Leaving a legacy

1994-2009
The Davenport Years
Come home to Western - Explore the career advantages of a graduate degree

As a Western alumna, I can think of no better place to pursue a graduate education and advance my career.

Stacy Miller, Hons BHS ‘06, MSc ‘08
Health and Rehabilitation Sciences
Program Evaluator,
Middlesex-London Health Unit
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ONLINE ONLY FEATURE

Recession-proof yourself
Life-long learning through Continuing Studies at Western
The world is your classroom

Education isn’t confined to the classroom. The first time I crossed the street without looking both ways and was hit by a car, I learned almost instantly, at the age of four, that I shouldn’t ever do that again. And since then, (so far) I haven’t.

With researchers telling us the first five years of life are critical for cognitive development, you could easily argue that education or learning is a lifelong process that goes through more or less intensely structured periods from cradle to grave.

This issue looks at education in a few different ways. Alumna Pat McLaughlin looks at how we educate the educators in her interview with Education Dean Julia O’Sullivan. Things have extended far beyond Western being home to the “teachers’ college.” It’s evolved into a full-fledged professional Faculty of Education, whose research has far-reaching implications in the classrooms of Ontario and around the world. And it has spawned the careers of thousands of teachers, some of whom may have even taught you.

Alumna Nicole Laidler shares Dr. Fred Pattison’s interesting story in and out of the classroom over the decades. This former chemistry professor recently endowed a competition for Western students. But it has nothing to do with science. It’s a piano competition. Pattison had to choose as a youth which passion to follow: music or chemistry. He has managed through the years to make room for both in his life.

Alumna Jeannie MacFarlane brings us the story of three alumni making a difference in education in leadership roles at three Canadian universities: Prem Watsa takes up his new post as chancellor of the University of Waterloo this spring, Perrin Beatty is the new chancellor of the University of Ontario Institute of Technology, based in Oshawa, and Dr. Mark Evered has been named president of the new University of the Fraser Valley, located just east of Vancouver.

Western itself is facing the end of an education era in administration. President Paul Davenport is officially stepping down at the end of June, after an unprecedented three terms (15 years) at the helm. We offer a tribute to his years of service in both words and pictures starting on page 16. Taking a thought from Paul Wells’ Back Page column in this issue, President Davenport did the opposite of what Wells claims Canadians are accused of doing: not sticking to our original plans.

From Davenport’s arrival in 1994, he developed a strategic plan and vision for Western’s growth for the next 10 to 15 years. And he stuck to his plan. It paid off. Western is a better place because of it. And if you listen to his peers, like past University of Toronto president Robert Prichard, Paul Davenport has also made a difference to the quality of education in universities across Canada because of his efforts. We wish Dr. Davenport and his wife Josette all the best in their retirement in France.

Western recently announced its new president, Amit Chakma, who is currently Vice-President, Academic & Provost, and a professor in the Department of Chemical Engineering at the University of Waterloo. He officially begins his term on July 1, 2009. A story of his announcement can be found in Campus Journal on page 8. A more in-depth story of Dr. Chakma’s background will be featured in our summer issue.

As we look both ways, to the past and future, crossing the roads of Western, there is much to be thankful for - and a lot to look forward to.

Have a safe and happy spring.

David Scott
dscott24@uwo.ca
Plaque honours first of four generations of Kingsmills at Western
(Re: New plaque honours Western’s soldiers of Great War, Fall ’08)
The fall issue of the Gazette reported on the new plaque installed on campus honouring Western’s soldiers of the First World War. They include my grandfather, Captain Henry Ardagh Kingsmill, Canadian Army Medical Corp, who graduated in 1895.

He was the first of four generations to graduate from Western. My father, Ardagh Sidney Kingsmill, graduated in 1925. He was a member of the first class to graduate from the current site of the University, which was formerly ‘Belleview,’ the country residence of my great-grandfather. I graduated in 1950 as gold medalist in Honors Business Administration. My sister Sheila followed in her grandfather’s footsteps, graduating in medicine in 1955. My son Andrew graduated in 1982.

