

*The University of Western Ontario*

# Western

*spring 07*

**ALUMNI GAZETTE**

## The faces of hope



**SPECIAL ISSUE:**  
How Western  
makes a difference  
around the world

• GREETINGS FROM IRAQ

• CONFLICT TO COOPERATION

• HETHERINGTON'S HABITAT

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**On the cover:** Children waiting in line for immunization in Togo at a recent yellow fever campaign. Photo from WHO/Olivier Asselin.



## Individual efforts make world of difference

The working theme of this issue is “Western saves the world.” While that might ring a little lofty or super-hero sounding to some, there are sincere and passionate efforts being made on an individual level by hundreds, if not thousands, of Western students, staff, faculty and alumni around the world. Their intentions might not be of the magnitude of reshaping the planet as we know it but their actions are improving the daily lives of people in need in many communities of developing countries and here in Canada.

In the prestigious and pivotal role of Director-General of the World Health Organization (WHO) there is double Western alumna Margaret Chan (Brescia) who is addressing major health concerns including diseases such as measles and polio that in Canada we have long forgotten as serious threats to us and our children.

Yong Kang is a name you should remember. This Western professor has been researching a cure for AIDS for more than 20 years. A vaccine for HIV might be available as soon as three years from now. This Western-based research could mean the difference for the estimated 39.5 million people worldwide living with HIV/AIDS whose lives hang in limbo waiting for a cure to a so far incurable disease.

Alumnus Dr. Paul Polak is the founder of International Development Enterprises, a non-profit organization that has worked for decades helping rural farm families in developing countries to increase their agricultural productivity, providing them with a basis for food security, income generation, integration with markets, and the beginnings of an upward spiral out of poverty.

The new head of Habitat for Humanity, Toronto, alumnus Neil Hetherington helps build affordable homes in partnership with low-income families. Since becoming CEO in 2000 Hetherington has led the organization from building one home every two years to building 50 homes in 2005, leading to a dramatic increase in the number of families who have been able to escape substandard housing in the GTA.

Recent Western graduate Craig Robinson joined Canadian University Services Overseas (CUSO) for a two-year placement in Nigeria in April 2006. His primary volunteer duties include youth health promotion and advocacy, clinic administration, good governance and democracy, gender equality and overall program support.

Western professor Slobodan Simonovic has developed a computer software package for water conflict resolution to help countries with conflicts spanning from minor disagreements to wars in the more than 162 shared watersheds around the world. UNSECO produced the software and provided it free of charge to everyone interested at the Fourth World Water Forum in Mexico in March 2006 and more than 1500 copies were picked up within three hours.

Alumnus Martin Herbst, a high school teacher at Monarch Park Collegiate in downtown Toronto took 13 students for a life-changing trip to Kenya for four weeks in November to build a school as part of a four-credit course he developed. It is the first program of its kind in Ontario for high school students doing overseas work as part of their curriculum. The program template can now be used by other school boards. Closer to campus we also bring you the homegrown success story of Librarians Without Borders and the Western Chapter of Engineers Without Borders.

We're happy to announce that popular Maclean's columnist and alumnus Paul Wells will now be a regular contributor to the Alumni Gazette starting with this issue. We look forward to his engaging commentary from the nation's capital.

Wishing for a warm spring and good growth (personal or soil-based).

David Scott  
dscott24@uwo.ca

Spring 2007 (ISSN 1189-6272)

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The 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, Room 335, Stevenson-Lawson Building, London, Ontario, N6A 5B8. 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, SLB,  
Room 335, London, ON N6A 5B8

Read the Gazette online at: [www.alumnigazette.ca](http://www.alumnigazette.ca)



### Canada's 'chance for glory' could be a nightmare

(*Re: War on terrorism coming to end?, Fall 2006*)

Full marks to Editor Scott for compiling a topical and relevant issue (*War & Peace*, Fall '06). In "War on Terrorism Coming to an End?" Western Professor Peter Langille wants Canada to step up military operations as the US shifts into phase two of its "war on terrorism." Phase two, as we know, is the long-term, no end in sight, establishment of American troops in hostile, oil rich, territories until the wells run dry. Langille, unbelievably, sees this new scenario as Canada's chance for glory, our chance to embroil ourselves in even more of these nightmarish conflicts (apparently the fiasco in Afghanistan is not enough) by suggesting a sojourn in Darfur. The only advantage of going it alone in Darfur is at least we would avoid friendly fire from the Americans.

Langille's madness, specifically his belief in benign invasions (apparently Realpolitik is never mentioned in his classroom), could not stand up in serious debate. His assumption that Canada's military is "almost the envy of other nations" suggests that Canada lacks the resources to fly solo and requires the significant support of these almost envious nations (maybe Kazakhstan?). I can only surmise that like most right-wing enthusiasts, there is no limit to how much of other people's blood he is willing to spill.

In any case, we can all feel comforted by the thought that his voice is now being heard in the UN. Let's hope that he is seen there as a madman, for if he is taken seriously, God help us all.

Bill Cross, MusB'75

### Magazine furthers life-long learning

(*Re: Do we live the sheltered life today?, Fall 2006*)

Forty years ago, I attended *Western* for one academic year to earn a diploma. I, therefore, do not have as much knowledge of people and places as do the graduates who spent four plus years at the university. I must say that with you as editor of the *Alumni Gazette*,

the magazine is very enjoyable for me to read. The articles are interesting, not too long and always further my life-long learning. The Back Page in the last issue, "Do we live the sheltered life today?" by Tim Blackmore was especially appropriate for this time. Your own editorial, "Hoping for more peace than war" focused many thoughts for the recent holiday season.

Barbara Cope, DNSA'67

### War study group shares stories of Western's past

(*Re: War & Peace issue, Fall 2006*)

A great issue, nicely done and to suit the month of remembrance.

I have sent your e-version off to over 650 members of our Great War Study Group ([www.cefresearch.com](http://www.cefresearch.com)), particularly to highlight the article on No. 10 Canadian General Hospital (Page 22).

Now you have raised my curiosity - what other great treasures are in the "Western Archives"?

Thanks for making this public,  
Richard Laughton, BSc'73, MEng'75

### Western's J School had close ties with Free Press

(*Re: Western, the mecca of media, Summer 2006*)

I enjoyed reading Mr. Paul Berton's story on the media notables from *Western* but just a bit of the history of the J School might have been in order, especially its founding.

During my six years as a reporter for the *Free Press* plus another four years at the paper part-time while attending *Western*, it was widely recognized that Arthur R. Ford, who was both Editor-in-Chief of the *Free Press* and Chancellor of *Western*, along with Walter J. Blackburn, publisher and owner of the paper, were influential in establishing the School of Journalism.

At least one early Head of the School was an ex-reporter from the paper, Bud Wilde.

It made sense both from the University's point of view to establish one of the first schools of journalism in Canada and from the paper's point of

view to produce a flow of editorial staff trained or at least partly-trained. I hope fresh J grads will excuse my feeling that a few years in the game are needed to fully train them.

I was from an earlier time and with only Senior Matric from Saskatchewan started at the paper writing obits, funerals and the farmers' market.

The son of Arthur Ford, Robert, was my ambassador in Bogota, Colombia, on my first Foreign Service posting as a Canadian Government Trade Commissioner in 1958.

Neil Currie, BA'57

### Resurrection of Alumni Gazette remarkable

A quick note to offer you a well-deserved pat on the back for the way you've resurrected the *Alumni Gazette* since your arrival on the scene.

The new issue arrived in yesterday's mail, and it was another excellent read. Interesting content and solid layout. The Summer issue was also first rate.

The changes you've made to the *Gazette* are nothing short of remarkable. Keep up the good work!

Best wishes,

Ken Cuthbertson, (MA'75, J-School)  
Editor, Queen's Alumni Review

### Reporting biased against Israel for a reason, claims writer

(*Re: Letter to the Editor "Alumnus questions Arsenault's reporting bias," Fall 2006*)

I was surprised by your decision to print the letter submitted by Arthur Zaltz. Zaltz argues that Adrienne Arsenault's reporting is biased and uses an example where the allegations in her story were never proven. Then he goes on to give an example that is completely false. Israel's occupation army destroyed almost every settler structure before the unilateral evacuation. The attempts of Zaltz to whitewash the occupation by claiming that the settlers wanted to help the Palestinians somehow is just offensive to any thoughtful person.

The Palestinians merely salvaged what they could and then they stomped on what was left behind. Could anyone blame them after 40 years of brutal

occupation where a few thousand Israeli settlers lived in lush luxury while millions of Palestinians lived in abject poverty a few miles down the road? There must be some reason why journalists like Arsenault, Macdonald and many others around the world, including Israeli journalists, become “less than impartial” in their reporting. Could it be that this happens once they witness firsthand the brutality of the Israeli occupation and are harassed by the venomous hate of the Israeli right?

Walid Madhoun, BA’03

### Why is Canadian reporting biased against Israel?

(Re: Letter to the Editor “Alumnus questions Arsenault’s reporting bias,” Fall 2006)

Arthur Zaltz complains that Adrienne Arsenault is not impartial in her reporting from the Levant, just like Neil Macdonald. Zaltz may be right. It seems that nearly every journalist reporting from Israel and Palestine is biased against Israel. The only Canadian media with a balanced view of the Middle East is CanWest Global Communications. One can only wonder at why this has to be. What can be done about this widespread lamentable prejudice?

J. Edward Mullens, MD’49

### Liberal news media in Canada is anti-American

(Re: Hoping for more peace than war, Fall 2006)

I’m a Western grad twice over and I just was reading your Editor’s Notebook column in the recent Alumni Gazette, and a term caught my attention: war-mongers. As a Canadian citizen, and now, too, an American citizen, I see and hear a lot from Canadians who hate the US, and especially George W. Bush, who was termed a ‘war-monger.’

The Liberal government in Canada has stripped the Canadian military down to bare bones, just like Bill Clinton did over the eight years he was called president. No talk in your article about the Liberals’ beloved Bill Clinton, who according to the 9/11 commission said no two times to taking Osama Bin Laden out. He was busy. Clinton paved

the way of invitation for terrorists to attack the US, and now everyone points the blame at George W. Well, at least all the liberal news media.

The liberal media in Canada has brainwashed Canadians to hate the US, especially Bush, by plastering the last Prime Minister and his comments over the media. His disgust of Bush was evident and celebrated. Martin hated Bush. Very evident. Clinton? No, he was a liberal. A coward.

I detest your comments referencing the invasion, war mongers. You are not speaking or writing from a position of knowledge, only political position. There were weapons of mass destruction found. But you won’t hear that on liberal TV.

Shame on you. Innocent lives were taken on that 9/11 morning, and the US was not in Iraq.

War mongers...Disgusting.

Michael Duever, BA’86, BESC’90



Photos courtesy Ron Brown (pictured above right in front).

### Former bandmaster seeks film footage

Could I send out a call to all Mustang Band Members from 1958 to 1968? Remember those wonderful bands and routines and endless hours of practice? I am getting reminiscent in my old age and I am looking for any film footage of our shows during our wonderful years together. Check your closets. Unfortunately I did not have the foresight to have them filmed myself.

Please let me know at ronkentbrown@hotmail.com or 519-473-5787.

Hoping you can help me out.

Ron Brown, HBA’59

Past Bandmaster

### John Mereu was an inspiration to students

(Re: Teaching a year at a time...for 50 years, Fall 2006)

I was thrilled to read about John Mereu’s 50 years of teaching at Western. I clearly remember dragging myself up the hill on cold winter mornings to the Physics building for his 8 a.m. classes, classes in which he could reference details in the textbook without ever opening it. I was impressed. As a part-time faculty member who had another full-time career, he was a true inspiration. He was (and is) both intellectually curious and pragmatic. Recently, John was honoured by the Society of Actuaries for his long-time contributions to actuarial education.

Congratulations to the Alumni Gazette for keeping us informed of important milestones at Western.

Harry H. Panjer, BA(Hon)’69, MA’71, PhD’75

### Rebellious nurse sent to front lines

(Re: Western at War, Fall 2006)

Further to this excellent article, my father George Ramsay, MD’10, was a member of #10 General Hospital RCAMC in World War I. George was well liked by all, and was superb at dealing with difficult people. His greatest challenge came from his sister Ann Ramsay, RN, Victoria Hospital.

Ann was an early feminist and quite rebellious. Unlike other feminists, her controversies were with women. She enlisted in the RCAMC and was commissioned Nurse Lieutenant, stationed at Wolsely barracks. Within days she had an enormous uproar with Matron Major, her supervisor officer. Ann gave the commanding officer of the barracks her written resignation. The Colonel was aghast. “Lieutenant, you have refused to execute orders from your superior officer. Further, in a time of war your letter of resignation is tantamount to desertion. Take your letter back or I shall call the Military Police. Unless you obey you will force me to order your court marshal. The most likely outcome would be death by firing squad.”

Ann complied with her head held high. But the Colonel realized he had

*continued on bottom of page 8*

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Alumnus Peter Devlin, stationed with his Canadian family in Fort Hood, Texas, writes the Alumni Gazette from his current tour of duty as Deputy Commanding General in Iraq.

## Western alumnus is Deputy Commanding General in Iraq

*(Re: War & Peace issue, Fall 2006)*

Greetings from Iraq! I enjoyed the Fall 2006 issue of the Alumni Gazette. I admire that you chose the theme of Western's commitment to the military. Canada has a significant role internationally, especially in bringing peace and combating aggression in troubled nations. We have a special country with a rich history, a unique culture, and caring values – all that

allows and demands involvement when freedom is challenged. Western Alumni have, and continue to accept this important responsibility.

I have been in Iraq for almost three months (as of early January 2007) and I occupy the Deputy Commanding General position for Multi-National Corps Iraq. It is very rewarding and I am mainly responsible for coalition operations and Iraqi infrastructure. The environment is complex and there are significant challenges. This is my sixth deployment with each one being different and tremendously gratifying. Previous tours demonstrate the evolution of the international security situation over the past quarter century.

My first tour, a 1984 UN mission in Cyprus, was during the relative stability of the Cold War; however the fall of the Berlin Wall instigated a more volatile period and I spent most of 1992 as part of a UN force in Croatia and later (1997 and 1998) with NATO in Bosnia and Herzegovina. International terrorism has required two other tours, one to Afghanistan in 2003 and now in Iraq. My military career has been supported by an extraordinarily loving wife, Judy (nee Hamilton) who is a 1983 graduate of King's College, and four terrific children.

The Corps seeks to assist and to enable the Government of Iraq to institute political measures that seek the compromises necessary to draw Iraqis away from insurgent leaders and terrorist ideologies. Iraq must give its citizens security, essential services, economic opportunity and a sense of honor in being an Iraqi citizen – tangible alternatives to the promises and deeds of the insurgents and their parent political organizations that operate openly. I believe that through a significant investment in training programs and training teams of all types, and a deliberate handover to the Iraqi Security Forces, security self reliance is possible. The key is for this approach to be an Iraqi approach, with their complete support, including coalition conditions such as an agreed road to reconciliation, an accepted rule of law and reform of government ministries. Further, an affiliation program between coalition and Iraqi units would synchronize main efforts. It is an honour to be serving with the Coalition Forces in Iraq and I am fiercely proud to be wearing a Canadian flag.

Respectfully, **Major General Peter Devlin, BA'82 (Economics)**  
Deputy Commanding General  
Multi-National Corps Iraq

*continued from page 6*

a “hot one.” He immediately called an emergency meeting of the Medical Staff to seek advice. “We know this woman well they said. The only person known to control her is brother George, who is in France with #10.” A cable was sent to George, and the reply was “send her to me.” This was done with the enthusiastic compliance of Ann. Peace and quiet was

restored. George thus contributed to the defense of military medicine.

**Alan Ramsay, MD'48**

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Sonia and Arthur Labatt

## Western's Chancellor and wife make record donation to SickKids

Arthur and Sonia Labatt have pledged \$30 million to The Hospital for Sick Children with \$25 million establishing The Labatt Family Heart Centre and a \$5 million endowment that furthers their support of the Arthur and Sonia Labatt Brain Tumour Research Centre.

SickKids Foundation calls it the largest gift in the history of The Hospital for Sick Children and the largest philanthropic investment in children's cardiac medicine and research in North America.

Named in honour of its founding supporters, The Labatt Family Heart Centre will provide state-of-the-art care to children with congenital heart disease, the most common birth defect and leading cause of birth-defect related deaths worldwide. The Centre will play a key role in educating the next leaders of cardiac care delivery in Canada and around the world, and research programs will focus on both congenital heart disease and the early origins of adult onset heart disease.

The gift is the largest philanthropic gift the Labatts have made to date. The Labatt's gift includes a \$5 million matching fund as an incentive to encourage additional philanthropy from other individuals with an interest in children's health. The matching fund will be used to establish three Academic Chairs and four Fellowships in pediatric cardiac medicine and research.

Set to open in the spring of 2007, the goal of The Labatt Family Heart Centre is to further the understanding of pediatric cardiology through an integration of clinical practice and investigative laboratory research.

## Western's Shinerama team nets major award

Western's Shinerama campaign, always committed to raising funds, has raised some attention with a major award.

Canadian Cystic Fibrosis Foundation judges have announced the USC-sponsored Shinerama team as a National Shinerama Award Winner for Best Overall Campaign. Western shares the award with Saskatoon Business College.

Western raised approximately \$95,000 this fall for Shinerama with events ranging from a summer golf tournament to a skydiving event.

The Shinerama campaign is Canada's largest post-secondary fundraiser involving students at almost 60 university and college campuses across Canada. The annual event began in 1964 as a shoe-shining campaign during Western's Orientation week. It now includes a wide variety of shining and non-shining activities under the Shinerama campaign banner.



Dianne Cunningham, Director of the Lawrence National Centre for Policy and Management

## Ivey panel urges aggressive action on climate change

Leading Canadian experts on sustainable development, energy and global warming are calling for aggressive government action on climate change, following an Ivey-led workshop on Developing Sustainable Energy Policy.

The workshop, held this past October with more than 140 business executives, scientists, academics, government policymakers, consultants, energy experts, students and non-governmental organization leaders, urges government action on energy-demand management and commercialization of greenhouse gas (GHG) reduction technologies.

"The time for cautious, modest steps is over," says workshop chair Dianne Cunningham, Director of the Lawrence Centre.

The workshop produced a series of recommendations to get Canada on the fast track including tax measures to spur technology commercialization and public education initiatives on conservation and demand management. The policy options are outlined in a 73-page report unveiled in February by the Lawrence National Centre for Policy and Management, part of the Richard Ivey School of Business at Western.

The recommendations provide a policy framework for governments at all levels to achieve a 'low carbon' economy in Canada.

"The workshop recommendations lay out a pathway that will help Canada meet its environmental and economic objectives at the same time," says Gordon McBean, Research Chair, Institute of Catastrophic Loss Reduction, and Professor of Geography at Western.

To read the report, visit: [www.ivey.uwo.ca/lawrencecentre/energy/report.htm](http://www.ivey.uwo.ca/lawrencecentre/energy/report.htm)

## Thomas Carmichael announced as FIMS dean

Western has announced the appointment of Thomas Carmichael as Dean of the Faculty of Information and Media Studies (FIMS). Carmichael will begin a five-year term on July 1.

