, Ont.

Dr. Davenport Tribute Reception at The National Gallery of Canada *March 10, 2009*

Port Hope, Ont.

Northumberland Alumni Reception *May 21, 2009*

Sarnia, Ont.

Sarnia Speaker Series *November 27, 2008*

Sarnia Speaker Series *December 2, 2008*

Hockey Night in Sarnia *February 27, 2009*

Saskatoon, Sask.

Alumni Mixer at the Saskatoon Club *December 5, 2008*

Toronto, Ont.

The Sound of Music Viewing & Reception in the Princess Lower Lounge *December 11, 2008*

Chinese New Year Event *January 2009*

Orlando Magic @ Toronto Raptors *February 1, 2009*

Presidential Tribute Dinner *April 7, 2009*

Six Degrees *April 30, 2009*

Alumni Western Golf Tournament *May 30, 2009*

at Lionhead *June 2009*

Rick McGhie Night *June 2009*

Vancouver, B.C.

Holiday Reception *December 2, 2008*

Olympic Theme Reception *February 2009*

Six Degrees Vancouver: *May 21, 2009*

Speed Networking *June 2009*

Southern Ontario Alumni Reunion *June 2009*

Victoria, B.C.

Tour and Mingle at the Union Club of BC *February 2009*

Windsor, Ont.

Olympic Theme Alumni Reception *November 19, 2008*

International

Beijing, China

Beijing Alumni CNY Happy Hour *January 17, 2009*

Boston, MA

Networking Reception *March 12, 2009*

Dubai, UAE

Alumni Reception at the Capital Club *April 2, 2009*

Fort Myers / Naples, Fla

Luncheon, Hyatt Regency Coconut Point Resort, Bonita Springs *March 6, 2009*

Hong Kong, China

Hong Kong Branch Annual General Meeting *December 19, 2008*

Annual Joint Canadian Universities CNY Happy Hour *February 10, 2009*

Hiking Trip *March 14, 2009*

Annual Golf Clinic at Mission Hills Golf Club *April 2009*

Western/Ivey Annual Alumni Dinner *May 23, 2009*

Hong Kong Convocation *May 24, 2009*

London, UK

Dr. Davenport Tribute Reception *May 12, 2009*

Mexico City, Mexico

Alumni reception at The University Club *March 26, 2009*

Nassau, Bahamas

Alumni Reception *March 3, 2009*

New York City, NY

Dr. Davenport Tribute Reception *February 24, 2009*

Singapore

Chinese New Year Happy Hour *February 13, 2009*

Washington, DC

Toronto Maple Leafs @ Washington Capitals *March 5, 2009*

Washington All-Canadian Alumni Event *April 18, 2009*

Chapters

Dentistry

Alumni Reception at the ODA Spring Meeting *May 1, 2009*

Engineering

Alumni Speaker Reception *May 2009*

Law

Annual Alumni Dinner *February 2009*

Library

2009 Super Conference Reception *January 29, 2009*

Medicine

Mix & Sip (Toronto, ON) *November 27, 2008*

USC

Mingle Bells (Toronto, ON) *December 12, 2008*

WAA

Mustang Scholarship Breakfast *March 24, 2009*

"W" Club

Mustang Scholarship Breakfast *March 24, 2009*

Lectures and Learning

London | Senior Alumni Program,

January 6 – March 31, Tuesdays in the McKellar Room, on campus

London | Classes Without Quizzes Community Lectures,

One per month from September 08 – March 09, visit www.classeswithoutquizzes.uwo.ca

London | London Reads – Monthly book events ,

November 12, December 3, January 14, February 11 and March 11


visit www.londonreads.uwo.ca

Toronto | Western's Alumni Lecture Series in Toronto,

February 11 – March 18, Wednesdays at the Royal Ontario Museum, The Glass Room

Sarnia | Sarnia Speaker Series,

November 27 and December 2, Strangway Community Centre

 **Do your part for the environment.**
Alumni Western is reducing the number of printed event invitations.

Please update your email address at:
www.advser.uwo.ca/alumni_update.htm to receive electronic invitations to events in your area.

Check out our event listing on the web site at www.alumni.uwo.ca

Alumni News and Events

PLEASE NOTE:

Publicly available personal information may be collected for the purpose of updating alumni records as well as for the purpose of recognizing outstanding achievement or distinguished service by alumni in University publications.

Western respects your privacy. At any time you have the right to request that your personal information cease to be used to recognize outstanding achievement or distinguished service in University publications. For more information or to make a request about the kinds of contact you would like to receive, please contact the Manager, Operations, Advancement Services, 519 661-4176 or 1-800-420-7519 Fax 519-661-4182 email advser@uwo.ca.

1950s

Professor Samuel J. Mikolaski, BA'52, MA'54 (Philosophy), was invited May 3 to be the Convocation speaker at the Atlantic Baptist University in Moncton, New Brunswick. The date marked the 25th anniversary of the former Atlantic Baptist College becoming a degree granting institution after Prof. Mikolaski led the efforts of a Bill being passed in the New Brunswick Legislature with the help of then Premier Richard Hatfield. Mikolaski was previously honoured on May 11, 2003 at Acadia University in Wolfville, Nova Scotia with a Doctor of Divinity degree, honoris causa. He has taught at a number of theological schools throughout his career including the New Orleans Baptist Seminary, the Baptist Seminary in Ruschlikon, Switzerland, the North American Baptist Seminary in Sioux Falls, SD, Atlantic Baptist University, where he also served as its second president, and at Carey Theological Seminary in Vancouver, B.C. where he retired as the MacDonald Pioneer Professor of Theology. In his retirement he has also taught at three seminaries in California.