The University has obviously played a major role in our family. With that background, we especially appreciated the recognition given by Western to my grandfather who gave his life in service to Canada.

A.S. (Peter) Kingsmill, HBA’50

Another marker of First World War on campus
(Re: New plaque honours Western’s soldiers of Great War, Fall ’08)
I’ve been following with interest the reports on the addition of 19 names to the list of Western grads who died in the First World War. While none of these would be Western grads, their legacy is marked on campus.

Allen Pearson
Faculty of Education

Doctors should be mandated to practise in Canada
(Re: Cancer Survivor helps kids battle same disease, Fall ’08)
As a parent (U of T ’71) of a recent BMus’07 graduate, I read with interest, the article “Cancer Survivor helps kids battle same disease.” No doubt Dr. Taub is a compassionate, dedicated individual, a Western graduate and foremost oncologist doing great work at CHM in Detroit. In between the lines of this laudable article, one does not see Dr. Taub committing his time in a Canadian medical setting outside of his Western chemistry and medical education.

Although doctors have the choice of freedom of practice, it would behoove the medical fraternity to mandate graduating doctors to spend some reasonable time practicing in Canada. Remember, we are all taxpayers who subsidize those very expensive medical educations. I know, I have a brother who is a doctor.

Other impacts? I am encouraged by the University of Toronto, University of Guelph and the University of Western Ontario to support the various funding options at these institutions. I believe in “paying back” for the taxpayer subsidy of my family’s graduates to the best of my ability. This article makes me pause and wonder about the ethics of doctors not contributing enough to our social fabric for reasons already mentioned. I will weigh carefully my contributions from now on.

Marinus Abrahamse

Possibly five generations of Western grads in one family
My grandmother Jessie Gilmore (nee Murdoch) graduated from Western in 1900 after completing four years of study. She married George Gilmore, a Presbyterian minister and they raised four children who all attended the University of Western Ontario. My mother, Kathleen MacDonald (nee Gilmore) graduated from UWO in 1930 and became a school teacher in this area. In 1956 I graduated with a BA and entered the business world and eventually returned to London in 1963 to enter the construction business.
Our daughter Heather Radford (nee MacDonald) completed a BA in Phys Ed in 1980 and entered the business world upon graduation. Her daughter, and our granddaughter, Erin Radford is completing her last year of high school in Oakville, Ont. I am hoping she will follow her ancestors and enter Western in September ’09, as she is a young lady that holds great potential. Erin is an outstanding student and hopes to enter one of the business schools in Ontario.

Erin holds the potential of being a fifth generation graduate of Western. I do not know if there are any other families that might have as long a tie to UWO as ours. Her great-great-grandmother, I believe was one of the first women graduates of Western in 1900, and was honoured by Western in 1947 when she received a LLD.

John A. MacDonald, BA’56 (Arts)

**Article on El Salvador should show both sides**

I’m writing to express concern over a feature article published in your Fall 2008 publication entitled, “Giving back after graduation…” I would like to start off by commending Tova Flashkes for the work she is doing in El Salvador. Anyone that would commit their time, effort, talents, skills, and hard-earned education to help those in other countries deserves to be celebrated and honoured. However, I cannot begin to express how disappointed I was to see the manner in which the political history of El Salvador was depicted in the article you wrote.

After having lived through the civil war for several years, my family and I emigrated from El Salvador in 1984. While I respect everyone’s right to freedom of expression and opinion, I was shocked to see that what I conceived to be a neutral and objective publication would publish such a one-sided account of a war that divided its citizens for over a decade.

Your subject stands in front of a mural painted by the FMLN (Farabundo Martí National Liberation Front). For those who don’t know, the FMLN became a political party in 1992 after a peace accord was reached which forced the de-mobilization of guerrilla forces. It is considered to be an extremist, leftwing political party that is known to promote communist ideals.

Whether knowingly or not, you managed to publish an article that makes a very strong political statement by printing a picture of FMLN propaganda, and most shockingly, by providing a historical account of events leading up to the war that seem to be written by the FMLN themselves.