Carmichael was the unanimous choice of a Senate Selection Committee, composed of faculty and students from FIMS and across the university. He holds degrees from the University of Guelph, Carleton University, and the University of Toronto. He currently serves as Associate Dean (Research) of Western's Faculty of Arts and Humanities, and has been a member of Western's Department of English since 1990.

A leading authority on cultural theory, North American popular culture and contemporary narrative representation, Carmichael has published widely on the intellectual, literary, visual, and media environment of today's society.



Photo by Paul Mayne

Comedian Rick Mercer of CBC TV's *The Rick Mercer Report* 'found the funny' at the Boundary Layer Wind Tunnel, as he mined the Western campus for comic gold. Mercer braves the winds with Wind Tunnel Director Peter King

# Mercer brings laughs to Western

By Bob Klanac

According to comedian Rick Mercer there's nothing intrinsically funny about Western.

"When I go out on one of these adventures I don't go looking for the funny, I go looking for the adventure and hopefully the funny will take care of itself."

Mercer was on campus November 21 shooting material for an episode of CBC TV's *The Rick Mercer Report* that aired November 28. He and his crew visited the Boundary Layer Wind Tunnel, the Dental Clinic and Alumni Hall for a segment with the Mustang Cheerleaders.

Mercer likes his visits to universities saying that Western is a favourite because the students create a vibe in the city. "I came here because of this cheerleading squad that I heard about with this amazing record of something like 21 years, 21 championships," says Mercer.

"A friend of mine was on the student council here and he was telling me about how amazing the cheerleaders were and about the wind tunnel so I really wanted to come here."

Mercer's comic stint as a Mustang cheerleader saw him being thrown

about by the squad while attempting some of their more daring routines.

"I'm not big on being flipped," says Mercer. "You just have to trust people, which is a little ridiculous. This coach certainly knows what he's doing. But you know when someone says 'don't worry, stand there, we're going to flip you,' you kind of go 'I don't know these people, I just met them 30 seconds ago'."

Another Mercer bit had him wearing a fat suit while being blown down the wind tunnel. Although he's done plenty of impromptu physical comedy for the program, Mercer admits that there have been occasions when he's almost bailed out on some stunts.

"Yeah that's happened to me a lot but it's usually when the camera's rolling and you're beyond the point of no return," he says. "Because if you don't do it, you don't have a piece and that's what it's all about."

"It's frightening how far people will go to get a piece. It's kind of the sickness that drives people like me."

Part of Mercer's comic charm lies in his ability to prompt spontaneous comedy out of his interactions with people. Despite his producer ensuring that his Western schedule is full, Mercer leaves enough time open for chance encounters.

"You never know what you're going to get and what opportunities are going to arise," he says. "We always make sure that we have a chunk of our shooting day which will allow me to go off and down any path that opens up."

For more information on *The Rick Mercer Report*, go to [cbc.ca/mercerreport](http://cbc.ca/mercerreport) 



Photo by Paul Mayne

Mercer was at the mercy of the Western Mustang Cheerleaders under coach David Lee Tracey.



Dr. Yong Kang is developing an AIDS vaccine.

### AIDS vaccine could be available within three years

"This vaccine has the potential of saving millions of lives," says Yong Kang, a professor in the Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry at The University of Western Ontario. It's always wise to have realistic expectations, but Kang hopes he is closer to finding a cure for HIV/AIDS – and he's already much nearer to succeeding than most have ever been.

Kang's tireless quest to develop a vaccine against HIV/AIDS has spanned nearly two decades and has just entered a new phase. "The results look encouraging, and we are now moving onto pre-clinical animal toxicology trials," he says.

Kang's work has produced one of the few technologies to make it so far in a process where dozens of other potential vaccines have failed. His technology could not only produce antibodies against HIV, but also prime T-cells to destroy cells harboring the virus, essentially curing a patient with HIV infection.

"We created a genetically modified HIV and recombinant human adenoviruses to develop a vaccine which can prevent HIV infection and clear HIV-infected cells. It can produce antibodies against HIV and educate one type of white blood cells to find infected cells and kill them," explains Kang.

With the help of Western's Industry Liaison office, Kang licensed his inventions to Curocom, a publicly traded holding company in Korea. Curocom is sponsoring research in Kang's lab and recently opened a subsidiary office at Western's Research Park to accelerate aspects of the commercialization process of the HIV vaccine program.

Kang's vaccine is currently being manufactured in a Maryland laboratory in anticipation of FDA approval to continue with

Phase 1 and 2 human clinical trials. His vaccine could be available for therapeutic use within three years and for use as a preventive vaccine within the next six years.

### Nursing the Rwandan health care system

Officials in Rwanda have looked to Western for help in resuscitating their ailing health care system.

With only 200 doctors and 1,500 nurses for a population of more than eight million, Rwanda faces severe challenges in providing sufficient health care. These figures amount to one doctor per 40,000 inhabitants, compared to Canada's ratio of approximately one per 500. The situation is further complicated by 80 per cent of the country's nurses lacking any formal post-secondary education and by many doctors serving as administrators rather than practicing medicine.

The National University of Rwanda - home of the country's only medical school - approached Western because of its international reputation for leadership in education. David Cechetto of the Department of Anatomy & Cell Biology hopes to lead a collaborative effort with Fanshawe College - with which Western has a joint nursing program - and York University, who brings strengths in the treatment of mental health problems resulting from violence.

To date, the project has benefited from funding to support initial lectures in Rwanda, as well as from donations of textbooks and equipment. In April 2006, the "Rebuilding Health in Rwanda" project also received a Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) grant worth just under \$1 million.

The primary focus will be to educate nurses and build capacity at the Kigali Health Institute (KHI), Rwanda's nursing school. Education will focus on AIDS, which affects nearly nine per cent of adults in Rwanda, and residual mental health issues resulting from the 1994 genocide in which 800,000 people died.

### Western Heads East wins major award

A Western-sponsored health program designed to stave off HIV infections in Africa has received accolades on the home front for its ongoing efforts.

The latest tribute for Western Heads East is a 2006 Scotiabank-Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada Award of Excellence in Internationalization. The award recognizes Canadian leaders



Minister of Training, Colleges and Universities Chris Bentley samples some probiotic yogurt with nutrition professor Sharateh Hekmat of Brescia.

making a difference in the understanding of the growing complexity and rapidly changing global world.

The project is a mix of development and promising research that uses good, healthy bacteria (probiotics) as a tool for warding off disease in humans. The probiotic research, based on the work of professors Gregor Reid (Microbiology and Immunology) and Sharateh Hekmat (Brescia University College - nutrition), focuses on how to make and establish a sustainable diet of yogurt made from cow's milk.

Probiotics may help reduce infection in women and lower mortality and morbidity due to diarrhea in children and patients with AIDS. Reid is thrilled with this latest honour but is most proud of the actual work on the ground in Mwanza, Tanzania. Several African dignitaries came to Western in November to be part of the award ceremony. His Excellency Ombeni Sefue, High Commissioner for the United Republic of Tanzania, told those in attendance at a celebration at the Great Hall the fact that some adults are living two or three years longer means fewer children going into orphanages.

The Western Heads East program, initiated as a campus community response to the HIV/AIDS crisis in Africa, was formed three years ago by staff in Western's Division of Housing and Ancillary Services. To date, the WHE program has sent nine student interns to the east-African country, with two currently in the country working with the Kivulini Women's Rights Organization to increase the knowledge and benefits of the probiotic yogurt.

For more information, visit: [www.westernheadseast.ca](http://www.westernheadseast.ca)

# ‘We have a moral imperative to act’



Margaret Chan addresses WHO staff at headquarters.

**Margaret Chan is a graduate of Brescia University College and Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry. In November she was elected to lead the World Health Organization (WHO) as the new Director-General. This is an edited transcript of her first address to the WHO Executive Board January 22 and brief excerpts from her acceptance speech in November.**

**By Margaret Chan, BA'73, MD'77**

Recently, WHO and its partners in the Measles Initiative announced that ambitious targets for the reduction of measles mortality were not only met, they were surpassed. By the end of 2005, we aimed to reduce measles deaths by half compared with 1999. The statistics have been compiled: mortality went down by 60 per cent.

Committed health officials in Africa – the region with the heaviest measles

burden – led the way, reducing measles deaths by an impressive 75 per cent.

Let's think about what this means. Cumulatively, from 2000 to the end of 2005, WHO estimates that accelerated measles immunization, boosted by this initiative, has averted 2.3 million deaths. The measles vaccine has been available for more than 40 years. But it took the commitment of leaders, and the caring – and cash – of a dedicated partnership, to turn things around.

The news gets even better. Increasingly, this Initiative is delivering a bundle of life-saving and health-promoting interventions: bed nets for malaria, vitamin A to boost the immune system, de-worming tablets that help keep children in school, polio vaccine, and tetanus vaccine for pregnant women.

I want the relevance and effectiveness of our work to be measured by its impact on people, and two groups of people in particular: women and the people of Africa.

Much of what we are already doing has an impact on women and the African

people. This is not surprising. The threats to these two groups are multiple.

When we think about the health of women, we must also consider their role as agents of change. When women are given a hand up in terms of household income, we see improvements in their own health and that of families and communities.

When we think about health in Africa, we must never forget the links between poverty and health. Poor health anchors large populations in poverty. Better health allows people to work their way out of poverty and spend household incomes on something other than illness.

As with woman, people in Africa have capacities that need to be unleashed. We have seen the potential of African leaders realized in the measles success. The partnership provided the tools, but the victory belongs to Africa and its people.

One disease on our agenda causes immense suffering in large parts of the world, but does its greatest harm in Africa. This is malaria. Africa is home to the most efficient mosquito vector and the most deadly form of the parasite. In Africa, there is no malaria “season”. Transmission occurs year-round.

Malaria is an insidious disease that causes high mortality, but also creates a huge burden of debilitating illness that impedes human progress. When we consider that this disease consumes 25 per cent of household incomes in Africa, we have a sense of the scale of the economic burden. The good news is the progress we are seeing in scaling up interventions.

In December of last year, I was privileged to attend the White House Summit on Malaria in Washington, DC. There, I saw first-hand what public-private partnerships and community goodwill can do to bring together resources from different sectors to help the people of Africa.

The neglected tropical diseases – which disproportionately affect the health and ruin the lives of women – are another example. WHO estimates that at least 300 million women are severely and permanently disabled by these preventable diseases, which take their heaviest toll in Africa.

We know that infectious diseases, especially AIDS, tuberculosis, and malaria, are significant impediments to development in Africa. But chronic diseases – cardiovascular diseases, cancer,

chronic respiratory diseases, and diabetes – are on the rise there, as elsewhere in the world. In low- and middle-income countries, these diseases are another serious impediment to development.

**“Polio eradication is one of our most important areas of unfinished business.”**

Health systems can often manage the intermittent emergencies of infectious diseases, but are challenged by the demands – and costs – of chronic care, whether for HIV/AIDS or diabetes. The consequences for households can be catastrophic.

Once again, we have tools and strategies for taking action. As the report on chronic diseases makes clear, we have many excellent opportunities for prevention and a broad range of interventions that are cost-effective in all our regions. For these diseases, prevention is by far the best option. WHO must continue to convince health leaders in all regions that chronic diseases are part of the development agenda.

Health and security is the topic for this year's World Health Report. It is also the theme for World Health Day (April 7), which we will celebrate around the world. I will join a high-level debate on the topic in Singapore. We will issue a background document for World Health Day to guide these discussions and issue the full report later this year. The report will focus on risks and dangers to health that arise from the ways in which nations and their populations interact internationally.

This is an extremely important area for WHO to address. SARS, for example, taught us how much our highly mobile, interconnected, and interdependent world has changed in terms of its vulnerability to health threats. Shocks to health – whether from emerging infectious diseases, natural disasters, or environmental change – can easily become major shocks to economies, societies, and business continuity around the globe.

Polio eradication is one of our most important areas of unfinished business. The October report of the advisory committee on polio eradication reached a firm conclusion: it is technically feasible to interrupt polio transmission worldwide.

I have decided to convene an urgent

high-level consultation on this issue. The expected outcome is a set of milestones that must be met if transmission is to be interrupted in the four remaining endemic countries. The consultation will also consider the funding required to meet these milestones. The conclusions will be communicated to the Health Assembly in May.

A step forward for malaria control, as reported to this Board, is the development of country data profiles, supported by indicators. The report on tuberculosis control provides a model of the value of monitoring a programme's operational performance as well as its impact on an epidemic.

At the time when the global TB targets were set in 1991, no system existed for measuring the global burden of this disease. We can now say with confidence that progress has been tremendous. Monitoring becomes all the more important following the recent emergence of extensively drug-resistant tuberculosis. For chronic diseases, WHO has initiated the STEPwise approach to risk factor surveillance, using standardized methods and tools. It is gratifying to note that every country in the African Region has adopted this standardized approach to data collection.

When poverty is the root cause of poor access to health care, we need approaches such as that seen with malaria, where bed nets are now being distributed free-of-charge or at heavily subsidized prices.

Concerning fixed-dose drugs for children suffering from AIDS, tuberculosis, and malaria, we learn that these drugs are often not available because industry has no strong market incentive – these are not priority paediatric diseases in the affluent world. As you know, we are developing a strategy and action plan addressing public health, innovation and intellectual property.

We also learn that lack of availability of essential paediatric medicines, including antibiotics, is one reason why countries are not making adequate progress towards some Millennium Development Goals.

I will conclude with comments on avian influenza and the related pandemic threat. The message is straightforward: we must not let down our guard. The whole world has lived under the imminent threat of an influenza pandemic for

more than three years. These years of experience have taught us just how tenacious this H5N1 virus is in birds.

Countries have made heroic efforts, yet the virus stays put or comes back, again and again. Almost no country with large outbreaks in commercial or backyard flocks has successfully eliminated this virus from its territory.

As long as the virus continues to circulate in birds, the threat of a pandemic will persist. The world is years away from control in the agricultural sector.

This may mean that we have some more years in which to improve preparedness, or it may not. Influenza viruses are notoriously sloppy, unstable, and capricious. It is impossible to predict their behaviour.



A young child receives a polio immunization in Delhi, India.

But we do know some things. The virus does not, at present, transmit easily from birds to humans. H5N1 avian influenza is still essentially a disease of birds.

For humans, we also know that this virus has lost none of its virulence. As of today, 267 cases have been confirmed, of which 161 were fatal, representing a case fatality rate of 60 per cent. More deaths occurred in 2006 than in the previous years combined. For 2006, the case fatality rate was 70 per cent.

We are clearly much better prepared than three years ago, but have every reason to continue these efforts. The revised International Health Regulations come into force in June. That will help.

This organization is among the most influential of all the United Nations agencies. Our health mandate is a huge responsibility. Science and ethics tell us what we must do. When we know – with solid proof – the size of a problem and its cause, and when we have tools for prevention, treatment, or cure, we have a moral imperative to act.

# Polak's pumps help farmers out of poverty

Paul Polak's development company receives grant from Gates Foundation

by Krystyna Slivinski, BA'89

At 73, Paul Polak, MD'58, the founder and president of Lakewood, Co., based International Development Enterprises (IDE), a nonprofit that provides affordable irrigation solutions to the world's poorest farmers, shows no signs of slowing down.

In fact, the self-described "energizer bunny," with an 80-hour work week who didn't let a recent 22-hour flight from Nepal stop him from showing up to work mere hours after stepping off the airplane, is as pumped up as ever.

That's thanks in part to last January's news that IDE received a \$13.4 million dollar grant from The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation based in Seattle that will be doled out over four years to develop and promote low-cost irrigation products for rural farmers in Ethiopia, Nepal, Zambia and Myanmar.

"The Gates Foundation gave IDE \$13.4 million because we recognized IDE as a leader in helping subsistence farmers lift themselves out of poverty," said Roy Steiner, senior program officer at the Gates Foundation. "They are perfecting the method of assisting farmers through access to water and markets. We are proud to be partnering with them."

Founded in 1981, IDE works in eight countries that includes Bangladesh, Vietnam, Cambodia, India, Nepal, Zambia and Zimbabwe and operates on a \$12 million annual budget. IDE employs close to 600 people, the majority of whom are natives of those countries working directly with the needy.

IDE's goal is to help 30 million families out of poverty by 2015 by increasing their annual income by at least \$500. To date, IDE says it has helped more than three million families.

The solution comes from giving farmers access to low cost and low tech products designed to control their access to water. Consider if you



The Mwanza family, IDE customers in Zambia, whose crops have improved.

will, that of the 1.1 billion people in the world who live on \$1 or less each day, three quarters of them live in rural areas as small scale farmers, says IDE. Water is their most important resource.

Rather than wait for rain or walk a mile hauling water in buckets, purchasing a \$40 water storage unit or a \$200 drip irrigation system can increase the yield from their crops and for the first time, allow farmers to grow food during their dry season.

"We'll go into a country or an area and see if our technology can be used," said William Fast, board vice chair of Winnipeg, Man., IDE Canada and an MBA'63 graduate from Western.

"Then we look for a small shop to make the pump and then we'll set up a distribution system and we'll find dealers who will sell it to the farmer. When the farmer gets the second or third crop... they will have the ability to pay for the pump by the end of the first season."

Back in the 80s, one of Polak's first discoveries while in Bangladesh was the need for a treadle pump which resembles a crude version of the StairMaster. By using one's legs to step up and down to power the

pump, shallow groundwater is accessed that can irrigate half an acre of land.

To date, according to IDE, 1.5 million farmers in Bangladesh have purchased the \$25 pump which translates into a \$150 million increase in their income. The extra money that comes from selling their excess food can now be used to cover the annual cost of education for their children, provide access to healthcare or allow them to expand their farm.

"We all assume that poor rural farmers know how to farm but they don't," explained Stephanie Cox, program development manager for IDE who spent the past three years working in Nepal.

"Like anything it requires training and education. There are things they can do to improve their farming so much more but they don't have the knowledge but they have the desire...they are really hungry for this," she added.

It's that kind of entrepreneurial spirit that Polak believes is necessary to inspire people out of poverty. The more they grow, the more they can sell, the more money they can earn. One farmer's success can be the catalyst needed to convince his neighbors that the

technology works and is worth the initial investment. Build it and they will come.

“One of our basic principles is not to subsidize anything but the creation of a vibrant market” said Polak.

“We treat them as customers...but if you want to scale it up and be sustainable you got to do it through the private sector.”

While Polak specialized in psychiatry, he also honed a business sense that he acquired early on as a teenager growing up in Millgrove, just outside of Hamilton. His father operated a nursery while Polak picked strawberries. By the time he was 15, he realized he could earn more money if he grew the strawberries himself. He cut a deal with local farmers to use their land and then sold his crops to local grocers.

“I guess I’ve always been an entrepreneur,” Polak said during a phone interview. “That’s what I’ve always done on the side,” adding that he currently owns a 160 acre farm in Nova Scotia where he grows 80 acres of wild blueberries. Polak also proved to be savvy as an investor in the oil industry. His financial successes bankrolled the first several years starting up IDE when he didn’t draw a paycheck.