1960s

Assuris is pleased to announce the election of the following individual to its Board of Directors. The Honourable **James M. Farley, BA'62, Q.C.**, is Senior Counsel to McCarthy Tétrault LLP and former Supervising Judge of the Commercial List where he presided over some of the most complex insolvencies in Canada. Assuris is a not-for-profit corporation funded by the life insurance industry. Assuris protects Canadian life insurance policyholders against loss of benefits due to the financial failure of a member company.

John Kenney Berscht, HBA'63, was appointed as Interim President, Sterling Mining Company on May 28.

Jim Thorsell, MA'67, was awarded the J.B. Harkin Conservation Award in November 2007 at a ceremony attended by the Minister of Environment at the Museum of Civilization in Ottawa. The award is given by the Canadian Parks and Wilderness Society and recognized his professional work in nature conservation in both Canada and abroad. For the past 25 years he has worked in almost 100 countries evaluating and monitoring natural sites on UNESCO's World Heritage List for the IUCN (International Union for the Conservation of Nature). Now based in Banff, Alberta he continues to serve on the Boards of several conservation organizations including the Nature Conservancy of Canada and the Charles Darwin Foundation.

Keith Ambachtsheer, MA'67, Director, Rotman International Centre for Pension Management, was awarded the James R. Vertin Award, which recognizes individuals who have produced a body of research notable for its relevance and enduring value to investment professionals.

Cedarville, Ohio-Cedarville University (Ohio, U.S.) faculty member and Western graduate **Dr. Judith Shrubsole, Dip'67 (Public Health), BScN'68**, has received a 2008 Southwestern Ohio Council for Higher Education Excellence in Teaching Award. For 16 years, Shrubsole has worked to prepare students not only for their chosen field in nursing but also for lifelong service. Shrubsole is heavily involved in the lives of her students and has led mission trips to the Central African Republic and Thailand. An associate professor of nursing, Shrubsole still finds time to publish and present research in her field and has recently developed a continuing education workshop to train nursing professionals in parish nursing.

Michael Gerald Miller, BA'69, was appointed Executive Managing Director and Head of Equity Products for the BMO Capital Markets institutional equity research sales and trading businesses in Canada, the US and globally.

1970s

Don McLeish, BA'70, senior lightweight varsity rowing captain 1967-68 won four gold and three silver medals rowing this season. Don, age 69, set a course record in the 2X Canadian Sculling Marathon, also winning the Head of the Trent in the 8+. Don rowed in the Western Invitational Alumni Crew in the 8+ quick time of 13:40, 4 km course. The season culminated in a gold medal in the mens 4x Wilson Island Marathon 20 km course.

The Honourable **Perrin Beatty, BA'71**, a distinguished former federal cabinet minister and the president and chief executive officer (CEO) of Canada's largest business association (Canadian Chamber of Commerce) has been named the new chancellor of The University of Ontario Institute of Technology (UOIT).

Robert Craig Gauld, BSc'72, LLB'76, has been appointed as Executive Vice President, Sernova. Mr Gauld brings over 20 years experience in management, law, finance and administration in the international biotechnology and technology sectors.

Hans Charles Jonckheere, MBA'74, Partner, Surge Communications was awarded the "Best of best award" at the London IABC's 11th Annual Virtuoso Gala in June at the Best Western Lamplighter Inn. The award recognizes communications from London and area. The gala is an opportunity for the community to network & share their experiences and successes.

Prem Watsa, MBA'74, was recently appointed chancellor of the University of Waterloo. India-born Watsa, chairman and CEO of Fairfax Financial Holdings, Ltd, will serve as UW's next chancellor. He will assist UW in its mission to become one of North America's premier universities, with international academic programs and exchanges that reach around the world. He will begin his term as chancellor, succeeding RIM founder and co-CEO Mike Lazaridis, on May 1, 2009.

A conference celebrating **Peter Borwein's (BSc'74 – Mathematics, MSc'76, PhD'79 – UBC)** 55th birthday and his contributions to mathematics was held May 12 to 16 at the IRMACS (Interdisciplinary Research in the Mathematical & Computational Sciences) Centre, Simon Fraser University, B.C. "The Mathematical Interests of Peter Borwein" conference attracted approximately 100 participants from universities around the world including Antwerp, Tulane, Texas, Colorado, California, Berkeley, Zhejiang Sci-Tech University and many more. Peter's brother **Jonathan Borwein, BA'71** (Mathematics) from Dalhousie and father **David Borwein, professor emeritus from Western** also attended and presented at the conference. In 1995, the Borweins collaborated with Yasumasa Kanada of the University of Tokyo to compute π to more than four billion digits. Peter Borwein also collaborated with NASA's David Bailey and the University of Quebec's Simon Plouffe to calculate the individual hexadecimal digits of π . This provided a way for mathematicians to determine the nth digit of π without calculating preceding digits. A tribute to Peter was given by his mother Bessie Borwein, PhD'73, DSc'05, at the birthday party and conference banquet. More information is available at: <http://conferences.irmacs.sfu.ca/borwein08/>

Elizabeth Anne Keffer, BEd'75, MEd'77, was appointed directing deaconess of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America in June.