I write to express my disappointment that your publication will travel to alumni all over Canada and the world carrying with it biased inaccuracies that may taint opinions people have of my home country.

My parents have worked very hard to assimilate to life in a country that is not theirs due to the actions of the guerrillas you seem to glorify in your article.

**Andrea Hernandez, BA’05 (Psychology), MEd Candidate’09**

**Why is March 7 a special day for Western?**

March 7 is the anniversary of Western’s Founding. A small group of alumni volunteers are developing a grassroots strategy to ensure that every Western stakeholder knows and embraces this date through the launch of a Founder’s Day initiative. Our goal is to create an ongoing Founder’s Day tradition, which will be celebrated annually on and around March 7; the anniversary of the day royal assent was given to establish the university in 1878.

Many U.S. and U.K. universities use the Founders Day concept as a method to celebrate unique campus traditions and refresh the strong bonds of belonging. Our group sees Founder’s Day as an opportunity for Western alumni, students, staff and faculty to celebrate the university’s rich history and ongoing achievements. We encourage alumni to demonstrate their pride and passion for Western in their own way. In the years to come, that could mean anything from attending a special Founder’s Day lecture, to branch and chapter events or simply wearing purple to work on March 7.

You can learn more about Western’s history by visiting: http://communications.uwo.ca/about/waywewere.htm We invite you to share your thoughts and ideas about Founders Day by e-mailing our committee at: ndereverea@uwo.ca.

**Robert Collins, BA’77**

Director, Alumni Association Board and Chair of the Alumni Outreach Committee

**Music class of ’76 reunion in July**

The Faculty of Music Graduating Class of 1976 will be having a Reunion this summer. It will be held on Saturday, July 4 in Kitchener. We are inviting all graduates to contact either Nancy Kidd [Concessi] or Nan Bourgon [Hogg], at kidd5588@rogers.com; nanbourgon@hotmail.com.

It will be wonderful to re-connect after 33 years… to share about our families, careers, and adventures!!! We also look forward to reminiscing about our great years at Western!

**Nancy Kidd, BMus’76 & Nan Bourgon, BMus’76, BEd’77**

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**EDITORIAL POLICY**

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

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For more information, please go to the following website: www.advser.uwo.ca/PrivacyStatement.htm or contact Advancement Services Phone 519-661-4176 or 1-800-420-7519 (Canada & U.S.), Fax 519-661-4182 or email: advser@uwo.ca
What will YOUR legacy be?

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

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

Invest today for Western’s tomorrow.

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

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

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

Please make a difference. Contact Hallie McClelland at hmcclell@uwo.ca or call 519-661-2111 ext. 85585 for more information.
Western announces new President
The new President of The University of Western Ontario is a dynamic and gifted academic leader committed to taking Western to the next level in terms of internationally recognized excellence in research and education.

Amit Chakma will begin serving a five-year term as Western’s President on July 1, 2009, succeeding Paul Davenport who will complete 15 years of service on June 30, 2009. The announcement was made December 22 by Michele Noble, Chair of Western’s Board of Governors and Chair of the Presidential Selection Committee following approval by the Board.

Chakma is currently Vice-President, Academic & Provost, and a professor in the Department of Chemical Engineering at the University of Waterloo.

“Our Board believes that Dr. Chakma’s experience, passion and vision make him the perfect choice to lead Western at this time in our history,” said Noble. “He has a clear understanding of the contribution Western makes to post secondary education and Western’s impact locally as well as nationally and internationally.”

The selection committee comprised of representatives from faculty, students and the community. The international search for a new president began in January 2008.

Chakma, who is 49 years old, began working at the University of Waterloo in 2001. Prior to that, he served as Dean of Engineering and then Vice-President (Research) at the University of Regina. Before Regina he was a professor of chemical and petroleum engineering at the University of Calgary.