Photo by International Development Enterprises

A boy uses a treadle pump in Myanmar (Burma).

As a psychiatrist, Polak served as executive director and founder of the Southwest Denver Community Mental Health Center where he developed a new approach to treating patients that involved mental health workers visiting patients in their homes, workplace or whatever environment was contributing to their illness.

It’s the same approach he used when starting up IDE. Following a trip to Somalia, Polak became interested in working with the poor and began interviewing farmers to understand first-hand, their plight. In addition to irrigation solutions, IDE markets a variety of water purification products such as an arsenic water filter that costs \$7.

With research and development that includes partnering with the Stanford University’s Design for Extreme Affordability class, Polak has a vehicle for his ideas. In past years, students have developed several different models of the treadle pump and a water storage tank made of fabric.

“The job IDE’s taken on is that if we can improve their productivity...it starts to add up,” said James Patell, a business school professor who teaches the course.

“We’re not out to tell them what they (farmers) should do with their money...the idea is to get entrepreneurs started and let them go and that’s rare to see,” he added.

For more information on IDE, please visit, [www.ideorg.org](http://www.ideorg.org) or to contact Winnipeg based IDE Canada, please call (204) 786 1490.

## Our quiet hero: Paul Polak

Meds’58 has been a particularly warm and close class as exemplified by the returning numbers at each homecoming. We are indeed very proud and respectful of our year. Although we have all done our very best and make contributions, we have a tour-de-force in our class who is Paul Polak. Our increasing awareness of his development with International Development Enterprises has occurred at past homecomings. When, on Saturday, after brunch, Paul would tell us about what he was doing and we were all supportive and mesmerized by the quality of his presentation and the work that he had done. Paul, after graduation, did psychiatry in Denver and it was there that he became interested in, as a psychiatrist, the problem of the patient who suffered from many problems including poverty which he became very interested in. With his own funds, which he made outside of medicine, Paul started out looking at this whole area by interviewing 110 farmers in Bangladesh and recognized that they needed increased supply of water and there International Development Enterprises began. With the

development of the low cost water pump which each farmer was responsible for repayment with micro financing Paul has built a substantive organization in many countries with outstanding results. In addition Paul is working with university research groups to provide improved low cost technology.

As a member of the Canadian board of the International Development Enterprises, I have had the opportunity to see Paul at work. His vision, his creativity, and his integrity are his hallmarks combined with his humility. His capacity for creating a vision which he has translated into a meaningful project of world class dimensions continues to grow. Visions of foreign markets is just the beginning of the growth of IDE that can be seen on at [www.ideorg.org](http://www.ideorg.org).

Recently International Development Enterprises received a \$13.4-million dollar grant from the Gates Foundation which demonstrates the excellence of IDE.

The class of Meds’58 is pleased, proud and humbled to know our very own classmate, Paul Polak.

Gerald Schneiderman, MD’58

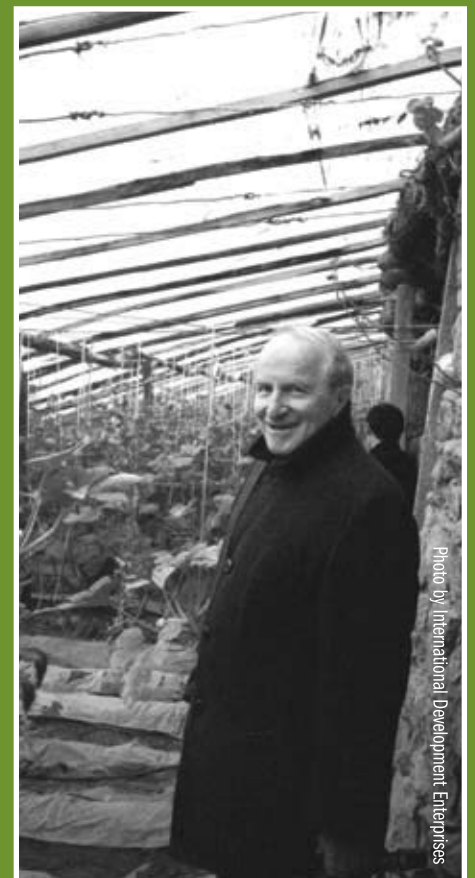


Photo by International Development Enterprises



Hetherington escorts the Countess of Wessex (Sophie Helen Mountbatten-Windsor) through a Habitat building project.

# High sights set for Hetherington's Habitat

By Jeff Renaud

While backpacking during his Western years, alumnus Neil Hetherington, BA'95, was afflicted with a disease with no known cure.

And it changed his life forever.

The Chief Executive Officer of Habitat for Humanity Canada explains, "I backpacked around the world while I was in school and in three of the countries I visited, I built Habitat homes – Hungary, Poland and Uganda. I fell in love with the organization and got what we call, 'Habititis.' It was so cool. I went

from not seeing the need for affordable housing, like I did see in Africa, to witnessing firsthand what three or four weeks of building meant to a family. "It's pretty powerful and it was sort of a Damascus Road kind of revelation for me. When we turned the keys over to the family, it changed my life."



Habitat for Humanity Canada is a national, non-profit, faith-based organization “working for a world where everyone has a safe and decent place to live.”

At 32, Hetherington is the youngest CEO of a Habitat affiliate in the world and earned national distinction for his efforts in 2006 when he was named one of Canada’s Top 40 Under 40, an annual awards event organized by executive search firm The Caldwell Partners International. The honorees are selected based on five criteria: vision and leadership; innovation and achievement; impact; growth/development strategy; and community involvement and are drawn annually from an initial list of 1,200 to 1,400 nominations from across Canada.

Hetherington, always interested in construction, ran his own one-person building operation while at Western and upon graduation went to work for Tridel Construction, Canada’s largest condominium developer, as a project manager.

“I took political science, which is the natural lead in, obviously, to construction,” laughs Hetherington.

Over the next five years working for Tridel, Hetherington continued volunteering for Habitat from “time to time” but recalls the reaction of one Ugandan woman in particular as the pivotal moment of his life.

He recalls, “Seeing that woman with four children going from a mud hut to what was a simple, decent affordable house that she was able to buy, well, it changed my world view and my outlook.”

In 2000, at the age of 26, he was offered what he calls the “opportunity of a lifetime” to become the CEO of the Canadian chapter of Habitat and literally begin building the organization from the ground up.

“One day I had an opportunity to leave my career and do this full-time. It wasn’t an easy decision. It was a lot less money and nobody knew what Habitat for Humanity was at the time but it was the best decision I have ever made in my life,” explains Hetherington.

When he arrived, Habitat Canada was completing one home every two years. Today,

Hetherington, along with his staff of 29 and hundreds of other volunteer workers, are building 50 homes a year.

“It’s rewarding, fulfilling, challenging and a lot of work. But at the end of the day, when you see a

**“Seeing that woman with four children going from a mud hut to a simple, decent affordable house... changed my world view and my outlook.”**

family on the porch of a home that they are about to receive the keys to, there’s just something that keeps you going. Keeps you inspired,” says Hetherington, who has set the goal of 100 homes per year for Habitat Canada by 2010.


Hetherington continues to volunteer with Habitat for Humanity internationally, and has worked on projects in Ghana, Mexico, Louisiana (Hurricane Katrina rebuilding), and on Jimmy Carter Work Projects in Georgia, South Korea and most recently, in Lonavala, India.

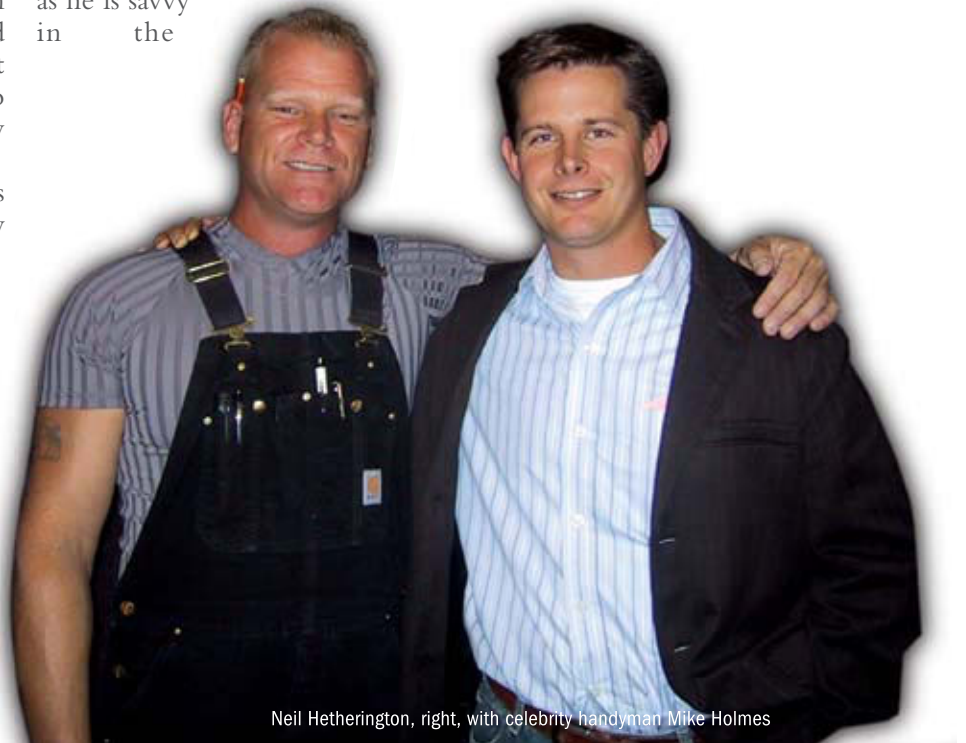
And while Hetherington is as handy on site as he is savvy in the

boardroom, he maintains that Habitat for Humanity is a big enough house for volunteers of all types of skills sets. Meaning, one need not be Mike Holmes to apply. “There is a job for everybody. Heavy lifting, cleaning, if you have cake decorating experience than you can use a caulking gun. If you have shopping experience, you can be in charge of getting materials to the site,” explains Hetherington.

He quips, “At the beginning of the day, you may not know the difference between a left-handed and a right-handed hammer, but at the end of the day, you do.”

Not only one of Canada’s Top 40 Under 40, Hetherington is also the recipient of many awards and honours for his contributions to society including the Queen’s Golden Jubilee Medal, The Georgian Alumnus Award of Distinction from Royal Saint George’s College and The Distinguished Alumni Award from Seneca College.

Also a licensed pilot, Hetherington currently serves on the Board of Directors of Toronto Grace Hospital and Camp Kwasind. He is an active volunteer at Out of the Cold, Chair of the Ontario Prayer Breakfast and is a member of the Rotary Club of Toronto. 



Neil Hetherington, right, with celebrity handyman Mike Holmes

# Images of imagination

## 2006 Arlie Laxton Photography Contest Winners

Once again, Western alumni didn't disappoint. There were incredible photographs entered in all categories showing great use of imagination and

imagery. Thank you to all who entered. A challenging task faced this year's judges: Arlene Kennedy (BA'71, Fine Art), Director, McIntosh Gallery; Alex

Kulczycki, photographer and past judge; Michael Mullan (BA'01, English/Philosophy), fine art photographer, [www.mlmphotography.com](http://www.mlmphotography.com)



### WINNER—PEOPLE

*Kevin Van Lierop, BA'05 (Kings), London*

**Photographer's Notes:** This photo was taken of Raine Maida during an Our Lady Peace concert at the John Labatt Centre in London. Raine was captured in what seemed to be a moment of thought, alone by himself on stage. The atmospheric smoke helped to isolate Raine by blocking out unwanted light and background images that would otherwise ruin the subject of this photo. Shot with a Panasonic Lumix DMC-FZ5.

**Judges' Comments:** This photograph presents a contrast from dark to light. It draws your eye through it. The subject matter becomes solidified. The photo has unconventional composition. It is not symmetrical. There is ambiguity in the photo that makes the viewer curious.

### RUNNER-UP—PEOPLE

*Ches Sulkowski, BA'74 (Fine Arts), Tillsonburg*

**Photographer's Notes:** Photo of my father (Czeslaw Sulkowski Sr.) and my two sons (Andrew and Tony) playing checkers. All very competitive! Shot using a Nikon 35mm.

**Judges' Comments:** This photo captures a moment of intense interaction that rivets our attention on the playing board and the faces. Tension is sustained in the busyness of a background that may seem distracting to some.



## WINNER – OTHER

*Chris Jongkind, BA'00 (Geography),  
London*

**Photographer's Notes:** Photograph entitled "Tokyo Pavement." This is a one-second exposure from a pedestrian overpass in Tokyo, in an attempt to catch headlight trails that gave the bonus of illuminating the pavement script.

**Judges' Comments:** There is detail throughout the photo. It works well with the negative space. There are three kinds of information conveyed in this photograph: detail describes the scene; direction signs; and traces of movement that give viewer clues about the motion.



## RUNNER-UP – OTHER

*Frank White, MLIS '70, Windsor*

**Photographer's Notes:** Photograph entitled "Iggy's Fractured Image." This photo was taken during the Liberal leadership convention in Montreal. I came across a large glass-walled room that Michael Ignatieff's support staff was using as a production area. Approaching this room at a sharp angle to the glass wall, I observed how the several glass panes reflected Ignatieff's image from the large poster just outside the door. I was struck by the appropriate symbolism of his "fractured image." Shot with a Canon PowerShot S3 IS Digital camera at 1/40 – F3.5.

**Judges' Comments:** This photograph looks more like an abstract painting. There is a rhythm created by the lines, the way they move through the photo. There is complex imagery on closer inspection. It engages the viewer. The text is a pattern that creates motion, movement, and energy like jump cuts in film.

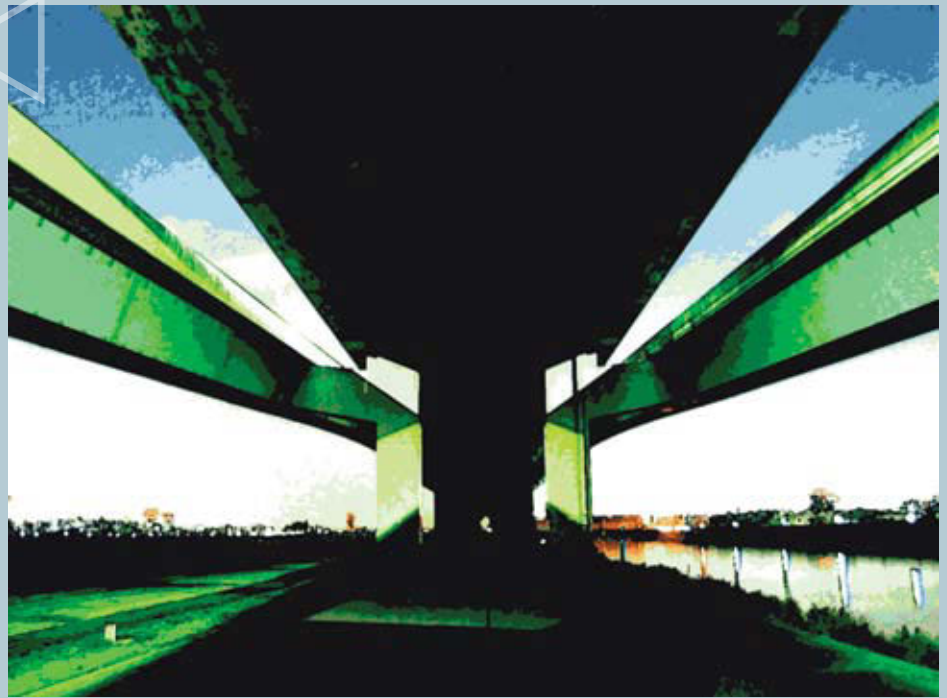
## WINNER – DIGITALLY ENHANCED

Chris Jongkind, BA'00 (Geography), London

**Photographer's Notes:** Photo entitled "Shuto Expressway." This photograph was taken under an expressway in eastern Tokyo, where bike paths are aligned underneath. The digital effect that I like to use and have here is the water colour effect in Photoshop.

**Judges' Comments:** The water colour imagery and the lines are reminiscent of an abstract painting on first glimpse.

**Judges' Comments on Digitally Enhanced winners:** Both photos are strong compositions that are dynamic with a lot of movement and a bold use of colour.



## RUNNER-UP – DIGITALLY ENHANCED

Greg Glista, HBA'88, Oakville

**Photographer's Notes:** The cows at our farm are curious, docile creatures. One has simply to walk amongst them with a camera and they crowd in as if posing for the shot. A mild point last winter allowed them to be let out of the barn for the day. The bull (on the left), though he is massive, is as well tempered as a puppy. It was fun to experiment with this photo to create a "Digital Bull."

**Judges' Comments:** The concave distortion of the image generates a sense of movement. The creatures are coming into the viewer's space. It is adventuresome altering. The frame of perception used makes it seem like the cows are coming out of the TV.



2006 Arlie Laxton Photography Contest Winners

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# From conflict to co-operation

How one Western professor is resolving world water conflicts

By Rob Aldred, BA'89

Here is the bad news: the world's supply of renewable fresh water is in danger. The good news, according to Professor Slobodan Simonovic of the Institute for Catastrophic Loss Reduction located at the University of Western Ontario, is that the world has enough water.

"The problem is how we manage the water on a global scale," he says.

Simonovic, with support from the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), has developed a software program to help solve water-related conflicts. It's called the Conflict Resolution Support System (CRSS).

"The clear message is the need for something like this is tremendous," says Simonovic.

"We have approximately 265 watersheds being shared by more than one country and that means that conflicts are arising in every possible form," Simonovic warns.

"These problems in many cases are causes of wars. People are fighting around water."

Canadians do not seem to talk about water much, perhaps because it has the third highest amount of renewable fresh water in the world, behind only Brazil and Russia. But the stark fact is that the unprecedented threats facing the global supply of fresh water will almost certainly lead to more and deadlier conflicts erupting over this precious resource.

Consider that in the past 100 years, the world's population has tripled, but our consumption of water has increased six-fold.

While demand for water soars, supply is becoming more and more



Many conflicts exist worldwide over shared water. (Photo taken near Alem Kitmama, Ethiopia. Courtesy of World Health Organization).

fragile. The International Panel on Climate Change predicts global warming will bring an increase in the frequency and magnitude of droughts in the 21st century.

The past half-century alone has seen more than 500 conflicts over water, seven of which have involved violence.

From 2004 to 2006, at least 250 people were killed as Somali warlords battled over water wells and pasture lands. Villagers name it "The War of the Well."

In January 2005, more than 20

Kenyans were killed and 2000 displaced after a Maasai farmer accused a Kikuyu leader of diverting a river to irrigate his farm.

Water is not only a military target; it can also be a military or political tool. In 2004, the United States halted two water development projects to punish the Palestinian Authority for their failure to find those responsible for killing three members of a U.S. diplomatic convoy in October 2003.

Simonovic, whose expertise is resource management, was thrilled to



Map of water sources in the West Bank shared by Israelis and Palestinians.

get the opportunity through UNESCO because he knew his software would be distributed free of charge.