1980s

Jennifer Hurst, BA'80, Vice President, Strategic Alliances, AXA Assurances was appointed as Vice President, Strategic Alliances - AXA Assurances. Her main priorities will include working closely with financial institutions in the Canadian market and leveraging AXA's global presence in the wealth management business. Hurst has worked in the financial services industry for nearly 30 years.

Theodore Mayers, MBA'80, has been appointed as CFO to Lundin Mining Corp.

Stephen J. Mallory, BA'81 (Economics), was appointed June 27 as a member of the Standards Council of Canada (SCC), by Jim Prentice, Minister of Industry. Mallory has over 27 years of sales, management and service leadership experience within the insurance industry. In 2007, he founded Directors Global Insurance Brokers Ltd., which focuses on providing risk management services to corporate clients. He currently serves as president. Prior to this, Mallory was President and CEO at HUB International Ontario Limited. Mallory is a Fellow with the Chartered Insurance Professional, holds a Canadian Risk Management Diploma, as well as his degree from Western.

David Filipchuk, HBA'82, has been appointed Regional VP of PCL Construction Management Inc. He began his PCL career in 1984 as a field engineer in Edmonton, and has served the organization at numerous locations across North America. In 2004, he became operations manager for PCL Edmonton, prior to his appointment as district manager of Southern Alberta operations in the same year. Dave was appointed vice-president and district manager of Southern Alberta operations in 2005. He also holds a Bachelor of Science Degree with distinction in Civil Engineering from the University of Alberta.

Jeffrey Dennis, LLB'83, was appointed President & CEO - SonnenEnergy Corp.

Jeremy Roberts, BA'83, MBA'87, was appointed Chief Financial Officer, Quebecor World. Roberts was previously Senior Vice President, Corporate Finance and Treasurer.

Robbie Campbell Banks, MBA'84, has been appointed to the Board of Intertainment Media Inc. and is also active in the company.

Bruce Dumville, MBA'84, was appointed President & CEO of Aurora Energy Resources Inc.

Timothy Paul Stinson, BA'85, was appointed Vice-President, Risk Management with Gluskin Sheff + Associates Inc. Gluskin Sheff is an independent investment firm that manages portfolios of two million dollars or more to high net worth investors, including entrepreneurs, professionals, family trusts, private charitable foundations, and estates.

Michael Wayne Kilbourne, BSc'85, appointed as Vice President Exploration of WSR Gold Inc. Kilbourne has extensive experience in exploration for base and precious metals with various companies across Canada and then continued his career from 1991 to 1996 as an open pit and underground geologist at the Pamour #1 Mine. During the last year, Kilbourne was the Project Manager for Billiken Management involved with Noront Resources on the 'Ring of Fire' discoveries in the James Bay Lowlands, Ontario.

James R. Porter, BA'86, has been appointed as VP Finance at Alamos Gold Inc.

Frederick Jones, BA'87, (LLB), has joined the Helicopter Association of Canada as President & CEO. Jones is a current and passionate helicopter pilot (Canadore College graduate) and a fixed wing pilot with over 4500 total flight hours. Jones brings many years of varying association knowledge and experience most recently as Vice President Operations and Legal Affairs with the Canadian Airports Council (CAC). At the CAC he was primarily responsible for operational and regulatory issues and represented CAC in the Canadian Aviation Regulatory Advisory Committee (CARAC) process.

Deborah Anne Wolfe, BESC'87, has been re-elected as Treasurer of the Canadian Engineering Memorial Foundation, a position she has held since joining the foundation in 1999. Deborah is the Director, Education, Outreach & Research, Engineers Canada.

Mark Caplan, HBA'88, Senior Representative & Director, Bank of Canada, was appointed Senior Representative & Director - Bank of Canada. He will be responsible for building on the Bank's strong relationship with the Toronto financial community, and will contribute to the Bank's analysis on the evolution of financial markets, institutions, products, and regulations. As a senior capital markets executive with 20 years of experience - most recently as Executive Managing Director and Co-Head, Financial Products Group, BMO Financial.

Pierre A. Bergevin, BSc'89, HBA'89, was appointed President & CEO Cushman & Wakefield LePage.

Bergevin, currently the President of the company's Facilities Management group and Senior Managing Director of Client Solutions, brings a wealth of experience in both management and brokerage to the role of President and CEO. Since joining the company in 1989, Bergevin has held various positions including Senior Managing Director Client Solutions US Mid-West & Canada; Operations Manager for Toronto's Investment Sales & Financial Services Group; and in various brokerage and business development roles.

1990s

John Patrick Marotta, BA'90, has been appointed to Senior VP at Bentall Capital. Based in Calgary, John will initially have responsibility for development in Bentall's Western Region, which consists of Alberta, Saskatchewan and Manitoba. Starting in January 2009, he will assume leadership of the Western Region. John brings 20 years of commercial real estate experience to Bentall's clients, encompassing leasing, land acquisition and development. Most recently, he was Vice-President of Commercial Properties at Pauls Properties Corporation.