In his role at Waterloo, Chakma acted as chief operating officer, responsible for developing the annual budget of the university, skills that will be valuable as he leads Western through the months and years ahead that will present economic challenges for all universities.

“I am grateful for the opportunity to build on what is clearly a strong foundation at Western,” said Chakma. “This is an opportune time for Western, and I am truly looking forward to meeting with members of the Western community, the London community and beyond to create even more success.”

Amit Chakma is a graduate of the Algerian Petroleum Institute (Dip. Ing., 1982) and the University of British Columbia (Master of Applied Science, 1984 and PhD, chemical engineering, 1987). His research focus is on natural gas engineering and petroleum waste management and he is widely known for his work on gas treating solvents and membrane separation. He also has an interest in atmospheric pollution with a special focus on finding short-term solutions to CO2 induced global warming.

In 1998 Chakma was recognized with Canada’s Top 40 Under 40 Award. Currently he chairs the board of Health Force Ontario Marketing and Recruitment Agency and also serves on the Board of Directors of Canada’s Technology Triangle, St. Mary’s Hospital and Waterloo North Hydro.

“Amrit Chakma is both a distinguished chemical engineer and a strong university leader known for his vision, energy, and collegial style,” said Western President Paul Davenport. “I congratulate the Presidential Search Committee on a brilliant choice which will strengthen Western’s national and international reputation. I join all our faculty and staff in welcoming Amit into the Western family.”

New chair announces donation
Geoff Beattie, LLB’84, president and CEO of Woodbridge Company Limited, will serve as campaign chair for the University of Western Ontario’s $500-million fundraising campaign.

The campaign, which runs from 2007 to 2014, will be officially launched in 2010, once the volunteer campaign cabinet has been fully recruited.

Beattie was born in London and attended Oakridge Secondary School before attending Western. Today, he is an internationally recognized business leader who also serves as deputy chair of Thomson-Reuters, chair of CTVglobemedia and a director of Royal Bank Financial Group.

In his first duty as campaign chair, Beattie announced a $4-million donation from the Rotman family in support of the Department of Philosophy in the Faculty of Arts and Humanities. The gift will establish the Joseph L. Rotman Institute of Science and Values, envisioned to become a global centre of excellence for the examination of significant issues in contemporary society.

Rotman is a 1957 liberal arts graduate with a major in philosophy from Western. He is also chair of the Roy-L Capital Corporation, a private
family-owned investment company in Toronto. A renowned business leader who was recently nominated for induction into the Canadian Business Hall of Fame, Rotman is also chair of the Canada Council for the Arts, continuing a long and distinguished record of public service in Canada.

Breaking United Way records for seven straight years
For the seventh straight year, The University of Western Ontario has increased its United Way of London & Middlesex donation – this year bringing in a record-breaking $534,008.

With some razzle-dazzle help January 26 from members of the Yates Cup champion Western Mustangs, the university unveiled its support for the community charity. President Paul Davenport acted as ‘quarterback’, tossing a football featuring the dollars raised.

“We are in a time when the economy is so uncertain, yet our community has stepped up and said that the needs of London are important to us,” says Davenport. “This is the largest amount ever raised by Western, a stunning total for a difficult year.”

Davenport thanked three Western leaders who led the campaign – retiree chair Peter Castle, faculty co-chair Julie McMullin and staff co-chair Malcolm Ruddock.

“The work done by the chairs is so vitally important and is at the heart of our success,” he says. “These are folks that are respected not only by their co-workers here at Western, but the community as a whole.”

New student rec centre opens
The University of Western Ontario’s brand new Western Student Recreation Centre officially opened February 27 with a celebration and the unveiling of a commemorative tribute to the students who made the centre possible.

The $35.7 million facility opened its doors in January, but some work remained, including putting the finishing touches on the pool. Today, the facility is fully functional and fabulous, says Stephen Lecce, University Students’ Council President.

“This is a proud day for Western students,” says Lecce. “Students made a conscious decision and commitment to support the building of the Western Student Recreation Centre, and today, it is easy to see it was the right decision.