“I use the word democratization of technology. I use it on purpose because that is where the state of the art technology is being put into a form that assists the people who need that technology the most. This is completely open,” Simonovic says.

The software works by taking on the role of moderator and information clearinghouse. Two parties involved in a water conflict can tell the program the details of their present conflict they face and their plans for future resource management. The software can then run simulations on proposed water use and tell the parties how the water supply will be affected. Different compromise

solutions can then be quickly analyzed and modified if necessary. The goal is to assist politicians who are not trained in the complexities of water resource management to craft compromise solutions.

Léna Salamé, project coordinator for the Division of Water Sciences for UNESCO in Paris, says Simonovic’s knowledge-sharing approach to water conflict resolution is what makes his software so valuable.

“We feel that the only way to address current and future challenges related to the management of water resources is to encourage and develop the skills of concerned stakeholders in doing so. The best investment is in education and capacity building and this software is part of such an investment, Salamé says.

The current version of the software deals with three categories of water-sharing problems.

“The first kind of conflict is how the resource is used in two different locations or two different countries. The worst case scenario is User A can take all the water and leave none for User B,” Simonovic says.

“The other conflict is the conflict where you have different types of users. You have for example water being used for hydro power generation on one side; and irrigation or municipal water supply on the other side. So now you have a conflict that has some technical parameters. For hydro power you should have the reservoir as full as possible to make more energy; for water supply you would like to release the water from the storage to meet the demand.”

“The third type of conflict is the conflict when we have a user on one side and some impact like flooding. Depending on how you release the water for irrigation or water supply, you affect the level of flood protection for the other user.”

Simonovic beams with pride when asked if he had received any feedback about his software from UNESCO or world leaders.



Slobodan Simonovic

“The fourth world water forum was organized in Mexico City and last year UNESCO decided to prepare 1,500 copies of the software for possible distribution at the forum. The forum usually gets delegations from countries all over the world - so ministers and other officials discuss water issues. It gets about 4,000 or 5,000 people, including high level politicians. They said that all 1,500 copies were picked up within three hours of the beginning of the forum. So they were positively surprised and sorry they didn’t produce more.”

“How often do you make an impact like that?”

## Research growth critical to Western’s health

By Paul Mayne

Whether it is imaging, wind engineering and high-performance computing or international business, demography and philosophy of science, when it comes to research Western is among the best in the country.

Ted Hewitt, Vice-President (Research and International Relations) shared some of the university’s research triumphs recently at the Senior Alumni speaker series, highlighting Western’s position among the Top 10 research universities in the nation.

“In Ontario I would argue, definitively, that we’d be #2,” says Hewitt, noting the University of Toronto’s stranglehold on research activities and dollars. “But there are some areas where we are best in the world.”

Last year, Western research reached \$225 million, one-quarter of the university’s total for operations and capital ventures. While top tier schools such as Toronto, Montreal, McGill, Alberta and B.C. lead the way, Hewitt says there is no reason Western can’t be right on their coat tails.

Western is seventh in the country as far as infrastructure funding, while in Ontario it is second, behind Toronto, in research funding, he said. While funding from CIHR and SSHRC are where they

should be, Western needs to focus more on NSERC (Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council), says Hewitt.

Along with the Insurance Research Lab for Better Homes, formerly known as the Three Little Pigs project, Hewitt expressed excitement for the soon-to-be opened Biotron.

The Biotron will be the largest climate-controlled facility of its kind in the world and is years ahead of its time, says Hewitt.

“No one else in the world is doing this sort of research the way we will be doing it,” he says of the \$28-million, 30,000-square-foot facility opening later this spring. “We have no competitors when it comes to this.”



Photos by Craig Robinson

The inauguration of the HIV/AIDS youth club at the Nasarawa State University (Keffi). Craig Robinson, sitting at right, was part of the facilitation and workshop presenters for the day and was privileged to meet the youth leaders for the club.

## No quick fix to health concerns in Nigeria— but local solutions empower youth

By Craig Robinson

For many, Nigeria is just one of several countries on the African continent and conjures up images of isolated, rural communities. These were a few of the images and assumptions I had when leaving Canada in April 2006 for a two-year Canadian University Services Overseas (CUSO) volunteer placement. Even with countless searches on the internet for Nigerian information and pre-departure orientation from CUSO, I was still under the notion that Nigeria was like most other African countries and I wasn't sure what that exactly meant.

This was my first time going to Africa and I was going to the continent's most populous country with 140 million citizens. Within a few short hours after arriving, I found myself on the back of a motorcycle and in the rural community. There was no electricity, the local people were staring at me and the heat was overbearing. It seemed that my two years in Nigeria were going to be very long and arduous. It was revealed a few months later that this three-day expedition to the countryside was a way to see how I would cope and to gauge my resolve, plus there was a desperate need for extra hands to dispense medication to the local people and I was

chosen for the task. After assisting over 600 local community people with their medications, the team and I headed back to the town of Lafia, which was to be my new home for the next two years.

The following day, I was brought to the Centre for Women, Youth and Community Action (NACWYCA) to develop and enhance family planning and health strategies aimed at youth. I have been fortunate to work with many youth in Canada but I knew that this was going to be different. I spent a few weeks reviewing the current health situation and services available for the youth and realized that many new approaches could be implemented. There was a glaring problem of getting young women to visit the centre and ultimately the youth clinic. Considering the high prevalence of HIV/AIDS, condom distribution was extremely low and the youth friendly clinic was not being accessed as much as it could be by either sex.

These challenges seemed relatively easy to fix but I would find out all too soon there were numerous reasons behind them. First of all, health promotion and education has not even been heard of at NACWYCA or in the community. Secondly, many cultural traditions and norms have constructed

barriers to youth health promotion. My quick fix attitude was thrown to the wind.

Health promotion is often looked upon as the ability to view the whole picture and come up with many different options to address the problem. In my opinion, the only real way to improve the health of young people is to involve them in the development and decision making process. This approach is somewhat new but there was little resistance from NACWYCA to distribute a quality of life survey and to conduct youth-led focus groups.

After assembling a team of local youth leaders, we reviewed the social determinants of health and asked ourselves how we can offer better service to local young people. The youth decided a survey was a good approach. The questions went out on the streets and schools around Lafia and other surrounding communities and focus groups got underway.

The findings were fulsome and enlightening. The youth team revealed that many of its peers were not aware of the clinic, that religious and gender beliefs were impeding family planning choices and youth ownership of health programming was low or non-existent. After several meetings, the team reached



This shirt was sent by a friend in Canada. The youth really appreciated the message and wore the shirts to many functions to spread the message.

out to other youths and began to solicit ideas to overcome these problems. Placing a youth notice board in the frequently visited games room advertised the clinic and provided an opportunity to post relevant health issues.

We have been able to establish a solid link with the state HIV/AIDS agency to supply us with condoms. This will eliminate the financial barriers young people were facing previously when it came to collecting condoms.

Our team conducted a very successful youth event over the holidays and

was able to promote sexual health information and other related topics while having fun and sharing time together. The games attracted many to the local stadium and there was great opportunity to promote NACWYCA services and chat with young people.

Having a youth voice on the NACWYCA board of directors will start addressing the low involvement in health programming development. This will be the first time a young person holds a director seat.

A forum with religious leaders and youth could be a chance to exchange health concerns and find common ground to deal with them. How can youth possibly persuade faith leaders to accept or even acknowledge condom use and other family planning methods when abstinence is the only viable choice? An approach is still being worked on.

The reality of doing a volunteer placement like this is the realization that change is a drawn-out process. It is impossible to fix all of the world's problems but there is a chance to influence new thought processes. Eventually change will occur but only in its due time.

The upcoming national elections are scheduled for April 2007, which will hamper some of our activities because most institutions will close or be limited during that month. This will be the first civilian-to-civilian transition of government. Nigeria has always been either military rule or dictatorship, so there is much anxiety and we will be crossing our fingers that all goes smoothly.

My goal is to keep empowering and exchanging knowledge and health promotion skills with youths so they can sustain the momentum and reach out to their peers. When it comes to a positive health future, the Nigerian youth have what it takes to make it a reality.

For more information, visit: [www.nacwyca.org](http://www.nacwyca.org)

*Craig Robinson of Orangeville, Ontario, 33, is a 2005 graduate of the Health Promotion and Education Certificate program. He writes firsthand about his experiences on a CUSO volunteer placement in Nigeria.*



One of our rural community clinics in Zherugba. Zherugba has come along way over the last year and is starting to serve more and more local youth.



Dispensing meds and providing extra 'hands' during an immunization visit to a rural community (Keffi-Wambai). My first actual day on the job and in Nigeria.



# Improving yourself by helping others

Students of Martin Herbst, BEd'01, travel and learn in Kenya

By David Scott



This is an elementary classroom with students from the Mara Region of Kenya. It is an old classroom with dirt floors and walls of mud/dung/sticks with a single window with no glass. Martin Herbst's students worked on construction of a new school to replace classrooms like this. (Photo by Martin Herbst)

How do you measure success? In material wealth? Does owning a big screen TV mean you're worthy?

Inner city students discovered that it's more than possessions that determine a person's worth.

Teacher Martin Herbst, BEd'01, led a group of 13 high school students from Monarch Park Collegiate in Toronto to Kenya to build a new school in November 2006.

The road to get there involved getting approval from the largest school board in Canada and resulted in a one of a kind program being created as a blueprint for future learning trips for Ontario high school students. As well, it was a life-changing experience for the students involved.

Three years ago Cheryl Perera, a speaker from "Free The Children," an organization spawned by Canadian youth Craig Kielburger who had a vision of children helping children through education and by building schools in developing countries, came to visit Monarch Park. Free The Children has been nominated three times for the Nobel Peace Prize and has partnerships with the United Nations and Oprah Winfrey's Angel Network.

The entire school body heard about child youth workers in India and Pakistan and the sex slave trade and how in developing countries these stories didn't make the media. "That kind of outraged a lot of kids. We decided at that point to do a coin drive for a 'Brick

by Brick' campaign," said Herbst, to build a school in a developing country. He worked with fellow teacher Bryan Gurney, who was instrumental in bringing Free The Children to Monarch Park and starting the coin drive.

Each Thursday volunteers went around to students to pick up donations of loose change. By the end of the first year students actually raised \$6,200.

The goal was to build a school with the money. Then something happened that changed their plans. On December 26, 2004, the tsunami in Southeast Asia struck.

"The school really rallied behind that. And in two weeks we raised \$5,000 for medical supplies and the United Way." All told, Monarch Park Collegiate purchased \$32,000 worth of medical supplies for victims of the tsunami.

Fundraising to build a new school in Kenya through Save the Children began the following year.

Principal Rob MacKinnon came up with the idea of actually physically building the school that Herbst and others were fundraising for. MacKinnon sought approval from the Toronto District School Board, got the nod from Superintendent Jill Worthy and Director of Education Gerry Connelly and traveled to Kenya to see the facilities available firsthand. When he returned he approached Herbst and said, "okay Martin, this is what we're thinking of doing. We would like you to write the curriculum for this little experiment."

The Faculty of Education graduate wrote an interdisciplinary Grade 12 study course that was an amalgamation of peer mentoring and leadership; economics; information technology and computers; cultural studies; physics; social studies; and religious studies.

"We wrote it specifically for Kenya – but not specifically about Kenya so it



Taking a brief break from the task of digging are, from left: Martin Herbst (Teacher), students S. Baziuk, L. Fraser, Tara Green (Martin's fiancé - Volunteer Supervisor), students S. Hakim, A. Cristiano, J. Doucette, J. Presutti, A. Fisher, A. Fischer, B. Carter, K. Dembowski. Standing in back row: Students F. Ha, N. Hagos, J. Huffman.

can be duplicated across the province.” His colleague Mike Mead wrote the curriculum for a course which studied the history, politics, geography and the ecosystems. Herbst believes this is the first time in Ontario that a very involved four-credit travel and learning program like this has occurred.

After the course template was created Herbst was responsible for students getting their passports and immunizations. Aside from the obvious travel preparations, another level of fundraising would have to happen to raise the \$5,000 cost per student to participate.

“Monarch Park is a very inner-city school. The students that go there aren’t necessarily from families where mom or dad can write a cheque for you. That was challenging to meet that goal but before we were ready to fly, all the kids were able to get it (enough money).”

For many of the 13 students it was their first time on an airplane. For almost all of them it was the first time off the continent. One student had never left the city.

When they arrived in Kenya, they were transported to a protected compound in the Maasai Mara area where the school was located. About 400 students attend the elementary school. Each grade occupies a separate building. The building being replaced was built in 1969 and had outer walls made of wood panels. The inside dividing walls were made of sticks, mud and dung. There were no glass windows, just open wood-shuttered windows. The classroom had a dirt floor with wooden tables.

“If it was in Canada, you wouldn’t put your dog in it. And here they have 91 kids in it,” said Herbst.

The students were there to build a brick and mortar school – bricks were actually stones that had been hand-carved. There were no power tools on-site. No electricity. No cement mixers or dump-trucks. All cement came in bags and was made by hand in wheelbarrows with shovels.

“Here we were on the side of a mountain the first day and they handed us a bunch of pickaxes and said okay folks you need to dig down five feet to build the foundation. The reaction was: ‘We’re here to do what?’ We knew we were there to build a school but didn’t fully comprehend what that actually meant.”

The students really began to see the world through different eyes, said their teacher. “They saw kids who were malnourished, with jaundiced coloured eyes, with open sores, with no shoes on. They saw 13 people live in a hut that is basically the size of their bedroom.”

Their perspectives changed during the trip. As inner-city kids they carried a negative self-image often propagated by the media. “We live in a ghetto,” or “I don’t have the big screen TV they have on Laguna Beach...so therefore I’m not worthy,” said Herbst.

Once the students arrived in Kenya and saw how things were, they began to see that, “I can make a difference. I can have an impact. And here I am thinking that I’m poor,” said Herbst. “Not realizing there are 900,000 people living basically in a slum in Nairobi. People might be

happy but they have no access to clean water, no access to health care systems.”

The experience made an impact on the students, who ranged in age from 16 to 21.

“In Canada, we live in a society where people are constantly worrying about material happiness. The people I met while I was in Kenya taught me there is a lot more to life than having material possessions.”

*Ashlynn Fisher*

“The community welcomed us with open arms and I have never felt so welcomed in my life. We were there to accomplish our goal, and that was to build a school for the kids so they can have a better education. Anyone can make a difference, even if it’s just helping one person.”

*Skye Baziuk*

“The real kicker was seeing how their government failed to provide a sustainable community for their people in the rural parts of Kenya, unsafe schools, no healthcare or clean water, no employment opportunities and how those people were still happy, they still made the best out of each day and they still worked together to make a better community for themselves.”

*Bryanna Carter*

Herbst’s fiancé joined him on the trip.

When she walked into one of the classrooms in Kenya, she noticed that it was the same lesson on their

*continued on page 33*

# Librarians Without Borders on the grow

By Emilie McLachlan, BSc'04

A war-ravaged Angolan community's call for books was answered by an ambitious library student with ideas, expertise, and a modest following of determined colleagues identifying themselves as Librarians Without Borders.

In December 2004, after speaking with coworker Jorge Chimbinda, BA'04, MA'06, (an anthropology graduate student at the time) about the depleted collection of textbooks for post-secondary school students in Angola, Melanie Sellar, MLIS'06, then a Master of Library and Information Science student at Western, was inspired to forge an organization to resolve international deficits in library resources.

The result was Librarians Without Borders (LWB), a non-profit organization founded to promote global equity in the freedom to access information.

What began, less than two years ago, as an idea in the social conscience of two Western students has since exploded into a network of international co-operation, much to the astonishment of the group's early members. "I don't think at the time anybody really realized how big it could potentially be," says communications coordinator Rebecca Jansen, MLIS'06, of the group's burgeoning global presence.

Librarians Without Borders has experienced remarkable growth since its formal inception in February 2005, and currently receives support from 42 countries including the United States, Bangladesh, Germany, Egypt, Zimbabwe, Angola, Botswana, and Australia.

In October 2005, while still operating out of Western, the group became officially incorporated as a Canadian non-profit organization, initiating their growth toward status as a registered charity.

The group has already had its share of accomplishments. Their first international development project, Biblioteca Tutangi, realizes Chimbinda's and Sellar's conversation from not-so-long ago. The effort will deliver nursing and medical textbooks, as well as a library development plan and furnishings to students of Huambo, Angola.

According to Jansen, LWB's initiatives extend beyond fostering



Back row: Kennis Dick, Erin Fields, Caroline Vandriel, Billi Knight, Isola Ajiferuke (board member) Front row: Sarah Camm, Pam McKenzie (faculty advisor), Sandy Smeltzer (former board member), Heather Keeling.

literacy and donating information resources that will hopefully trigger larger-scale community development.

"If we are able to collect some resources in Portuguese that are relevant to their needs, then hopefully that will improve health care there ... hopefully, eventually, we'll be able to provide a little bit of continuing education and professional development."

For example, reliable sources of energy and electricity are essential to the effectiveness of Biblioteca Tutangi, and Jansen says LWB hopes to collaborate with its Angolan partners to secure these needs.

Though founded as a Western-based entity, LWB wants to maintain its momentum despite the graduation of its membership.

The group hopes to transplant itself from its academic roots to the professional environment, though they're waiting for a new group of enterprising MLIS students to ratify a flagship student chapter at Western, commemorating the organization's ancestry.

Marking this amazing growth and transition, LWB has put out a public request, inviting volunteer applications for its board of directors. The group aims to expand the skills, including librarians as well as fundraisers, communicators, legal professionals and others.

Still, says Jansen, applicants need only share an enthusiasm for being in on the ground floor of a new organization with a clear idea of the good it can do in the world.

*The writer is a graduate student pursuing a Masters degree in Library and Information Science at Western*

## LWB – Angola Project

Working with Angolan partners, the Catholic Archdiocese of Huambo, LWB is helping to develop Biblioteca Tutangi, a desperately needed nursing and medical Portuguese language library that will support the learning needs of university and college students in Huambo. To date, students have never had access to an official library.

The Archbishop of Huambo strongly believes in the importance of education for community empowerment. To that end, he is establishing the Centro Cultural João Paulo II - a cultural centre in Huambo that will include facilities for Open University distance learning study and a library, Biblioteca Tutangi. The library will be open to everyone in the community, regardless of ethnicity or religion, but its collections and services will initially target high school and university students, instructors, and working professionals.

While a facility now exists, the library is without books or trained library staff. So, the challenge is to fill the library's empty shelves, populate it with skilled support staff, and establish a plan that ensures its long-term viability.

LWB developed a list of suggested Portuguese nursing/medical titles with the input of the Angola project liaison. In late May, a partner member took this list to Angola to be reviewed by key people in the schools and community, where they will select and rank the titles, indicate the number of desired copies, and specify any subject areas that have not been addressed.

At the same time LWB was designing the initial collection, it began developing a program to raise the necessary funds for purchasing these costly medical resources. This campaign, known as Sponsor-a-Book, will launch this year. Individuals and organizations will be able to directly assist Biblioteca Tutangi by fundraising for a particular subject area and running local campaigns suited to their workplaces and communities.