Evelina Silveira, BA'90, DipPolSci'97, has started a business based on the concept of diversity - Diversity @ Work in London. Financial rewards found in diversity.

Stiris Research, founded by **Shantal Feltham, BA'91**, was recently named as one of Profit Magazine's Hot 50 list of new businesses. London-based Stiris Research Inc. is an independently owned Clinical Research Consulting Company. The company was founded in January 2004 by the President, Shantal Feltham, with a focus on providing a service which was more Client-focused and flexible than services provided previously by contract research organizations.

Corinne Gill, BA'92 (Kinesiology), DC'97, is now living in Brisbane Australia where she has her own chiropractic practice. She has a three-and-a-half year old daughter, Chloe, and a son named Morrison born in January. She can be reached at corinne@networkcare.net.au

Stephen Kerr, MA'92, was named by the Canadian legal directory Lexpert as one of the "top Canadian corporate lawyers to watch" in 2008.

Eric Owens, PhD'93, was appointed President, Treasurer & Director of Alexandia Minerals Corporation. He has 23 years experience in the mineral exploration industry in North America, Mexico and Central America

Christopher Makuch, BA'93 (King's), has been appointed Vice-President, Sales with Georgeson Inc. As a specialist in shareholder response services, Makuch provides strategic counseling and program execution in proxy solicitation, shareholder identification, information agent services and shareholder asset reunification/small shareholder programs. Prior to rejoining Georgeson, he co-founded The Shareholder Response Group in 2002 and worked in the Financial Services Division of Hill & Knowlton Canada.

Brian Leslie Ginsler, HBA'99, was recently appointed Vice-President, Corporate Development with Gluskin Sheff + Associates Inc. Gluskin Sheff is an independent investment firm that manages portfolios of two million dollars or more to high net worth investors, including entrepreneurs, professionals, family trusts,

private charitable foundations, and estates.

Shael J. Dolman, BA'93, was promoted to VP Teachers' Private Capital, Ontario Teachers' Pension Fund. He oversees Teachers' private equity investments in the business services and diversified industrial sectors. He joined Teachers' in 1997 with a background in corporate banking. He also received an MBA from McGill University, and is a graduate of the Institute of Corporate Directors.

Kent Edward Brown, BA'93, has been appointed to the position of EVP & CFO with Canadian Hydro Developers.

Glen Silvestri, BA'94, was promoted to Vice President - Teachers' Private Capital, Ontario Teachers' Pension Plan.

Andrew Claerhout, BA'94, HBA'96, was promoted to Vice President, Ontario Teachers' Pension Plan.

Kevin Moran, BSc'94, BESC'96, has been appointed as Process Development VP to Titanium Corp Inc. Moran brings an extensive oil sands background and is a recognized leader of bitumen extraction and recovery technologies. Moran will be based in Edmonton, where he will represent the Company in oil sands industry forums, government relationships and research organizations. He will also continue in his role as Adjunct Professor at the Department of Chemical and Materials Engineering at the University of Alberta.

Jason N. Chang, HBA'95, has been promoted to VP Fixed Income Capital Management, Ontario Teachers Pension Plan. His responsibilities include the fund's nominal bond index, money market, real return debt and global liquid yield curve arbitrage portfolios. Since joining Teachers' in 1995, he has held progressively more senior positions, most recently as Director, Fixed Income. Mr. Chang is a CFA charter holder.

Michael Hollend, BA'95, has been appointed as Partner to EdgeStone Capital.

Edward Samuel Rogers, LLD'96, President & CEO, Rogers Communications Inc. was awarded the 2008 Ernst & Young Entrepreneur of the Year Lifetime Achievement Award.

Gabriel Leung, MD'96, 35, has been appointed to Deputy Minister, Food & Health Bureau by the Chief Executive, Government of Hong Kong. Prof. Leung also holds a Master Degree in Public Health from Harvard University, a Doctor of Medicine Degree from the University of Hong Kong (HKU) and a number of professional qualifications. He joined the Faculty of Medicine of HKU in 1999 and was promoted in 2006 to his present position as Professor in Translational Public Health. Prof. Leung has been a consultant to various international agencies including the World Health Organization and World Bank.

Gawain Smart, LLB'96, MBA'96, has been appointed to the position of VP, Legal at Oxford Properties Group. He will work with the Global Principal Investment, Global Asset Management and Finance teams in furthering the growth and strategic direction of the Company.

Robertson Luke Seabrook, HBA'97, was appointed Executive Managing Director and Head of Financial Products, BMO's global financial products.

Andrew Carter, MSc'98, was named Assistant Rowing Coach at Clemson University, South Carolina. Carter joins Clemson University (South Carolina) after a seven-year tenure at Bates College.

Roger Alexander, MBA'98, has been appointed VP of Areva Np Canada, Ltd.

Amy Snider, BSc'99 (Brescia), Food Consultant & Nutritionist has joined Dinewise Inc. as an Advisory Board Member. Snider will work with Dinewise chefs to create delicious nutritional meals and meal plans for consumers, and share practical tips and advice on how to live better healthier lives everyday. Snider has assisted companies such as Heinz, Unilever, and Clover Leaf Seafoods in how to share meaningful nutritional messages with their customers, as well as created recipe programs.