For more information visit: [www.lwb-online.org](http://www.lwb-online.org)

# Engineers Without Borders helping overseas



EWB Day 2006 display at Covent Garden Market, London.

Half of the world's population lives in poverty. Engineers Without Borders (EWB) volunteers work in developing countries to help eliminate this global injustice.

At the turn of the millennium the people of world, through the United Nations, formulated the Millennium Development Goals aimed at halving world poverty by 2015.

Engineers Without Borders promotes human development through access to technology. Human development is about people: their desire and struggle to expand their freedoms and lead lives that they value. In this quest, access to appropriate technology plays a key role — every day, people work to improve their technology, laws, institutions and governance in the complex circumstances that poverty, alienation and voicelessness create.

Formed in 2000, EWB is Canada's fastest growing development organization. To date EWB Canada has sent more than 200 volunteers overseas who have helped thousands of people improve their own lives. The five countries that EWB now focuses its efforts on are Mali, Malawi, Zambia, Burkina Faso and Ghana.

Engineers Without Borders runs two overseas sending programs: the

Junior Fellowship in International Development, and the Long-term Overseas Volunteer Program.

The Junior Fellowship in International Development (JFID) is an 18-month long program for Canadian university students. Junior Fellows are selected at their university chapter in the fall and spend four months, May to August, working on a development project overseas. Upon returning to Canada, Junior Fellows are encouraged to share their experience and take on a leadership role within their university chapter.

The Long-term Overseas Volunteer Program is for non-students. Selection and project coordination are done by the EWB National Office in Toronto. Long-term placements range from eight to 36 months.

EWB focuses its efforts overseas in four work sectors:

- water and sanitation
- agriculture and food production
- agro-processing and rural energy
- information and communication technologies.

Volunteers work in partnership with local organizations in their host country to build their skills, gain access

to resources and improve their capacity to engage in practical problem solving in their own communities. EWB recognizes that local knowledge and expertise is essential in developing appropriate solutions and that development should be driven by the local people.

Check out the blogs of Western's past and current volunteers by visiting the sites below:

## Currently overseas

**Jason Teixeira** in Malawi

[www.jasoninmalawi.blogspot.com/](http://www.jasoninmalawi.blogspot.com/)

Jason graduated with a MESC last year. He is currently overseas with his wife Erin.

**Luke Brown** in Ghana

[www.luke-brown.blogspot.com](http://www.luke-brown.blogspot.com)

Luke graduated with a BESC in 2005.

Two students who returned in September 2006

**Sarah Takai** (was in Ghana with Luke Brown)

[www.sarah-in-ghana.blogspot.com/](http://www.sarah-in-ghana.blogspot.com/)

Sarah is now completing her Masters with Dr. Cynthia Dunning (Biomedical Engineering).

**Ricky Patel** (was in Zambia)

[www.rickyinzambia.blogspot.com/](http://www.rickyinzambia.blogspot.com/)

Ricky is back as an undergrad student.

EWB Western homepage

[www.uwo.ewb.ca/](http://www.uwo.ewb.ca/)

## Charity on the Rocks Concert 2007

The Undergraduate Engineering Society (UES) presented Charity On The Rocks at the Wave on February 17. According to Federico Berruti, UES Charity Commissioner 2006-2007, the event was a great success with over 400 attending and raising more than \$4,000 for EWB, promoting international development and sustainability. The event has been held for the past five years. Although it was initially a small event, it now attracts people from across Ontario.

Two Charity On The Rocks veterans, The Righteous Pink, an engineering funk-rock band, and The OchO, a well-known Western rock group, performed. New on the bill were Western Engineering rockers Paradox Theory and Toronto's The Sea Inside.

For more information visit the UES Charity website: [www.eng.uwo.ca/ues/charity](http://www.eng.uwo.ca/ues/charity)



John-Derek Clarke, Director of Program Services for Ivey Executive MBA.

## Ivey opens downtown Toronto campus

By Paul Mayne

Sitting in the new Richard Ivey School of Business Executive MBA classroom in Toronto, there's a chance you just may hear an echo of the hustle and bustle that was once the thunderous floor of the Toronto Stock Exchange.

Although the paper-crazed chaos of the trading floor has been dormant for almost 10 years, consigned to history by the advance of digital technology, the new Ivey Toronto campus is built directly on the former stock exchange floor. The significance of creating a business school for executives at the symbolic heart of Bay Street is not being lost on anyone.

John-Derek Clarke, Director of Program Services for the Ivey Executive MBA, likes to mention this interesting tidbit to potential participants. Moving the school from Mississauga to downtown Toronto was one of the best moves the school could have made, he says.

Suddenly, Ivey finds itself with close access to the movers and shakers of Canadian commerce, a tremendous resource for students and a huge marketing advantage for the school.

"We love the exposure in this new location and so do the participants," says Clarke, of the new Exchange Tower

location in the heart of the Toronto business district. "There is a lot of energy around this move."

With two large classrooms and nine smaller break-out rooms, participants are given 24-hour access to the facility, which opened in early January. The official opening was held Feb. 8, when Ivey Dean Carol Stephenson and prominent Ivey alumni assisted in opening the day's market trading.

This latest move is one way in which Ivey is pursuing opportunities that are a fit for the school's intense and fast-paced program.

"It comes down to the marketplace demands and whether or not you can deliver a solid product," says Clarke of the largest EMBA program in the Toronto area. "We're making a long-term commitment to this facility."

The response of participants has been strong. With two classes beginning each year (February and September), the last three enrolments (54 participants) have been full, with a waiting list.

This has been great news for Clarke, noting competition with other EMBA programs in the area - Queen's, York and the University of Toronto - is fierce. Ivey's style continues to be its case study method of learning. Along with its unique four-day, once-a-month format, the 17-month concentrated learning program is something that intrigued Western employee Ryan Rodrigues, Associate Director, Alumni Outreach at Western.

"Ivey was an easy choice for me

because Western is a great school and carries a big name," says Rodrigues who, one year into the program, is expanding his knowledge of other industries, keeping current with global picture and broadening business skills.

"When we're dealing with candidates we are aware this is not only a huge investment financially, but of their time as well," says Clarke. "We want to make sure we are transparent because people have to be ready for a commitment."

### Name change in February

The Richard Ivey School of Business received \$3.5 million in donations for the School's new campus in downtown Toronto, including ING's lead gift of \$2.5 million.

To mark the gift, the Toronto campus will change its name to the ING Leadership Centre.

The ING Leadership Centre will be home to Ivey's top-ranked Executive MBA Program, provide Executive Development programs, become a location for MBA and HBA student recruitment and alumni activities, and provide businesses with a location for corporate meetings and events.

"ING and Ivey are well aligned," said Arkadi Kuhlmann, (HBA'71, MBA'72) Chairman, President & CEO, ING Direct USA. "Both organizations are unique which makes this an excellent fit."

For more on the new Toronto campus, visit: [www.iveyemba.ca](http://www.iveyemba.ca)

### Ivey EMBA by the numbers

- 96 • percentage of graduates who recommend Ivey to others
- 54 • class size
- 25 • percentage of class who are female
- 14 • average years of work experience
- 37 • average age
- \$80,000 • cost of an Ivey EMBA
- 1,300 • alumni from the Toronto EMBA program
- 65 • percentage of participants who heard by word of mouth of the program
- 70 • percentage of participants from the GTA
- 10 • percentage of participants from outside Ontario

Richard Ivey School of Business  
Visit: [www.ivey.uwo.ca](http://www.ivey.uwo.ca)

## Teachers named 'honorary alumni'

By Paul Mayne

Although there are no Faculty of Education alumni on record prior to 1964-65, the year the faculty came into existence, the faculty and Western have now welcomed a group of lifelong educators without Western degrees into the fold as honorary alumni.

The 'honorary' status is being offered to those who attended the London Teachers' College and The Normal School prior to 1965. Many of these graduates, seeing the new generation of teachers with a degree in their profession, went to university as part-time students to earn a degree. They are Western alumni, but are not associated with teaching.

Patricia McLaughlin, Faculty of Education Alumni and Development Officer, says there are several hundred retired teachers who could have an affinity to the faculty because of their lifelong dedication to education, and who began their careers much earlier than the faculty was established.

"Education will always be a part of their lives," says McLaughlin, adding she has met with some retired teachers who are thrilled with the idea and are already anticipating alumni events.

"We needed to recognize their importance and the fact they began the legacy of education in London."

The exact number of potential honorary alumni is unknown, with McLaughlin working with the Retired Teachers of Ontario to gather names. However, in early discussions with a number of retired teachers, attachment to their profession is evident in their activity with various retiree groups.

"I met with two women who undertook the organizations of



Photo courtesy Bob Slater

Some members of the London Normal School Graduating Class of 1953 from the 1953 Spectrum yearbook.

the 50th reunion for the London Teachers' College Class of 1954," says McLaughlin. "Ninety-seven people attended, including one aged 95. The reunion was such a success they are getting together again."

McLaughlin says its alumni events like these Western's Faculty of Education hope to offer in the near future since she believes these teachers are entitled to "the best alumni experience."

Education Dean Allen Pearson says the focus of the honorary status is to keep the alumni "connected to their

history."

"Our faculty today is the legacy of the old school (Teachers' College)," says Pearson. "These graduates' contributions as educators need to be recognized."

The honorary alumni status also opens the door to potential new donors who may want to invest and give back to the Faculty of Education.

Faculty of Education  
Visit: [www.edu.uwo.ca](http://www.edu.uwo.ca)

# A world of experience through international internship

By Susanna Eayrs

Western Law students are gaining international experience through the International Law Internship Program (ILIP). The program, launched last year, places students with a variety of international courts and institutions during the summer break.

“It’s part of what I like to refer to as experiential education,” says Assistant Professor Valerie Oosterveld, the program’s director. “The students are given the opportunity to expand their knowledge of international law and issues while applying their legal knowledge and skills.” Oosterveld believes the experience can open doors to a future career in international law and give students experience they can apply to work in a variety of areas after graduation.

Last summer, six Western Law students participated in international law internships: two clerked at the Caribbean Court of Justice in Trinidad, one at the Special Court for Sierra Leone, one student worked at the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights in Washington D.C., one at the International



Valerie Oosterveld, ILIP program director.

Labour Organization, and one with UNAIDS in Bucharest, Romania. A new agreement with Fasken Martineau Dumoulin LLP, a leading national business and litigation law firm in Canada, will provide an additional placement with an international organization this summer.

Third-year Western Law student Andrea Marlowe clerked at the Special Court for Sierra Leone in Freetown, Sierra Leone and found the experience invaluable. “When you have the opportunity to travel to a foreign country and live what you have only previously studied in an academic sense, you understand it in a richer, more meaningful, and often entirely different way,” she says.



Andrea Marlowe in Sierra Leone.

The ILIP is part of a growing movement at Western Law to get students out into the field to experience international law. Another aspect of that movement is the Western Law-funded and International Law Association-organized trips to legal hotspots such as New York and The Hague. This past January, 28 Western law students met with professors and students at the University of Groningen Faculty of Law, one of the many schools with which Western Law has an active exchange program.

Accompanied by Prof. Oosterveld, Western law students visited The Hague-based International Criminal Court, the International Court of Justice, the headquarters of the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons, the Canadian Embassy, the NGO Coalition for an International Criminal Court and the International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia.

Oosterveld also organized a high-level meeting in New York this past February involving the presidents, prosecutors and registrars of the International Criminal Tribunals for the Former Yugoslavia and Rwanda, the Special Court for Sierra Leone and the Cambodia Tribunal. The meeting produced guidelines that address the legal and practical obligations that continue after these tribunals physically close down. Two Western Law students attended the meeting and assisted with the production of the guidelines.

Students also gain a wider global perspective through the international exchange program. Western Law has partnerships with law schools in Australia, New Zealand, France, the Netherlands, Spain, Sweden, Singapore, India and Hong Kong.

Approximately one in five Western Law students participates in an exchange – the highest proportion of any law school in North America.

“The key to the future is internationalization,” says Acting Dean of Law Craig Brown. “Western Law has been at the forefront of the University’s international movement, in terms of fostering educational partnerships and international research links.”

Faculty of Law  
Visit: [www.law.uwo.ca](http://www.law.uwo.ca)



Western Mustang basketball player Bradley Smith drives by a Ryerson player during a game earlier this season.

## Mustang history, live video now online

By Andy Watson

Looking to reconnect with your old Mustang team?

The Western Mustangs Web site is now updated daily with news stories, player profiles and alumni news – at [www.westernmustangs.ca](http://www.westernmustangs.ca).

Some recent developments on the site include live video streaming of a selection of Western Mustangs home games. Users just have to click the Live Video icon. There's also archived highlights and full games on the Web site by clicking the MustangVision icon.

Another new feature is the addition of a men's basketball history section.

Former men's basketball head coach Craig Boydell has been busy in his retirement from coaching working

on the online archives. At a Western Mustangs men's basketball alumni game and reunion on Jan. 20, Boydell talked about the progress he is making in locating, protecting and saving Mustangs basketball archives.

Through [www.westernmustangs.ca](http://www.westernmustangs.ca), the former Mustangs bench-boss has created Web site archives covering the long and heralded history of Mustangs men's basketball.

Simply go to [www.westernmustangs.ca](http://www.westernmustangs.ca), select "Teams" from the left-hand sidebar, then select "Basketball – M" and "Rosters & Bios." You can choose the year of the team photo and roster you wish to view from the pull-down menu. You can also left click and enlarge the photos twice. At the current stage only team pictures are available but as time goes by volumes of materials that are presently being collected and formatted will be available on-line. If you have something you would like to see included contact Coach Boydell at [boydell@uwo.ca](mailto:boydell@uwo.ca).

### Eleven appearances at Nationals for basketball team

Western has made 11 appearances at the Nationals since the Championships

were restructured in 1963. At least one player from each of these teams played in the Jan. 20 alumni game, the most senior being Bob Larose and Doug Morton who played for Western at the Nationals in 1967-68.

Boydell and current head coach Bradley Campbell were pleased with the turnout and were able to display a slide show reviewing Mustang teams from the early 1900s to the present.

"Momentum has been gathering for this event and with the success of the Jan. 20 event, Campbell plans to establish a permanent Winter Homecoming Weekend for the men's basketball program," Boydell said.

Plans are underway to develop alumni sections on other Mustangs teams for the Web site.

### Have a story to share?

If you have a story about your Mustang Athletics experience you'd like to share, please contact Andy Watson at [awatso47@uwo.ca](mailto:awatso47@uwo.ca) or by phone at 519-661-3089.

Western Mustangs  
Visit: [www.westernmustangs.ca](http://www.westernmustangs.ca)



# Bristow retires after far exceeding his goal

By Karmen Dowling, BA'96

After almost 20 years as Foundation Western's Executive Director, James C. Bristow (BA'61, HBA'63), is retiring with plans to spend more free time on the golf greens.

When Bristow joined Foundation Western in October 1987, it had been in operation for eight years with total assets of \$5.3 million, supported by alumni fundraising of \$2 million annually.

At that time, Foundation Western employed five staff while the



Jim Bristow earns a well deserved break in retirement.

Development (fundraising) team had just four members. Today, the Foundation employs seven individuals who work in tandem with an Alumni Relations and Development team of more than 50.

Bristow's original goal was to increase the endowment from \$5 million to \$25 million - that target was surpassed long ago. The Renaissance Campaign and the more recent Campaign Western added more than \$70 million in new endowed funds and at December 31, 2006 (Bristow's last day at the helm) Foundation Western's endowment exceeded \$130 million.

*continued from page 26*

blackboard that she was just teaching in Canada.

"It's amazing what they can do with the little amount of resources available to them. They are being taught calculus. They are being taught algebra and geometry. They are being taught English language as well as Swahili and a number of other courses that puts them on par with Canadian students," said Herbst.

Not only did the perspectives of the students change but their teacher's as well.

"The one thing that really got me was the day we were at the build site and the recess bell went off. Everyone is getting really tired. It is physically demanding moving 80 wheelbarrows of sand and concrete to make a concrete pad. That day when the kids all poured out of the schools, they grabbed the wheelbarrows and shovels out of our hands and kept saying something in Swahili. I had no idea what this is. I went to our trip facilitator and she said the direct translation is: 'Together we are building our school.'"

Herbst said the community was involved from day one. They provided security on the site to make sure no one stole the building materials. Women in the community brought in water daily two kilometres by donkey's back or their own back that was needed to make the concrete and the mortar. Running water does not exist in the community. A water collection process happens at the new schools once they're finished. They put eavestroughs on the buildings that flow into a water collection tank.

"This is important because it allows the young girls to come to school. Because most of the time, girls in the community are required to fetch water. By putting a water program at the school, it allows the girls to attend."

Herbst and his students were fortunate enough to be accompanied by independent film producer Steve Miller during their trip which allowed them to film a documentary.

"He works with Free the Children right now. He went with us and we used his cameras. The kids shot in digital.

In recognition of his achievements, the Foundation Western Board of Directors has created a student entrance scholarship in Bristow's name. The value will be \$1,500 with the first award being given in September 2007.

Foundation Western is Western's alumni endowment fund and is an incorporated charitable public foundation. It is governed by a 12-person Board of Directors, all of whom are Western alumni.

Frank Pyka, former Director of Finance at the London Community Foundation, took over for Bristow on January 1, 2007.

It was edited when we returned and we now have a 22-minute short film documentary that will be submitted to international film festivals."

Right now Herbst is in the planning stages for another trip in the fall of this year to Kenya. He sees this interactive method of teaching as an evolution of the profession.

"The more we can engage our students the better they become as citizens and global citizens. We've seen at Monarch Park an incredible transformation among the student population. Not just the 13 kids that went but the rest of the school has really begun. They're much more engaged in what they're learning. And can see much more relevance in what they're doing. "I believe we have the power to make the world a better place for everyone."

**Nahome Hagos**

For more information on Free The Children, visit:  
[www.freethechildren.com](http://www.freethechildren.com)

## MUSIC

### STEPHAN MOCCIO EXPOSURE

Poised to make a serious splash with the launch of his debut CD, *Exposure*, Stephan Moccio's (BMus'94) list of accomplishments quickly establish him as an artist who's been a musician's musician for a long time. Until now, we have only heard the musical talent of Stephan Moccio through the voices of other artists. His material has topped international charts – through Celine Dion's blockbuster hit "A New Day Has Come," Sarah Brightman's Harem album and the multi platinum diva Hayley Westenra's release *Odyssey*. He has had songs recorded and performed by Randy Bachman, J.C. Chaisez, Olivia Newton-John and Burton Cummings. With the release of *Exposure*, Stephan Moccio's is about to redefine and smash all preconceptions of what an instrumental, piano recording is all about. With 22 fluid, and sophisticated tracks, *Exposure* is beautifully recorded marking a return to craftsmanship. Visit: [www.stephanmoccio.com](http://www.stephanmoccio.com)



subject are evident as he provides readers with excerpts, classical biographical references, explanatory footnotes and illustrations to assist readers in their understanding of this unique place and its population. Visit: [www.authorhouse.com](http://www.authorhouse.com)

### DUTY NOBLY DONE

This first comprehensive regimental history spans over 300 years of time. Sandy Antal (BA'74) and Kevin Shackleton (MA'76, B Ed'77, MBA'82) grew up in Essex County and spent decades researching this massive volume. Sandy had previously written the award-winning *A Wampum Denied: Procter's War of 1812* while Kevin produced *Second to None: The Fighting 58th Battalion of the Canadian Expeditionary Force*, both firsts in their field. *Duty Nobly Done* traces the evolution of the oldest militia organization of present-day Ontario from the earliest times to the present. It details far-flung campaigns in Michigan, Ohio and Kentucky, on the Detroit frontier during the War of 1812 and the Patriot War of 1838. The book illuminates the horrors of trench warfare in WW I and the bloody events at Dieppe and Normandy in WW II. The authors' findings challenge simplistic assertions that have marginalized the role of the much-storied militia of Essex and Kent Counties and have received high praises from historians such as Jack Granatstein, Desmond Morton and Jack Hyatt. It also features a forward by HRH Prince Michael, Duke of Kent. Additional information is available at [www.walkerville.com](http://www.walkerville.com) or [hwheels@primus.ca](mailto:hwheels@primus.ca).



## PRESS

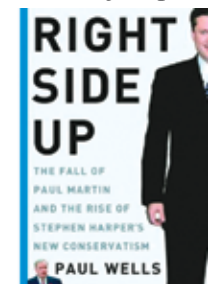
### The 5 FACTOR DIET

Lose the weight with five ingredients, five minutes, and five meals a day. Celebrity trainer and diet expert Harley Pasternak (BA'97), author of *5-Factor Fitness*, shares his secret to easy weight loss in this delicious plan: five small meals a day for five weeks, plus 100-plus recipes with five or fewer ingredients and just five minutes of prep time. Meal plans are included, and preparation is a snap. It works for Pasternak's clients, and it can work for you! As Eva Mendes says, "Harley has changed my life. Not only do I feel better than ever, but now I can have guilt-free pizza anytime, and that has made me a happy girl." You'll even find a bonus chapter of *5-Factor Fitness* workouts and sample five-minute workout moves to help you maximize diet results in just 25 minutes per day over five weeks. Visit: [www.harleypasternak.com](http://www.harleypasternak.com)



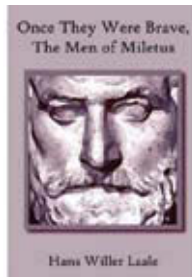
### RIGHT SIDE UP

*Right Side Up - The Fall of Paul Martin and the Rise of Stephen Harper's New Conservatism* by Paul Wells (BA'89). Two men on an opposite yet parallel trajectory. In the space of only three years, one man, a huge success as the Minister of Finance, goes from his new role as the leader of an all-powerful party with a huge majority all the way down to a retired also-ran. The other one reluctantly steps in to salvage a dying party, links it to another dying party, "unites the right," becomes its leader, goes through trying times, and inside three years rises to become prime minister, against all odds. It's an amazing drama, told here in three acts. Nobody can answer that question better than Paul Wells. Witty, irreverent, opinionated, personal, and very, very funny, this book launches Wells' career as an author. Born in Sarnia, Paul Wells has worked for the *Montreal Gazette*, and as a columnist for the *National Post*. He is now *Maclean's* chief Ottawa correspondent, and a frequent panelist and speaker. Visit: [www.mcclelland.com](http://www.mcclelland.com)



### ONCE THEY WERE BRAVE, THE MEN OF MILETUS

*Once They Were Brave, The Men of Miletus* by Hans Willer Laale (MSc'61, Zoology), is an exciting anthology of an ancient city and a who's who of talented achievers and their accomplishments. Set against a backdrop of widely different political circumstances, ongoing regional conflicts, rebellions, wars and occupations, *Once They Were Brave* deals with a variety of matters of antiquity pertaining to the history of the east-Greek city of Miletus and its people. The author's thorough research and interest in the



### ELEGANT GLASS WITH CORN FLOWER

*Elegant Glass with Corn Flower: Imperial Candlewick, Heisey, Tiffin & More* by Walter T. Lemiski (BMus'90) features more than 500 colour images. Working on some of the finest elegant glass of the depression era, W.J. Hughes added his own creativity by cutting it with his popular Corn Flower pattern. Depression glass and elegant glass dealers and collectors finally have the full colour, indispensable identification and price guide for Corn Flower. Over double the previously identified companies who supplied Hughes are documented in this volume. This invaluable volume provides the first major appraisal of the Candlewick-Corn Flower connection, complete with original documentation. Lovely to look at and interesting to read, this book is worthy of inclusion in any library of collectible vintage glassware. Email: walt@waltztime.com for your signed copy from the author. Visit: www.waltztime.com



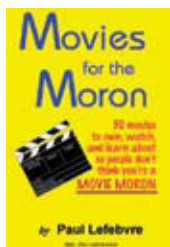
### ORGANIZATION DEVELOPMENT

*Organization Development - Principles, Processes, Performance* by Gary N. McLean (BA'65), bridges the gap between theory and practice. The only textbook to look at applying organization development principles at the community, regional, national, and global levels proposes a model that encompasses all of the most relevant approaches. *Organization Development* is a new textbook designed to be used in undergraduate and graduate programs in any of these disciplines. McLean is Professor and Coordinator, Human Resource Development and Adult Education; Professor, Business and Industry Education; and Morse Alumni Distinguished Teaching Professor, Work, Community, and Family Education at the University of Minnesota. He is also president of McLean Global Consulting. He has authored or coauthored 20 books, and is the recipient of the Outstanding Scholar award. Visit: www.bkconnection.com



### MOVIES FOR THE MORON

*Movies for the Moron: 50 movies to own, watch, and learn about so people don't think you're a movie moron* has been a project author and cinephile Paul Lefebvre (BA'79) has been working on for quite some time. Rather than allow a large portion of the viewing public, whom the author terms "movie morons," to remain ignorant of movies created by some of the world's most cinematically gifted directors, he has decided to write a how-to book for these deprived people so at the very least they'll know when a good movie really is good. This is the book they need to learn about the right movies to watch and



own, with 50 movies from different genres of cinema listed and explained, complete with easy instructions for watching and buying. Visit: www.privatemailnovels.com

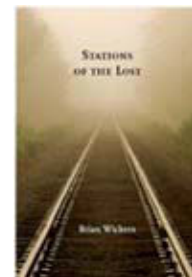
### TIME WAS THE WINDOW

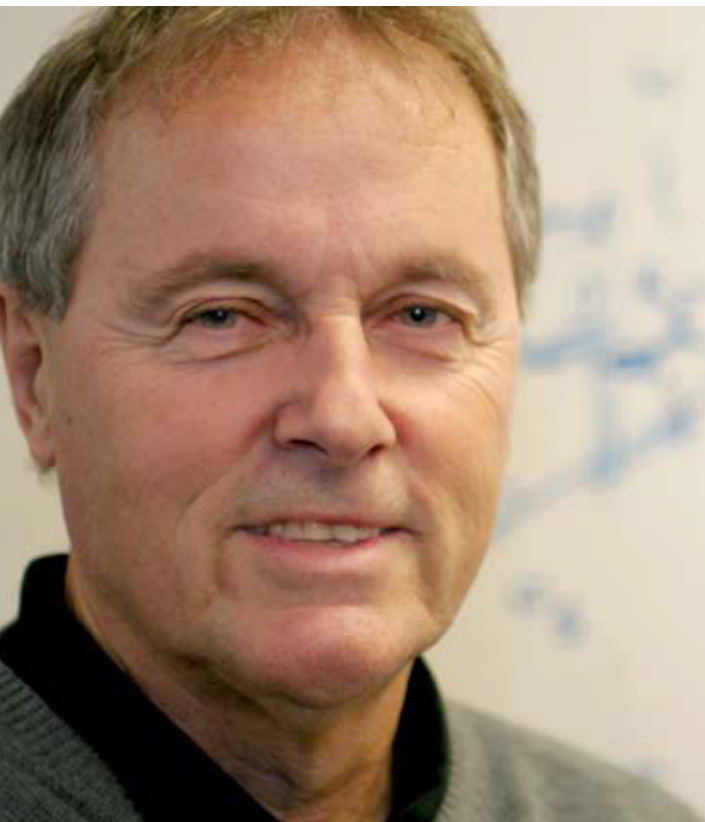
*Time Was The Window; a family's stories, 1800-2000* by Arn Bailey (MLS'71). The focal point for the fictional Harrison family is the Ontario homestead established by immigrants from Ireland and retained through a line of unpredictable male inheritance. Events centre on members of each generation as they labour, laugh, love and suffer loss. They labour in sunny fields, barn lofts, stable stalls, hot kitchens, a lumber camp, government offices, an antique store and a mission outpost. They laugh at a farmhouse dance, a picnic, weddings, Wasaga Beach, the CNE. They court in a buggy, propose marriage, and write letters to loved ones. Their losses are caused by accidents, jealousy, disasters at sea, fire, war and even a murder. Children perhaps see ghosts. A genealogist in the family discovers the names, longs to learn their full stories but discovers enough to see patterns that involve herself. Contact the author: arnbailey@rogers.com or visit: www.stewartbooks.com



### STATIONS OF THE LOST

*Stations of the Lost* by Brian Wickers (MA'89, BEd'94) is about how we seek to find places for ourselves in landscapes and situations that seem to belong to others. In language playful, extravagant, somber and meditative, yet always plainspoken and heartfelt, the quandaries of our double selves are explored—both "longing/and belonging." The geographic range takes us from urban landscapes, across borders of one kind or another, to the remote regions which bring us closer to our homes. At times irreverent and light-hearted, the collection is also a meditation on loss's singular presence in our lives. Raised in Winnipeg, Manitoba, Wickers now lives in Toronto, where he teaches English at a private school. His poetry has appeared in numerous Canadian publications including Descant, Fiddlehead, and The Malahat Review; he has also been showcased in a variety of American reviews such as The Atlantic Monthly, Poetry, and The Paris Review. Visit: www.mansfieldpress.net/new-releases.htm





# A legend looks back

Photo by Paul Mayne

Coaching great Larry Haylor reflects on a successful and colourful career and leaves Western Mustang football in good hands with Greg Marshall.

## Haylor leaves coaching legacy and scholarship for new Mustangs

By Paul Mayne

In a cramped third-floor corner office of Thames Hall, Larry Haylor sits among the years of Western football lore. Game tapes, helmets, photographs and a white board – complete with a play ran months ago – decorate the artfully cluttered coach's room where years of Mustang strategies and memories were born.

Unblemished by the years, Haylor instinctively beams with pride when he talks of Western football; a place where, like it or not, he now holds the status of 'legend' following 22 years of head coaching dominance on the gridiron.

The Alumni Gazette sat down with arguably the best coach in the Mustangs 77-year history to reflect on his time at Western and the memories he'll take with him.

**Alumni Gazette:** With your time as head coach at Western, an assistant under Darwin Semotiuk, along with your

time at Dalhousie and Saskatchewan, your football coaching career spans 36 years. How does one suddenly leave all that behind?

**Larry Haylor:** Thirty-six years of coaching university football to nothing; it's like going cold turkey. It's like we tell our players at the end of the season, it's an entirely different moment for you now; time is available to you know so make sure you use it wisely. The thing I found about my job was that I was never in control of my time. I could have two hours blocked out but end up getting three phone calls from a player, recruit or coach and you need to address those things thoroughly before you got back to what you had originally scheduled to do. I always find it's very difficult for head coaches to become masters of their time.

**AG:** A lot of coaches and players say they get butterflies every game. How about you?

**LH:** I always said to the players that anxiety and nervousness was a necessary part

of playing; it's a good thing, it indicated readiness. I think the phrase I used was that when the butterflies went away it was time to nail the playing shoes to the wall, or coaching shoes, whatever they might be. Game day anxiety is a big part of coaching, player and team preparation. And even within a game, that play anxiety, that moment anxiety; it's an adrenaline, it's a fuel. I think coaches who stay active for a long time, that's what we're like. It's game day, it's game week, it's the evening before the game; it's something that drives coaches who love to compete.

**AG:** Will we still be seeing you down at TD Waterhouse on Saturday afternoons.

**LH:** For sure. But I have to be very careful I don't cling or hang on in any real or apparent way. Greg [Marshall] is the coach. It is his team and ship now. He doesn't need guidance from me. It's extremely unusual for coaches to have a say in who the person is that may take their place. In Greg, we have the absolute best person. I think what might be best for me on game days is to be on

top of the Kirkley Centre watching the game surrounded by good friends.

**AG:** Here are a few quick questions for you. Who is the best player you've coached?

**LH:** I'm going to stay away from that one. It's a little bit like the single guy who's had 700 girlfriends and he's asked to pick the best. You're going to be in a lose-lose situation.

**AG:** Favourite stadium to coach in?

**LH:** JW Little. For Homecoming and playoff games, the old JW Little was a temple. Second would probably be Varsity (U ofT) when it was filled and rocking.

**AG:** Worst stadium to coach in?

**LH:** York's old field. It was mile-wide stadium. You had to walk a mile to get there and a mile to get back.

**AG:** Favourite team to beat?

**LH:** It's changed over the years. We used to love to beat Queen's and Laurier. Laurier has been the great constant. In the late 80s, Guelph became a heated rival. They glorified in calling us the preppy school and how they were going to come down and kill the preppies. It was a great rivalry. I loved beating Guelph in those days. Every team has had its moments.

**AG:** If you could go back in time, would you change anything?

**LH:** Philosophically, I like not to do that. I've come to a lot of decision points in life and about me and where I was going to be and what I was going to do and when I've made the choices, I've not looked back, I've looked forward.

I've made mistakes and I done the right things. As my wife constantly says to me, it's never been boring. It's been high energy. Perhaps me having all the young players around - their energy, their enthusiasm, their passions - have really helped keep me young. But I also understood this time around this decision [to retire] was right.

The last couple of years I have not been able to be what I promised to be, and that was the hardest working person. You can't hide and disguise that, it comes out. For all those reasons it was the right thing to do at the right time.

## Haylor Hits....

- \* CIS all-time wins leader – 178.
- \* 22 consecutive winning seasons.
- \* Career winning percentage – 80.9%
- \* Eight-time Yates Cup champion
- \* Two-time Vanier Cup champ

## About Larry...

*"Any coach can have a good season or two. Having good decades like Haylor is truly exceptional."*

**-Jim Kernaghan, retired London Free Press sports columnist**

*"I arrived at Western in 1994, and one of the outstanding experiences of that first year was watching Larry lead our Mustang football team to an extraordinary win in the Vanier Cup. During the past 12 years I have come to know Larry as a man of great integrity and commitment, a wonderful role model for the young men he coaches. He believes profoundly in Western's vision of the student athlete who combines outstanding performance in both academic endeavors and sports, and he sees competitive sport as a way of building character and team skills which will serve our students well long after their athletic careers are over. Over a beer recently at the Grad Club I was able to talk to him about the great debt we at Western owe to him. He is a modest man, yet he should take great pride in what he has accomplished at Western."*

**-Western President Paul Davenport**

*"One word to describe Larry is intense. When he was on that field he took his job seriously. I truly admired his work ethic. I see him being the same after football because just like me, you can't teach an old dog new tricks."*

**-Pete James, CJBK sportscaster and voice of Mustang football**

## New Haylor scholarship aids Mustang recruitment

The legacy of one of Western's greatest Mustang football coaches will live on with the creation of the Larry Haylor Recruitment Scholarship Fund.

Announced during a tribute celebration in January for Haylor who has retired as head coach, first-year student athletes who are part of the Mustang football team this September, and hold an 80 per cent average or higher, will have a chance to receive up to \$3,500 to help with school costs.

With the scholarship fund already totaling more than \$200,000, an endowment has been created through Foundation Western. A number of individuals have contributed to the fund with lead donors including former Mustang stars David Sapungis, Chris Gaffney and Glenn Hadden.

"Our goal in 2007 is to present the best student athletes from across the country with an athletic award," says Mustang head coach Greg Marshall, who'll determine the number of scholarships handed out each year. "These awards will help our athletes with the cost of a university education and will allow us to compete for the best with other CIS schools."

Erin Lawson, Alumni Relations and Development for Mustang Athletics, says Haylor has been a strong advocate for recognizing the value of Mustang athletes and supporting their efforts to excel on the playing field and in the classroom. "Larry believes the student athlete makes a great contribution to Western and athletic scholarships help us underline this value," says Lawson. "Athletic scholarships help us to compete for the best athletes with other CIS schools, but it also helps us attract the best students to Western."

Over the past few years Haylor had been advocating for merit-based awards at Western and has worked with Western's football alumni and donors, such as Bob Gage, to create awards that recognize the accomplishments and contribution of those who represent Western as Mustangs.

Donations to the Larry Haylor Recruitment Scholarship Fund can be made by contacting Lawson at elawson@uwo.ca or 519-661-4118.

# Service is a lifetime commitment

Meds'50 – The Veterans Class excelled at Western and beyond

By Howard Cameron, MD'50

Meds '50 was spawned by legislation stating that World War II veterans with the required entrance qualifications would be eligible to have their university tuition paid and would also receive a small monthly stipend.

The Dean of Medicine, the late Dr. G. Edward Hall, decreed that only veterans would be accepted in medicine for enrolment at the University of Western Ontario in September 1945. Forty-five men were selected and because of the large number of applicants another 45 were admitted in January 1946. Due to their 'maturity' only one year of pre-meds was required. The two groups united in September 1946 and thus Meds'50 – The Veterans Class was born.

The class members quickly adjusted from the discipline of service life to the required self-discipline required of a medical student's life and soon these men were involved in every aspect of university life.

In sports, Meds'50 won the intramural basketball championship four consecutive years. Bill Downe, Ticky Duck, Doug MacKinlay and Jack Parry (Capt.'54) played for the Mustangs. Parry was also a member of the Canadian Track Team at the 1948 Olympics. Keith Phillips was captain of the senior hockey team. Dennis Morey (Squadron Leader, RAF, DFC and bar) formed and coached the first fencing team in Western history with all members from Meds'50. MacKinlay was light-heavyweight boxing champion



The Meds'50 Class wearing old uniforms is piped to the Great Hall in 2000 to the Homecoming Awards Dinner.

and Jim Roberts, Lorne Rhamey and John McCurlie were on the university cross-country team. Jim Warden was the unflappable goalie of the class hockey team and later practiced surgery in California and played a significant role in introducing minor hockey to the state. John Aldis, the class patriarch, was elected President of the Hippocratic Society and Bill Downe was elected President of the University Student Council.

Meds'50 was well represented on the editorial staff of the *Western Gazette* and the medical school journal.

From an entertainment standpoint "Little Nell" was a classic and meds merrymakers made it big time with a production at the Grand Theatre.

There were some casualties and fresh troop replacements called in including Ruby Rakov, the only female member of the class. In 1950, 91 veterans graduated and 50 wives and 53 children were in attendance. Ticky Duck received the Howard Ferguson Award for outstanding performance in athletics, academics and extracurricular activities. This

outstanding performance continued as a general practitioner in Purvis, Mississippi where after 45 years of compassionate care for the citizens, the town officials named the street which housed his busy office "The Dr. Gerald E. Duck Street."