2000s

Denise Marie Bedard, BA'00, has been appointed Administrator of Dearness Seniors Home in London, Ont.

Suzanne E. Dale, BSc'00, PhD'05, Clinical Microbiologist, St. Joseph's Healthcare, Hamilton, Ont., is now a certified Diplomate of the American Board of Medical Microbiology (ABMM). To earn the ABMM credential, Dr. Dale first met rigorous educational and experiential eligibility requirements and then passed a comprehensive written examination. She has demonstrated the knowledge and skills necessary to direct laboratories engaged in the microbiological diagnosis of human disease.

Frederic Lesage, MBA'01, has been appointed Managing Director to Abu Dhabi National Energy Co. Lesage has over 17 years of experience working with blue chip companies and most recently served Taqa in the role of GVP, integration and optimization. Prior to joining Taqa, Lesage worked as a senior consultant for McKinsey & Company after practicing law for several years at a leading Canadian law firm, where he specialised in Labor and Employment Law. He also holds a law degree from Universite de Montreal.

April Robinson, MA'08, has been appointed as a journalist at the Waterloo Region Record.

Louis A. Beaubien, PhD'08 (James N. and Eva Barrett Fellow in Ethics and the Liberal Arts, instructor, economics), has been announced as one of 10 new faculty members in tenure-track positions for the 2008-09 academic year at the College of the Holy Cross, the oldest Catholic college in New England. Beaubien earned his BSc and BA from Dalhousie University in Nova Scotia, his MBA from Sobey School of Business at St. Mary's University in Halifax Nova Scotia, and completed his PhD from the Ivey School of Business at Western in August 2008. A Certified Management Accountant (CMA), Beaubien previously taught at Providence College, University of Western Ontario and at universities in France and Switzerland. Prior to teaching, he worked as a business process technology integration consultant for Realityclick and worked in corporate banking at the Bank of Nova Scotia.

In Memoriam

The Alumni Association extends its condolences to the families and friends of the following alumni:

Grace Elizabeth Grieve, BA'36,
On July 10, 2008 in Tillsonburg, Ont. age 93.

Margaret May, BA'38,
On August 14, 2008 in London, Ont. age 93.

Robert Wallace (Wally) Read MD'52,
On August 7, 2008 in Oakville, Ont., age 80.

Margaret Foyston (nee MacDonald), HBA'51,
On September 12, 2008, in Hamilton, Ont., age 79.

Rev. Dr. W. Kenneth Jaggs, BA'58 (Theology, Huron),
On May 17, 2008, in Windsor, Ont., age 79.

Rev. Canon Morris D. Murchison, BA'61 (Huron) BTh'63 (Huron),
On March 24, 2008, in Sarnia, Ont., age 73.

Gary Allen Gibson, MD'65, valedictorian,
On January 3, 2008, on Salt Spring Island, BC, age 66.

Shirley May Langford, BA'53,
On June 24, 2008, in Sarnia, Ont., age 91.

** Because of space constraints, full obituaries are available online at www.alumnigazette.ca*

Obituaries

J. Lewis Robinson, BA'40 and Honorary LLD'84, passed away July 19 at the age of 90. J. Lewis 'Lew' Robinson, one of Canada's first Geography professors, passed away peacefully with his family by his side after suffering a stroke the day after celebrating his 90th birthday. Survived by his wife & partner of 63 years, Josephine (nee Rowan - UNB '40), son David and daughters Jo-Anne and Patricia and grandchildren Alexandra, Michael and Joanna. Born in Leamington and raised in Windsor, Lewis studied at The University of Western Ontario (BA) Syracuse University (MA) and Clark University (PhD). In 1946 Lewis was invited by UBC President, Norman Mackenzie, to start a Geography Division within the Dept. of Geology, and in 1958 he started the Geography Dept. at UBC, serving as the first head until 1968; and remained as a Professor until his retirement in 1984. Lewis made an outstanding contribution to Geography in Canada - writing 14 books, developing nine wall maps and contributing to hundreds of articles - particularly on the geography of British Columbia and the Canadian Arctic. His textbooks and wall maps of Canada were used in universities and schools throughout the country. During his 48 years of teaching Geography at UBC, he taught thousands of students earning him the reputation as an outstanding teacher and mentor. In recognition of these contributions, UBC awarded him a Master Teacher Award (1977). Lewis also received numerous other honours and awards throughout his distinguished career, including the Centennial Medal and Silver Jubilee Medal from the Government of Canada, the Massey Medal of the Royal Canadian Geographical Service and two university honorary degrees from Western and UBC. Lewis retired from UBC in 1984, but remained an active force at the institution, establishing the Alumni Association's Professors Emeriti Division - the first organization of its kind in Canada.