As well as working diligently in their medical practices the members of Meds'50 became involved in community, medical and hospital committees and a variety of service orientated endeavours.

\* John Aldis played a major role in a committee formulating the ground rules and regulations of the Ontario Health Insurance Plan (OHIP).

\* Craig Arnold was registrar of the British Columbia College of Physicians and Surgeons.

\* Blake Barlow served three successive two-year terms as an alderman in Chatham, Ontario and at each election led the polls.

\* Bill Keech, ex-P.O.W., was a member of the Board of Education and eventually Mayor of North Bay.

\* Jim Beveridge became nationally recognized in the field of biochemistry and as well, served many years as President of Acadia University.

\* Rusty Hall practiced for 46 years in the Town of Norwich, Ontario and also was involved in almost every community project. For his faithful service the citizens named the newly erected building "The Russell M. Hall Family Health Clinic" in his honour.

\* Six members of the class re-enlisted in the services. Harry Robinson became a Brigadier-General and Senior Medical Officer and Jim Murray retired as a Group Captain and became a well recognized consultant in hospital administration.

\* In appreciation of his commitment to St. Joseph's Hospital the Sisters of St. Joseph created "The Dr. David B. Meltzer Oncology Unit." The Meltzer family established the David and Zivia Meltzer Bursary for nursing education.

\* David Clarke was Minister of Public Health for the South Okanagan Health Unit (1958 to 1984) and made an outstanding contribution towards the betterment of the quality of life in the community at large.

\* Dennis Morey was awarded the gold medal for historical research for his research and publications concerning the Henricus Hospital. This Virginia Hospital built in 1618 was the first hospital in America. As well as practicing internal

medicine Dennis was coach of the fencing team at Virginia Commonwealth University and was a founding member of the Richmond Rugby Club.

\* Frank Butson contributed greatly to the establishment of the Department of Family Practice at Western.

\* Ray Prince spent two years in Africa studying methods and results of faith healers and witch doctors and this work resulted in the recognition of transcultural psychiatry. He also has 154 publications to his credit and his peers call him "a walking library."

\* Geoff Nanson, the epitome of a family doctor contributed generously of his time and support in fundraising and participation on the Board of Directors of Aurora House. This Vancouver facility provides accommodation and treatment for women suffering the effects of alcohol and drug addiction.

\* Hugh Williams was clinical professor of radiology at the University of Minnesota, the guest lecturer on 17 occasions and author of 27 publications.

\* Earl Russell at age 87 still participates in four clinics weekly for the management of pain. He has contributed \$2,000,000 to Western for the establishment of a Chair for Research and study of pain. He also served in Korea and helped establish the Department of Anaesthesia in Lagos.

\* Paul Yates and his wife Marie provided medical care in Nigeria for 10 years and were instrumental in the building of a modern hospital.

## Meds'50 Bursary Fund

On its 10th reunion the class contributed \$10,000 towards establishing the Meds'50 Bursary Fund. This fund is for medical students who need some financial help. The fund increased to some degree over the years but for the 50th year homecoming a special plea was submitted to the class on the basis that we had been helped and that perhaps we had a debt to repay. The class responded generously and the Meds'50 Bursary Fund now is approximately \$250,000, the largest such fund at Western.

In 2000, 50 years post-graduation, a plaque was placed in the lobby of the medical school inscribed with the names of the class members and including the class motto – "Service is a lifetime commitment." On this occasion, our departed members, now numbering 45, were remembered with a roll-call of their names and the bugler playing last post and reveille. The class wearing remnants of old uniforms "falls in" and led by our ex-Spitfire pilot Ewart Schenk playing the bagpipe marches to the Great Hall.

The class was honoured in 2000 at the Homecoming Awards Dinner and presented with the Class Award Citation – the only class to ever receive this honour. In accepting the award, class president Howie Cameron stated that not one member of Meds'50 expected any award "because as proud old veterans they had only done their duty."

Each member of the class has served his country, his family, his profession and his community – "What more can you ask of any man?"

## ALUMNI WESTERN'S

**"Discover the World" offers educational travel for Western Alumni & friends**

To be added to our mailing list, call Susan Henderson  
519-661-2111 ext 85871 or 1-800-258-6896 (press 4)  
or e-mail [discovertheworld@uwo.ca](mailto:discovertheworld@uwo.ca)

[www.alumni.uwo.ca/travel](http://www.alumni.uwo.ca/travel)



## Alumni News and Announcements

**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.

### Top 100 Most Powerful Women in Canada includes Western alumnae

The following Western alumnae were nominated in November as being in the "Top 100 Most Powerful Women in Canada" list as published in the *Globe and Mail*: **Silken Suzette Laumann, BA'88** (English), President, Silken & Co. Productions Ltd. Victoria; **Bonnie Patterson, (MLS'79)**, President and vice-chancellor, Trent University, Peterborough; **Madelein Paquin, HBA'84**, President and CEO, Logistec Corp., Montreal; **Sylvia Dolores Chrominska, BA'73, HBA'75**, Executive vice-president, human resources and public, corporate and government affairs, Scotiabank, Toronto; **Elizabeth Delbianco, MBA'97** (Executive MBA, Ivey), Senior vice president, chief legal officer and corporate secretary, Celestica Inc. Toronto; and **Lynda Cranston, MScN '75** (Nursing), President and CEO - Provincial Health Services Authority - Vancouver.

### 1940s

For the past 70 years, **Kae Willis, BA'41** has been actively involved with the Scouting movement, making her the longest serving member of the organization in London. Her contributions were recognized by Scouts Canada during an award ceremony at Bryson Camp Centre in December. As Glenn Armstrong, chief commissioner and chairperson of the board for Scouts Canada noted in his letter of congratulations, "Seventy years is truly a remarkable achievement." Mrs. Willis' involvement started at the age of 18 with a simple request from her neighbour, Bob Foxcroft. She happily signed on as assistant Cub master. She was a Cub leader through her years as a student at the University of Western Ontario and through one year of teacher's college in Toronto. It was there that she met her husband **Bob, MA'57**, whom she married in 1942 before he left to serve overseas. Mrs. Willis found there was no Cub pack in Thornbury when she moved there after the war, so she started one, and is proud to note "the First Beaver Valley Cub Pack is still going today." Bob also became involved, starting the town's first Scout troop. The family returned to London in 1957, where they all continued to be active in the Scouting movement (including **Robert, BA'65**; **Stephen, BA'69**; **Paul, BA'71**, all of whom earned the Queen's Scout Award). She encourages adults to volunteer as leaders to allow the scouting movement to continue in our communities for our young people. - from The Londoner.

### 1960s

**Stephen V.A. Blizzard, MD'63** received the Dr. Forrest M. and Pamela Bird Award in recognition of his exceptional contributions to the safety of civil aviation on October 8, 2006. As a pilot/physician, Dr. Blizzard was rewarded for his excellent clinical judgment, logic and common sense in the medical evaluation of airmen. He is only the 16th recipient of this award worldwide and the first

Canadian to be so honoured. Dr. Blizzard also served as President of the Civil Aviation Medical Association from 1991 through 1993.

**John Kenney Berscht, HBA'63** has joined the board and will assume the position of Vice President of corporate development at Country Line Energy Corp. He brings to the company considerable experience in financing within the oil and gas industry. He is a graduate of the University of Western Ontario Business School, a member of the Society of Mining and Metallurgy, and is qualified as an IFA in England. In his career as a broker he has qualified with the Investment Dealers Association in Canada and as a General Principal with the NASD and the NYSE in the USA. In his career as a broker he has managed institutional accounts in Switzerland and Europe. Ken was also directly responsible for bringing investors from Taiwan and Japan into the equity markets in Canada. In the oil and gas industry he has been Vice President of Enerplus International, one of Canada's largest Oil and Gas Income Trusts.

**Gary N. McLean, BA'65** (Business Administration and Secretarial Studies) was inducted in May into the International Adult and Continuing Education Hall of Fame, housed at the University of Oklahoma for his contributions to research, theory, and practice in cross-cultural human resource development.

**Rosemary Knechtel, BScN'69**, has earned a provincial award for distinguished service for her leadership in health science education. She received the Association of Colleges of Applied Arts and Technology of Ontario (ACAATO) Distinguished Service Award at the association's annual conference in February. Rosemary, who joined Mohawk College in 1971, has served as a faculty member, Department Coordinator and Teaching Master, Program Chair, Dean and Executive Dean. As Dean of Health Sciences and Human Services at Mohawk, Rosemary led the design, construction and opening of the Mohawk-McMaster Institute for Applied Health Sciences (IAHS) in 2000. Rosemary also championed the development of new collaborative health science programs with McMaster, Conestoga College and Six Nations of the Grand River.

The University of British Columbia President Stephen J. Toope has appointed **Prof. Richard Vedan, BA'68** (Psychology, King's) as Senior Advisor to the President on Aboriginal Affairs, the first such position in a Canadian university. Vedan, a member of the Neskonlith Band of the Secwepemc (Shuswap) First Nation, has been Director of the UBC First Nations House of Learning (FNHL) since 2001 and an associate professor in the School of Social Work and Family Studies since 1995.

### 1970s

After practising law in Belleville for 34 years, **Wolf Tausendfreund BA'67 LLB'70**, has been appointed to Ontario Superior Court of Justice sitting in London. Wolf is married to **Elaine Ruth Tausendfreund (Riley), BA'71**.

**Hugh Grant MacKenzie, BA'70**, has been appointed to the Board of Directors of the Ontario Teachers' Pension Plan. An economist educated at the University of Western Ontario and the University of Wisconsin, Hugh Mackenzie has been active in the field of public policy development for more than 30 years. He has been involved with all three levels of government as well as

the non-profit sector, including the position of Research Director for the United Steelworkers of America.

**Dr. Anne Toth, R.S.W. BA'77** UWO has been recognized for her research completed for the Canadian Association of the Deaf. In May 2006, Bridge of Signs was recognized as a finalist in the Education category of the international competition of the Stockholm Challenge. The DVD and manual have now been published in English/ASL and French/LSQ and are available for sale.

**Noreen Goffman, MA'75 (English), PhD'87 (English)**, the new President of the Canadian Federation for the Humanities and Social Sciences says she wants to help the research community focus on the impact of its work and on effectively disseminating the results of their findings. The Associate Dean of Graduate Studies and professor of English at Memorial University of Newfoundland, Goffman began her two year-term in November in Ottawa, during the organization's Annual General Meeting. The Federation represents the largest single segment of Canada's research and post-secondary education community.

**Blair Sheppard, BA'76, MA'77** (Psychology) was named Fuqua School of Business dean at Duke University in January, but the scholar and administrator's impact has already been felt at the prestigious business school. Sheppard, an expert on global and corporate education, joined Fuqua's faculty in 1981. Over the decades he has played a key role in a number of programs that have brightened Fuqua's brand, including the 1996 launch of Duke's Global Executive MBA program, an 18-month program that combines residential sessions in sites around the world with Internet-enabled distance learning. Since 2000, Sheppard has served as chief executive and president of Duke Corporate Education where he has overseen the growth of an executive education program from a \$15 million operation to a \$50 million business with 136 employees.

**Luis Augusto Acuna, PhD'79** (Physics) was appointed Minister of Higher Education for the Ministry of Education in Caracas, Venezuela on January 12.

### 1980s

**David Gerofsky, LLB'83** has been promoted to the position of President of First Gulf Corporation. Gerofsky has been with First Gulf since 2003, most recently as Chief Operating Officer. Prior to joining First Gulf, David was a Senior Vice-President with TD Investment Real Estate. First Gulf is a leading developer and design build contractor of prime retail shopping centres, mixed use real estate and office developments and prestige industrial parks. First Gulf is part of the Great Gulf Group - a fully integrated collection of companies that span the entire real estate spectrum across North America.

**Barbara Lee, BEd'86** graduated with an Honours BA from Laurier University in 1985 and from the University of Western Ontario in 1986 with a BEd. She is presently residing in Cambridge, Ontario where she is employed by SERCO DES in Kitchener. Lee has entered her second year of volunteering with the Federation of University Women. She was elected President of the Cambridge Club in June 2005, and was petitioned for a second year of service in June 2006. This club, for which she has worked tirelessly, is open to all women university graduates and encourages



continuing education, participation in public affairs, and the improvement for the status of women.

**Paul Rooney, BSc'86**, (Actuarial Science) was recently appointed Senior Executive Vice President and General Manager, Canada of Manulife. Paul will head up Manulife Financial's Canadian operations in Waterloo. Rooney, chief financial officer for Manulife's Canadian division since March 2006, has been named senior executive vice-president and general manager, Canada. Manulife employs 3,500 people at its Canadian division offices in Waterloo. Rooney has been with Manulife for about 20 years.

**David McGregor, MBA'86**, brings greetings from Houston, Texas where he has been appointed Consul and Trade Commissioner, and Head of Consulate, at the Canadian Consulate in Houston.

**Glen Wilson, BA'86** (Economics) was appointed as vice president of sales for Key Equipment Finance's Canadian operations in January. Key Equipment Finance is a leading bank-held global equipment finance company and an affiliate of KeyCorp (NYSE: KEY). The company, which operates in 26 countries and employs 1,100 people worldwide, has been in the equipment financing business for more than 30 years. Wilson is responsible for leading the national direct and indirect sales force in Canada. His office is located at the Canadian headquarters of Key Equipment Finance near Toronto.

**Nicholas Mumford, MBA'89** has been appointed Chief Executive Officer of Centerbrook Financial, LLC, New York. Mr. Mumford will be responsible for overseeing the day-to-day operations of Centerbrook and for pursuing new business opportunities. Prior to joining Centerbrook, Mr. Mumford was a Managing Director at IXIS Capital Markets, where he was responsible for managing the firm's credit business. Prior to working in the financial markets, he served as an officer in the Canadian Army.

**Denis Turcotte, MBA'89**, received the 2006 Medal of Merit in recognition of his contribution to the community as President and CEO of Algoma Steel Inc. As Sault Ste. Marie's largest employer, the success of Algoma Steel Inc. is interwoven with the quality of life for all citizens of Sault Ste. Marie. Turcotte is credited with the transformation of the company from

bankruptcy to its current status as one of the most efficient steel producers in North America. He was a winner of the "Top 40 Under 40 Award" in 1999, recognizing him as one of 40 people under 40 years of age from across Canada based on accomplishments demonstrating vision, leadership, innovation and achievement. He has also been named Canada's Top CEO 2006 by Canadian Business magazine.

#### 1990s

**Mary Dolores Batoff, LLB'91** has joined First Uranium as Vice President, Legal and Secretary and is responsible for the company's legal matters, regulatory filings and the running of the company's Toronto corporate office. Since November 2004, Mary has been Vice President, Legal and Secretary for a TSX listed producing mining company. Prior to that, she was legal counsel and secretary from 1996 to 2004 with various publicly traded companies in the mining and exploration sector in Toronto and from 1993 to 1996 she was a corporate trust officer for Montreal Trust (now Computershare) in Toronto.

**Terry Lyle Nikkel, MLS'92**, (BA in English from University of Saskatchewan plus MBA Dalhousie University in Halifax) has accepted the great honour of accepting position as Director Information Services and Systems with University of New Brunswick, Saint John campus. Recently in 2006 he received his MBA from Dalhousie University in Halifax where he not only taught but was Head Systems Librarian. He can be contacted by calling 506-648-5704 or e-mail him at [tnikkel@unbsj.ca](mailto:tnikkel@unbsj.ca)

**Paul A Aitken, BMus'93**, resides in Boise, Idaho where he is the Director of Music Ministry at the Cathedral of the Rockies. His quickly growing graded choir program involves nearly 20 ensembles involving persons aged three through adult. Paul was appointed in the spring of 2006 as the National Chair of the Music in Worship Committee for the American Choral Directors Association and he is the artistic director of the Les Bois Chamber Singers. Aitken continues to compose, is published in the Lawson-Gould catalogue (Alfred Publications) and is the choral editor and featured composer for [www.flanderspublications.com](http://www.flanderspublications.com)

**David Cheyne Heath, BA'93**, (Film) has been promoted to Vice President of Program Sales, Canada for Twentieth Century Fox/Incendo Television

Distribution Inc. Heath, formerly Executive Director of Program Sales, will remain based in the company's Toronto offices.

**Michael Bernard Churchill, MBA'93**, has been appointed to the position of Executive Vice President and a member of the board of directors at South American Gold and Copper Co Ltd. Mr. Churchill is a merchant banker with interests in hedge fund, industrial, retail, resource, and biotech companies. He is a director of various private and TSX listed companies. He is co-founder of Palisades Capital Ltd. a privately held merchant bank. Palisades also provides consulting services to Hedge funds wishing to trade in small market and mid market capitalization securities.

**Beverly J. Matthews, PhD'94**, recently co-authored a sociology textbook with Lori Beaman entitled, "Exploring Gender in Canada" published by Pearson Prentice Hall.

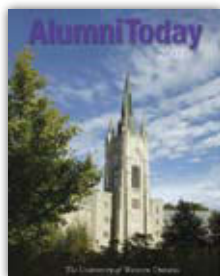
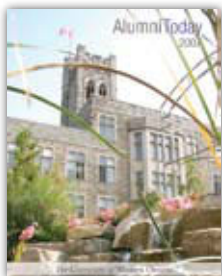
**Rod Lever, BA'97**, (History) has been appointed Chief Representative, Moscow for Export Development Canada (EDC). Rod Lever is Regional Manager for Russia and Central Asia in the International Markets Group. Mr. Lever joined EDC in 1999 and has served in a number of roles related to EDC's business in emerging markets. He is responsible for both market strategy and tactical coordination of business opportunities with Russian counterparties in support of Canadian exporters and investors.

**William Steven Vlaad, MBA'98**, joined Thorek/Scott and Partners as a Managing Director in its Financial Services practice. After earning his MBA from the Ivey School of Business, Bill spent eight years building a career in Corporate Finance with leading Canadian Investment Banks, Advisory Firms, and Corporate Development teams. Bill's in-depth knowledge and extensive experience in Capital Markets and Corporate Development further strengthens Thorek/Scott's core practice of Financial Services.

#### 2000s

**Manash Goswami MBA'05**, and Mallika Bhaduri were married on May 21, 2006 in Orangeville, Ontario. Manash and Mallika are currently living and working in Toronto.

## PARTNERING WITH HARRIS CONNECT ON A PRINT AND CD ROM ALUMNI DIRECTORY



To keep you connected we've partnered with Harris Connect, Inc. to produce a new and up to date alumni directory. We encourage you to be part of this initiative and hope that it will become an invaluable reference for you to:

- maintain and nourish your Western friendships
- reconnect with lost friends and perhaps make a few new acquaintances
- stay in touch with your alma mater

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 contact the Manager, Operations, Advancement Services,  
Phone (519) 661-4176 or 1-800-420-7519  
Fax (519) 661-4182  
Email: [advser@uwo.ca](mailto:advser@uwo.ca)

While we anticipate most Western alumni will wish to be included in this exciting project, there is no obligation either to submit personal information in response to mailed questionnaires, telephone calls or email inquiries from the publisher. The 2007 Western Alumni Directory will be called "Alumni Today", and it will include several voluntarily submitted photos of alumni, their families and their friends. The Western Alumni Today directory will be available in both hard copy and CD ROM formats.