Earl Stuart Russell, MD'50, DSc'06, age 88, died peacefully at home October 12. Survived by his loving wife of 61 years, Marjorie (Midge), four daughters Kathy Densmore (Garry); Jane Howlett (Tim); Gail Stark; Margot White (David). Proud grandfather of nine grandchildren, two step grandchildren and five great-grandchildren. Also survived by his sister Janet Gibson and brothers Alex, John and Ralph; sister-in-law Winnie. Predeceased by brothers Calvin and Lloyd. Russell, who dedicated much of his life to alleviating human pain, was a faculty member from 1968 to 1981 in the Department of Anesthesia. He was Chief of Anesthesia at Four Counties General Hospital in Newbury and an advisor at Moose Factory General Hospital. He was a member of the staff at Kingston General Hospital, St. Joseph's Health Care, St. Mary's Hospital, and the London Health Sciences Centre and, from 1972-1974, president and acting chair of the medical staff at Westminster Hospital in London. Russell's interest in pain management and career in anesthesia began as a young doctor serving in the Royal Canadian Army Medical Corps during the Korean War. At age 87 he remained active in treating patients, devoting three days a week to provide pain relief for 70-80 patients who visited him at busy rural clinics in Ingersoll and Newbury. In 1999, Russell donated \$1 million to establish the Earl Russell Chair in Pain Management at Schulich Medicine & Dentistry. Russell and his family have continued to support this chair to facilitate important research in pain management. In recognition of his outstanding contributions as a physician, teacher, mentor and philanthropist, Russell received an honorary degree from Western during spring convocation in 2006. He was always very grateful for his education, his speciality, his associates, his patients, church and family.

London native, **Edmond Reeves, BSc'56, MSc'57, PhD'59**, passed away on August 8 in Virginia after a brave struggle with cancer. He received all three of his degrees from Western. His PhD was in Atomic and Molecular physics. After spending two years in postdoctoral research at Imperial College in London, England, he joined the faculty of the Harvard College Observatory in Cambridge, MA. At Harvard, as a Senior Research Associate, he led a research group in laboratory astrophysics and solar ultraviolet space research using both free-flying satellites and the Skylab mission as his main research projects. After 17 years at Harvard, Ed moved to Boulder, CO, where he served at Head of Administration and Support for the High Attitude Observatory. In 1982, Ed joined NASA Headquarters in Washington, DC. He served as Chief Scientist and later became the Director of the Flight Systems Office in the Office of Life and Microgravity Applications. His office was responsible for the integrated planning and science operations for the extended series of research missions using the Spacelab, the Spacehab and the Mir missions. He also led the activities for the research requirements and utilization planning for the International Space Station and served as the Space Station Senior Scientist, the Executive Secretary of the Space Station Utilization Advisory Subcommittee, as Executive Secretary of the Space Station Utilization Board at NASA Headquarters. He was NASA's representative to the International User Operation Panel, which coordinated the utilization planning across the international partners. Ed was a recipient of many awards including NASA's medal for Exceptional Scientific Achievement in 1974. His interests included hiking, traveling and spending summers on Lake Huron. He is survived by his wife of 52 years, Vivian Reeves, (formerly Vivian Irvine, BA'55); his two children, Dr. Geoffrey Reeves, and Laurie Webster; and his three grandchildren.

Bedros (Peter) Raphael Kricorissian, BA'80, passed away peacefully in Ottawa on July 21 in his 95th year. He was born in Constantinople Turkey, in 1913, of Armenian parents. His father Nerses Vahram Kricorissian was from Manchester, England and mother Berdjouhi-Araxi (nee Karagheusian) from Turkey. Peter and his parents moved to Nicosia, Cyprus, where he worked for the British Council as their chief accountant. During this period, Peter married his loving partner in life, Seta (nee Bazbazyan) and had two children, Gregory and Linda. The family moved to London, Ont. in 1956. Peter was a proud and devoted father who valued the pursuit of learning, and encouraged his children to achieve their dreams. Gregg studied electronics technology and has had a very successful and varied career. Linda, BA'74, (MEd'94, OISE, UT), graduated in honours Spanish and Visual Arts and has enjoyed a fulfilling career in art education. Peter was himself an avid linguist with an insatiable appetite for history and current events. He nourished his soul by listening to music from a variety of cultural backgrounds and periods, as diverse as Spanish flamenco, Russian ballads, and Armenian liturgical chants. A photograph of Peter was published in the Gazette showing Professor William Dale of Visual Arts congratulating him on convocation day, and the caption read: "I'm following in my daughter's footsteps." While at Western, he enjoyed the lectures, readings and camaraderie of students and professors, and graduated in Russian, at the age of 67. His association with Western continued into his eighties as he eagerly participated in the geriatric fitness program. Peter was predeceased by his loving wife Seta in 2006. He is loved and remembered by his son Gregg and daughter-in-law Donna (nee White), BSc'72,

his daughter Linda and son-in-law James Perry and grandchildren Julie and Ryan Kricorissian and Alex and Andrew Perry, as well as many friends.

Donald Lewis Wallis, MD'87 died peacefully at home in Sudbury, on July 13 surrounded by his loving family, at the age of 45. Beloved son of Patricia (Gawley) and Donald Sr. Wallis of Newcastle. Cherished husband of 22 years of Sylvie (Davidson) BSc(CD)'85 MCISC'87. Loving and devoted father to Tristan, age 12. Survived by his brothers Stephen, Robert (Deborah), Paul (Charlotte) and his sister Margot Ford (Greg). Don was an interne and resident at the University of Ottawa from 1987 to 1992, during which time he was involved in improving working conditions for internes and residents through his work on the Board of Directors with PAIRO (Professional Association of Internes and Residents of Ontario). Don subsequently joined the department of Anaesthesia at the Sudbury Regional Hospital where he worked until 2005. He will be fondly remembered for the dedication and compassion he showed his patients, his leadership qualities, his sense of fairness, and will be missed by the nurses and physicians he had the privilege to work with. Don had a great passion for outdoor activities, which he continued to enjoy as much and as long as possible. He fought a courageous battle with cancer and touched many with his positive outlook, his ready smile and his determination to live life to the fullest. A Memorial Bursary in Don's name has been established at the Northern Ontario School of Medicine for graduating medical students.