# ALUMNI EVENTS

## CANADA

### Burlington, ON

California Dreaming Wine Tasting Event May 17, 2007  
Off To Western Event August 20, 2007

### Calgary, AB

Off To Western Event August 14, 2007  
Six Degrees Calgary August 15, 2007

### Charlottetown, PE

PEI Alumni Reception June 5, 2007

### Durham Region, ON

Rick McGhie Night, Whitby April 14, 2007

### Edmonton, AB

Wild Western Wine and Beer Tasting May 3, 2007

### Elgin County, ON

Elgin County Dinner Picnic June 2007

### Guelph, ON

Western Football Pre-Game Reception September 22, 2007

### Halifax, NS

Tall Ships Event onboard HMCS Sackville July 14, 2007

### London, ON

SilverStang Co-ed Hockey Tournament April 13 - April 15, 2007  
Purple, Pampered and Pilates May 12, 2007  
Art + Music + Friends + Cocktails  
Reception at RCR Museum June 1, 2007  
Stratford Festival Outing to "My One and Only" June 22, 2007

### Mississauga, ON

Off to Western Event August 21, 2007

### Ottawa, ON

Purple and Pampered Vintage Wings – May 16, 2007  
Aircraft Museum Tour June 6, 2007  
Off To Western Event August 14, 2007

### Sarnia, ON

Footsteps of the Impressionists, Dr. Paul Davenport April 12, 2007  
Off To Western Event August 23, 2007

### Toronto, ON

Queen's Park Reception April 30, 2007  
Alumni Western Golf Tournament at Lionhead June 9, 2007  
Rick McGhie Night May 11, 2007  
Beer Tasting Event at the Esplanade Bier Markt July 12, 2007  
Toronto Blue Jays vs. New York Yankees August 7, 2007  
Toronto Lecture Series Begins October 2007  
Dirty Dancing at The Royal Alexandra Theatre November 7, 2007

### Vancouver, BC

SOAR 10th Anniversary Alumni Gala Dinner June 23, 2007  
SOAR 10th Anniversary Beach Barbecue June 24, 2007  
Off To Western Event August 23, 2007

### Victoria, BC

Alumni Picnic July 14, 2007  
Golf and Dinner at Cordova Bay Golf Club August 24, 2007

### Waterloo Region, ON

Oktoberfest at the Concordia Club October 13, 2007  
Western Football Pre-Game Reception October 20, 2007

### Windsor, ON

Detroit Institute of Art May 11, 2007

Six Degrees Windsor May 29, 2007  
Detroit Tigers vs. New York Yankees August 24, 2007

### Winnipeg, MB

Winnipeg Wine & Food Pairing April 28, 2007

## INTERNATIONAL

### Bridgetown, Barbados

President's Reception November 7, 2007

### Detroit, MI

Detroit Institute of Art May 11, 2007  
Detroit Tigers vs. New York Yankees August 24, 2007

### Hong Kong, China

Sunday Golf Clinic April 22, 2007  
Off To Western Event August 4, 2007

### Paris, France

Loire Valley Bike Tour with Dr. Paul Davenport May 4-14, 2007

### London, England

President's Reception June 28, 2007

### Port of Spain, Trinidad

President's Reception November 9, 2007

### Washington, DC

All-Canada University Alumni Event April 21, 2007

## CHAPTERS

### Basketball Alumni

Golf Tournament July 20, 2007

### Dentistry

Alumni Reception at the ODA Spring Meeting April 27, 2007

# ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

## A New Strategic Vision for The Alumni Association

The Board of Directors of The Alumni Association invites you to attend its Annual General Meeting to discuss a new Strategic Plan.

### Cast Your Vote

All Western alumni are eligible to attend and vote. If you have questions about eligibility of voting by proxy, please call 1-800-258-6896 or 519-661-2111 (Ext. 85105) or write to Secretary, Alumni Association, Room 101, Alumni Hall, The University of Western Ontario, London, Ontario, N6A 5B9

### Looking for Leaders

The Board is looking for strategic thinkers who can contribute insight, skills and leadership.

To nominate a Director, send us a name and telephone number and a brief description about your nominee by April 17, 2007.

### Kick off Homecoming weekend

Thursday, September 27, 2007

7:00 pm-9:00 pm

Location will be posted in the Summer Western Alumni Gazette



### Please send nominations to:

Fax 519-661-3948  
Email jrose6@uwo.ca

Phone 1-800-258-6896  
519-661-2111 (Ext. 85105)

For more information please visit  
[www.alumni.uwo.ca](http://www.alumni.uwo.ca)

# IN MEMORIAM

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

## Engineering

Beer Tasting Event at the  
Esplanade Bier Markt August 9, 2007

## Football Alumni

Golf Tournament August 17, 2007

## Journalism

Dean's Alumni Reception  
at CAJ Conference May 25, 2007

## Hockey Alumni

Golf Tournament August 7, 2007

## Huron University College

Alumni Golf Tournament June 1, 2007

## King's University College

Alumni Golf Tournament September 18, 2007

## Law

Law Alumni Dinner in Toronto October 25, 2007

## Medicine

Waterloo Region Medical  
Alumni Reception April 11, 2007

## Nursing

Trip to Niagara-on-the-Lake  
Golf Clinic May 15 - 17, 2007  
May 31, 2007

## USC Chapter

USC Alumni Chapter Mini  
Golf Tournament August 9, 2007

## W-Club

Golf Tournament August 23, 2007

## Wrestling Alumni

Golf Tournament July 9, 2007

## HOMECOMING

September 28 - 30, 2007

For a complete list of events and detail, call us at  
1-800-258-6896 or 519-661-2199 or visit: [www.alumni.uwo.ca/upcoming](http://www.alumni.uwo.ca/upcoming)

## John Carlyle MacWilliam, MD'39

On December 9, 2006, in Chatham, ON

## Charles Harry Whicher, BA'41

On November 4, 2005, in Warton, ON

## Robert Greenway, MD'45, MSc'52

On November 17, 2006, in London, ON

## William E. Stockton, BA'49

On December 22, 2006, in Whitby, ON

## Gordon Cavell, MD'50

On February 5, 2007, in Clearwater, FLA

## Walter Harry Prince, BA'51, QC, LLD

On November 27, 2007, in Windsor, ON

## Jamie Kusyszyn (Jamieson), BScN'67

On December 19, 2006, in Richmond Hill, ON

## Maureen Linda Vertun, BA'70

On June 26, 2006 in Iroquois Falls, ON

## Patricia A. Leary (nee Steinman), BSc'74 (Nursing)

On March 18, 2006, in Kingston, ON

## Jill R. Anderson, BA'80

On November 7, 2006, in London, ON

## Keith Westwood, BESC'85

On January 22, 2007, in London, ON

## Heidi Hessel, BA'87

On July 30, 2006, in London, ON.

## Leslie Chui, BA'94

On September 30, 2006, in Hong Kong, China.

## Gabriel Rossy, BA'01

On August 1, 2006, in Mont-Royal, QC

Jail, Campbell Soup Company, and H.J. Heinz Company. He will be remembered with a smile for his sense of humour, his love of medicine, his great compassion for his patients, and his deep love for his family. He is survived by two daughters.

Joan Davidson, BA'50, died peacefully August 11, 2006, in Toronto, of pulmonary disease at the age of 77. Joan graduated from the University of Western Ontario in 1950 with an Honours BA in English where she was a member of the Pi Beta Phi sorority, the drama club, and year executive. She was born July 8, 1929 in Muirkirk. She will be remembered by her husband, three children, and three grandchildren as a loving mother and wife, a collector of cow paraphernalia, and a supporter of jazz. An ardent traditional jazz fan, Joan belonged to several jazz clubs and was among the co-founders of The Grand International Ragtime/Jasstime Foundation.

Leslie Bisbee, BSc'76, MCISc'87 (Physiotherapy), died at home in Aylmer on November 11, 2006 after battling breast cancer for more than three years. After graduating from the University of Western Ontario she worked at Victoria Hospital, St. Joseph's Hospital then finished her career teaching at Western's School of Physiotherapy. Ms. Bisbee enjoyed sports and was a loyal supporter of the Western Mustangs football team. She actively supported her daughters in horseback riding, hockey, track and field, rugby, swimming and triathlons across Ontario. She is survived by her husband and three daughters.

A celebration of the life of James Joseph (Jamie) Dillon, BA'79 (History), was held at the Granite Brewery in Toronto on December, 2006. A lover of music, life and people, Jamie passed away in September. A group of his Western friends gathered to tell stories and remember his life.

Kelly Silverstein, BA'86, passed away unexpectedly, on November 20, 2006 at Mt. Sinai Hospital, adored husband of Jill, and the most amazing father of Oliver and Jonah. Beloved son and son-in-law of Sonny and the late Marlene Silverstein and Alan and Sandra Banks. Loving brother and brother-in-law of Brian and Marla, Jeff and Arlene, Mark, Robin and the late Stephen Eisen, Bob and Nadine Charendoff, and Lisa Banks. Adored uncle to Erin and Daniel, Bronte and Robby, Melissa and Emily, Jacob and Jessica. Loved grandson of "Hum Hum" Bub Bert Davis. Kelly will be missed by scores of friends, colleagues, associates, and brothers. One of the most giving people anyone could know, Kelly was active as a sports coach and the driving force behind too many charitable causes to mention. He was instantly there for all who needed him, no matter what.

## OBITUARIES

John Carlyle MacWilliam, MD'39 passed away in London, Ontario on December 9, 2006 at the age of 92. After graduating from the University of Ontario School of Medicine in 1939, he completed his junior internship at St. Joseph's Hospital in London and his surgical residency at the Toronto General Hospital. Following his training, he went to Chatham where he had a practice for more than 45 years. During that time, he was the Medical Director of Thamesview Lodge Home for Seniors, Past President of Kent County Medical Society, District Medical Officer for Canadian National Railway (Chatham area), as well as the Medical Doctor for the Kent County

## WHAT'S NEW WITH YOU?

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

## USE THE FORM OR WRITE A LETTER TO:

Gazetteer-Tricia Thain  
Room 101, Alumni Hall,  
The University of Western Ontario,  
London, Ontario, N6A 5B9.

## IF YOU'D PREFER:

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

DEADLINE FOR INCLUSION IN THE  
SUMMER 2007 ISSUE IS MAY 15

Have you taken a new job, received a promotion, award, degree, retired or celebrated another special event in the last six months? If so, please supply details on separate paper.

Name: ..... Degrees: .....

Spouse: ..... Degrees: .....

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# Keeping Hollywood in tune



Elaine Overholt, left, gives Ellen Degeneres a singing lesson on her talk show.

## Elaine Overholt is coach to the stars

By Janis Wallace, BMus'75, BEd'76

When Elaine Overholt, BMus'75, performed in the Faculty of Music Singers, she had big dreams – dreams of singing and coaching others to sing well. She also wanted to straddle the opera and pop music worlds. “I dreamed of somehow marrying the two,” she said. Overholt not only realized those dreams, but she made them come true in technicolour, coaching some of the biggest names in Hollywood: Richard Gere, Renee Zellweger, Queen Latifah, Catherine Zeta-Jones, all for the movie *Chicago*, and John Travolta and the cast of *Hairspray*. She is known for coaxing magical performances from artists.

In her Toronto studio, Overholt trains all kinds of singers – pop, jazz, opera, musical theatre. Her own student experience at Western gave her a feeling for the demands of the different fields. “I was playing *Carmen* (in the student opera) and also playing the Elbow Room Saturday night. I had to be at rehearsal at 9 a.m. Sunday morning for *Carmen*. I felt I’d stretched myself too far – it was a disaster.”

She started as a piano performance major but one day decided she’d had enough and wanted to sing.

“You hear people say follow your passion. Well, you can’t always follow your passion because there is a reality involved too. I had a really good kick at a solo career in pop music. (She sang back up for Ray Charles, Tina Turner, Dionne Warwick, Anne Murray, Chubby Checker and others). I also did jingles galore. Then

the economy turned and free trade cut out commercial work by about 80 per cent. I had to reinvent myself.”

Overholt says young people now must be open to opportunities and look for them, not wait for them to happen. “It’s a little scary and there are so many decisions,” she said.

Her studies at Western formed the base from which she moves through her career. “Thank God for DJ (Professor Deral Johnson). He showed how energy is about movement, whatever you are singing, and the body supporting the voice. When you unlock the points of tension, the voice deepens and is richer. You unlock the power of that person.” Her interaction with big name actors has reinforced that her knowledge and truth is valid. “You say something to a star like Richard Gere and he says ‘really? I never thought about that’ or he tries something new and it’s like a light bulb goes on. The stars in *Chicago* were scared because they weren’t known as singers. My job was to help them deal with the fear, turn it around into something powerful.”

Gere had not sung in 30 years. He worked with Overholt on a couple of tunes for a few weeks. “He sang something one day and everything we had been doing came together in one crystalline moment. He jumped around in sheer joy.”

Travolta brings a resumé of dozens of films, including the hit musical *Grease*. “John Travolta is a man of experience, so you come with your arms wide open and you listen, but you also have to have the courage to say do this or that.”

Whether working with students or stars, the voice coach loves what she does. “Every day is different. Mostly I love helping someone dig a little deeper into their abilities, change their existing muscle memory and realize they have a voice that’s clear, passionate and powerful in its emotional communication.”

She recently finished coaching the leads for *Hairspray*: Queen Latifah, Michelle Pfeiffer, Christopher Walken, Zac Efron, Brittany Snow, Amanda Bynes, Allison Janney and Travolta. Overholt is also doing vocal assessments for the San Francisco Ballet to determine if enough in the corps de ballet can sing so the company can mount *West Side Story* with the Jerome Robbins Foundation.

Overholt also travels around the continent conducting workshops for corporations, schools and organizations. She did a segment on singing on the Ellen Degeneres show and worked on presentation skills with the hosts of CBC's *Fashion File*.

No wonder lack of sleep is her biggest challenge. Working for herself means she is her own boss, but also that there really isn't any time off.

Her advice for someone starting today? "It's a tough, tough grind – every day, but ultimately so incredibly rewarding. Keep your body in shape because you need to sustain the schedule. And just make sure you really know what your passion is – and then try to make a living at it. Be kind and generous. You don't want someone 10 or 15 years



Overholt shares a moment with actor John Travolta during one of their vocal sessions for the film *Hairspray* (Coming July 2007).

down the road remembering you as a real jerk."

Certainly that is not how Travolta will remember Elaine. At the end of the coaching sessions, she produced a CD of Travolta's favourite old jazz and pop tunes. One part featured Elaine singing them with a lush orchestra back-up, the other part was just the

accompaniment so Travolta can sing along himself.

"Every single person has a very unique gift or gifts and it is up to each of us individually to figure out what that gift is, develop it to its highest potential, and give it back, so that we can leave this world a little better place than when we came into it."

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# Big science breakthroughs on Canadian campuses

By Paul Wells, BA'89

The Juan de Fuca plate is the smallest of the tectonic plates that, floating (really slowly, thank goodness) on molten rock, form the earth's surface. But it's still pretty big: hundreds of thousands of square kilometers of geography at the bottom of the ocean off Vancouver Island and Washington State. If a big earthquake ever rocks our West Coast, it will be because one lip of the Juan de Fuca plate is slipping under the edge of a neighboring plate. If global warming changes ocean currents, the edges of the Juan de Fuca plate will be a good place to follow the action.

But don't take my word for it. I'd never even heard of the Juan de Fuca plate until I sat down in early February for a coffee with David Turpin, the president of the University of Victoria. Turpin takes a particular interest in plate tectonics, because the University of Victoria is the lead Canadian institution on Project Neptune, a massive Canada/US project to create the world's first long-term deep-water observatory.



Usually, oceanography is a problem in too many variables to do anybody any good: you go down to a certain depth, you collect a sample, and when you go back there a week or a month later, everything's changed: temperature, composition, everything. There's no way to trace what happened in the meantime. But Neptune is all about that meantime: with 3,200 km of cable connecting more than 30 unmanned observation stations across the plate's surface, it will be able to follow trends across time and space. Neptune is a platform for hundreds of research programs across dozens of scientific disciplines. It's going to help Canadian researchers understand the world a bit better.

Ottawa is a great place to be in February if you want to meet university presidents eager to brag about their pet projects. February is the home stretch of the federal budget-writing cycle, and administrators responsible for big research programs like to make sure they're not forgotten. But these days I'm tempted to look at some of the big science going on in Canada, not as budgetary politics, but as a demonstration of the scale of Canadian ambition and ingenuity. I'll be happy to argue another time about the economic benefits or the competitive edge we get from big science in a world where dozens of countries are constantly courting the brightest minds. For now, let's just consider how cool all these projects are.

Turpin and I shared our coffee with Peter MacKinnon, the president of the University of Saskatchewan. That's the home of the Canadian Light Source, a \$200-million "synchrotron" that produces extraordinarily bright light tuned to highly specific frequencies. Just as with Neptune, investigators from around the world — including Western — are lining up with research projects for the Light Source, across a formidable span of disciplines. MacKinnon mentioned the Light Source has important biomedical applications in a country chronically worried about the quality of its health-care system. I asked: what kind of applications? Imaging and diagnostics — next-generation super-X rays — or the sculpting of new molecules that

can become new medicines? I realized while I was asking the question that it was a dumb question. MacKinnon shrugged. "Both." Indeed: the Canadian Light Source is the mother of all sub-atomic Swiss Army knives.

There's a bit of a funhouse quality to Canada's university campuses since federal and provincial governments started taking research seriously again in the late 1990s after long doldrums. At the University of Waterloo, Research in Motion founder Mike Lazaridis has funded a few years' research into quantum computing, which offers the promise of computers hundreds of times smaller and faster than today's best. Now he's decided to mix quantum computing with nanotechnology in a new Quantum-Nano Centre, the country's — perhaps the world's? — headquarters of investigation into impossibly small and speedy machines. Over at McGill they've built a new music building whose central feature is a huge, eerily quiet performance studio floating on neoprene pads, the better to filter out unwanted noise and to study musical sounds — and the human brain's response to them — with the most sophisticated diagnostic instruments. As a kind of bonus, it's also a fantastic place to record movie soundtracks.

I could go on, but hopefully you're starting to glimpse the scale of what's going on in this country. Researchers, with plenty of help from taxpayers and philanthropists, are bringing the big investigative guns to bear on questions as fundamental as the shape of our oceans; the transformative power of a beam of light; the transformative potential of the incredibly small and quick; and the magic of a song. It is a tremendously exciting story, one Canadians never get enough chances to hear.

For more information on Research Western projects, visit:  
[www.uwo.ca/research](http://www.uwo.ca/research)

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Paul Wells is a columnist with *Maclean's* and hosts the popular web blog, *Inkless Wells* at: <http://weblogs.macleans.ca/paulwells/>



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