Jonathan Scott Goldik, BSc'00, PhD'06 (Chemistry), tragically passed away after a brief but courageous battle with lymphoma. Jonathan was born in Lahr, West Germany on May 8, 1977. Jonathan defended his thesis, "Surface Electrochemistry of Hydrogen Peroxide on Uranium Dioxide Electrodes" on Jan. 11, 2004. He was employed in the corrosion laboratory at Atomic Energy Canada Limited in Chalk River, Ontario. Jonathan is survived by his parents Roy, BA'71 and Dorothy (Appleford) BA'70, DipEd'71, and his sister Jennifer, HBA'03 and BEd'04 (Nipissing University). Jonathan is remembered with great respect and affection by his fellow students and professors in the Chemistry department.

Harjinder Saroy, BA'01 (Economics) was tragically killed April 14 in Kenya. He managed a Forex Bureau in the centre of Nairobi's Financial District and also had a show on radio (East FM) that was very popular with the listeners. He left work at 5:20 p.m. on the way to the gym and was approached by a gunman who shot him in an attempted robbery. Harjinder sadly passed away in his car almost instantly. He would have turned 28 the following week. He was popular amongst his friends who all miss him dearly. Harjinder was a doting son and very loving brother and a successful businessman. He was taking his ACCA exams and contemplating an MBA after. At Western he was a member of WICSA (Western Indo-Canadian Students' Association). He leaves behind a younger brother Vishal, elder sister Neelam, father Krishan and mother Kulwant who miss him dearly. May his soul rest in eternal peace.

WHAT'S NEW WITH YOU?

Share your news with fellow grads and help us keep our records up to date.

WRITE A LETTER TO:

Gazetteer: Beth O'Donovan
Ste. 160, Westminster Hall,
The University of Western Ontario
London, ON - N6A 3K7

IF YOU'D PREFER:

Call: 519 661-2111 ext. 86863,
1 800 258-6896 (press 4)
Fax: 519-661-3948 or
E-mail: gazetteer@uwo.ca

DEADLINE FOR INCLUSION IN THE SPRING 2009 ISSUE IS FEBRUARY 1, 2009

story continued from page 37


Stacey Allaster's success on the court and in the classroom has helped her achieve a top-seed corporate position in the world of professional tennis.

Allaster is president of the Sony Ericsson Women's Tennis Association (WTA) Tour – governing body of women's professional tennis. The WTA has 2,000 players from 90 nations, competing for \$70.8 million at 60 events in 34 countries. She has been referred to as the

most powerful woman in international women's tennis.

She started playing at six years old and was selected in Grade 8 to attend a scholarship program. After playing junior tennis, she became a teaching pro and used that skill to help pay for tuition at Western. Allaster played competitive doubles as part of the Western team and won an Ontario Women's Intercollegiate Athletic Association doubles championship.

"Ideally I would like to teach in an undergraduate or graduate sports marketing/administration program. As well, I would like to use my skills and experience to help lead a children's charity such as Special Olympics."

"Together with my husband John we adopted two children from Siberia. Today Jack, 6, and Alexandra, 4, are two healthy and happy children and all of my career success would be meaningless without them." 

GREAT CONFERENCES deserve a **GREAT** location!

One-Stop-Shopping for all your year-round conference needs









www.meetatwestern.ca Tel: 519 661-3545 • Fax: 519 850-2353 • conference.services@uwo.ca
The UNIVERSITY of WESTERN ONTARIO • London • Ontario

News of the future written in the past

By Paul Wells, BA'89

Here in the world of magazines, we have a little something called “lead time,” which is the inevitable gap between writing and reading. Lead time means I am writing this column mere days after the recent federal election unpleasantness, whereas you are reading it at a date far in what is for me, as I write this, the future. Half of the fun of writing for magazines is coping with lead time, which is mostly a matter of figuring out what one can write now (i.e. ‘then’) that will still be worth reading then (i.e. ‘now’).

Hmm. Come to think of it, perhaps I should specify: I mean the federal election unpleasantness of October 2008. If you live in the future of Infinite Snap Elections, this might not be obvious. Perhaps you’ve already lived through a half-dozen elections in the intervening months. Perhaps, having put ‘paid’ to the ambitions of Stéphane Dion, Stephen Harper has already seen the back of three more Liberal leaders by the time you see this. That Justin Trudeau

showed some promise until he face-planted in the historic election of late-mid-winter 08-09! So long, Justin. Who knows whether that’s how it’ll work out (i.e. “how it worked out”)? It’s the future. I’m flying blind here.



Better, then, to examine the past. Safer. And yet full of lessons in its own way. Here’s one that occurred to me during the campaign (Harper-Dion ‘08, that is): Everything I know about politics, I learned from covering the University Students’ Council at Western, lo these many years ago.

To be sure, budgets are larger in the big time. Ad strategies are more complex. At the USC, they mostly stuck with Xeroxed posters in the Social Sciences tunnel. And yet the tidy microcosm of USC-Gazette is governed by laws not all that different from those that govern the looming macrocosm of Parliament-Press Gallery. Covering a real live election campaign was oddly familiar by the time I got around to it.

A few examples:

ALL NEW IDEAS WILL BE RIDICULED

This is an ironclad law of elections. Stéphane Dion’s Waterloo, of course, was his Green Shift, which called for some behaviour to be taxed less so other behaviour could be taxed more. Dion was amazed to see this proposal caricatured and mocked by his opponents. That’s because Dion never ran for USC president.

In my last year at Western, one of the candidates ran on one big idea: panic buttons all over campus so students could rest assured that if anyone assaulted them, help would never be far away. Well, was she ever laughed out of town. Panic buttons? No way! They’d cost a mint. They’d be so easy to abuse. They’d never work when you needed them.

Of course, as later generations of Western alumni know, a few years later panic buttons were installed all over campus. Just as everyone who’s thought about it for three minutes knows that some day soon, Canadians will be paying a price for carbon consumption. What you don’t want to be is the first candidate to suggest these things. Originality will be punished without fail.

YOU ACTUALLY CAN’T BUY YOUR WAY IN

This may be counterintuitive, but it’s true. In my time at Western, one guy tried to distribute large quantities of

Spoke beer to selected swing voters, in the hope he might persuade them to swing a little further his way. Another came from out of nowhere, with no USC experience, but he had a cute mop of blond hair and some kind of bottomless wallet to pay for T-shirts, posters, all the paraphernalia of a modern student-council campaign. Both of these guys quickly discovered that largesse couldn’t compete against experience and a reputation for seriousness. (Well, a touch of seriousness. This was Western in the ‘80s, after all.) Neither of my free-spending classmates got anywhere against less flashy, more qualified candidates. This was actually kind of heartening, and it was my first lesson in an important political truth: the cynical assumption isn’t always, or even usually, accurate.

THE REAL ISSUES WILL NEVER GET THE MOST ATTENTION

Okay, sometimes the cynical assumption is accurate. Here’s one that usually pans out: campaigns will turn around secondary questions, not fundamentals. During Canada’s 2006 federal election campaign, the size of Spain’s economy surpassed the size of Canada’s. I know that because there was a front-page article about it. In *Le Monde*. In France. In Canada, politicians, journalists and just about everyone else missed this evidence of a country that wasn’t holding its own in the productivity sweepstakes.

If more had noticed, we might have had a deeper conversation about how best to generate and spread prosperity. But I don’t suppose anyone’s surprised that didn’t happen. Just as nobody, surely, was surprised when USC campaigns were won and lost on promises about parking, eating, partying and housing. Study, research and the job market are far closer to the heart of a university’s mission, but nobody should be surprised if they are not at the heart of student politics.

Mostly what I learned early and have never forgotten is that politics, at any scale, is a surefire source of human drama. I’m sure that won’t have changed by the time this magazine reaches you, sometime in the distant future.

The future is theirs to create.

And yours to protect.



ALUMNI TERM LIFE INSURANCE



The need for life insurance is one of life's most important lessons.

Whatever life brings, make sure the people who count on you will be well taken care of. With your Alumni Term Life Insurance plan, you may give your loved ones the financial security to continue living the life you dreamed of for them, no matter what.

Call us at **1 888 913-6333**
or e-mail **am_service@manulife.com**

What will life teach you? manulife.com/westernmag

Underwritten by:

 **Manulife Financial**

The Manufacturers Life Insurance Company

HOME and AUTO INSURANCE

for members of The University of Western
Ontario Alumni Association

Insurance program recommended by:



Say
Goodbye
to your
Deductible

“This is my SOLUTION.”

As a partner of **The University of Western Ontario Alumni Association**, TD Insurance Meloche Monnex offers you **high-quality home and auto insurance products, preferred group rates and exceptional service.**

Being involved in an accident or falling victim to theft can be very stressful. Get added peace of mind by adding our NEW **Goodbye Deductible™** protection to your automobile policy. That way, you'll have ZERO deductible to pay in the event of an eligible claim. We will handle all covered expenses from start to finish. Contact us to add this feature to your policy today!



Enjoy savings through
PREFERRED GROUP RATES:

MelocheMonnex.com/uwo

1 866 352 6187



Insurance

Meloche Monnex

The TD Insurance Meloche Monnex home and auto insurance program is underwritten by SECURITY NATIONAL INSURANCE COMPANY and distributed by Meloche Monnex Insurance Financial Services Inc. in Québec and by Meloche Monnex Financial Services Inc. in the rest of Canada.

Due to provincial legislation, our auto insurance program is not offered in British Columbia, Manitoba or Saskatchewan. TD Insurance is a trademark of The Toronto-Dominion Bank used under license. Meloche Monnex®, and Goodbye Deductible™ are trademarks of Meloche Monnex Inc.



Publication Agreement # is 40069342
Return Undeliverable Canadian Addresses to:
University of Western Ontario, WH, Suite 360
London, ON N6A 3K7