Lecce was joined by former USC President Ryan Dunn (2005/2006), who talked about the initial vision for the recreation centre.

Western originally committed $10 million to the project, and in 2006 students held a referendum to approve funding for the rest of the cost. An annual fee of $60 per year will be contributed by students and will increase by three per cent each year.

Student support for this project and for undergraduate and graduate bursaries total more than $100 million over the next 30 years. This record-breaking donation, the largest of any student body to a Canadian university, was announced in January 2008.

Four new Canada Research Chairs
Four researchers from Western were announced recently as the university’s newest Canada Research Chairs.

“We at Western are proud that this beautiful, highly functional facility was made possible by a very generous gift from our students,” says Western President Paul Davenport. “It stands as a monument to the commitment our students have to Western and to those who will follow them in coming years.”

Four new Canada Research Chairs

Paul Davenport and USC President Stephen Lecce have some fun around the pool during the official opening of the Western Student Recreation Centre.

• Norman Hüner - Tier 1 Canada Research Chair in Environmental Stress Biology (Renewal - $1.4M) - In his extensive work on the structure and function of the photosynthetic apparatus of microbes and plants, Hüner has identified a general molecular sensing mechanism by which these organisms detect and respond to environmental change.

Hüner led the establishment of the Biotron Centre for Climate Change Research, a unique, international research facility focused on the discovery of the ways by which organisms respond to climate change to maintain biodiversity and ecosystem health under extreme, sub-optimal climate conditions.

• Lars Konermann - Tier 2 Canada Research Chair in Biophysical Protein Mass Spectrometry (Renewal - $500,000) - In his work, Konermann explores the mechanisms by which protein chains fold and assemble into their biologically active structures.

“Almost every protein in the human body has to undergo this process before it can perform a specific function,” says Konermann. “Unfortunately, proteins do not always fold correctly. ‘Molecular mishaps’ of this type can lead to disorders such as Alzheimer’s disease.”

• Amanda Moehring – Tier 2 Canada Research Chair in Functional Genomics (New - $500,000) - One of the great unanswered questions in biology is how such a wide variety of creatures came to be living on our planet – that is, the genetic changes that cause one population to diverge into two distinct species and prevents them from merging back together.

The work of Moehring focuses on the genetic changes that cause new species to form and be maintained. Her work examines both the genetics of behavioural isolation (why species are not attracted to other species) as well as hybrid sterility, which occurs from interspecies matings.

Moehring also received $163,330 in infrastructure funding from the Canada Foundation for Innovation for a Molecular and Behavioural Genetics Laboratory.
Basia Bulat loves vinyl.

“I’m pretty old-fashioned that way,” says Bulat, BA’06, who has currently put her Master’s degree in English Literature on hold to pursue a career in music.

As an undergraduate, in between reading classic literature, Bulat found time to write songs with her college chums. The result is the critically-acclaimed Oh, My Darling, released on Rough Trade in the U.K. in March 2007 and followed a few months later on Canadian indie label Hardwood Records. She describes the disc as a “pet project.”

“It’s very naïve,” Bulat says. “I was writing these songs and my friends and I would play them at a pub down the street from where my apartment was. I loved what we were doing and I wanted to have a memory of that. Then, it just took off on its own and flew away from me, so I had to follow it.”

Raised by a music-teacher mom, the songwriter was reared on oldies radio, the likes of Motown, Stax, The Beatles,
The Beach Boys and Sam Cooke. Later, she discovered rock ’n’ roll, indie music, and old folk field recordings such as the Harry Smith Anthology.

Bulat admits to having a “modest” record collection. While touring, she loves to discover rural record stores and find new vinyl treasures like one of the favourites in her current collection: Nina Simone’s *It is Finished*.

“I like the experience of putting on a record,” she says.

While at Western, Bulat volunteered for CHRW, which boasts roomfuls of vintage vinyl. This stint as an early morning DJ was part of her further musical education.

“The best thing about going to school at Western was I got to volunteer at the radio station and have my own show,” she says. “That opened up worlds to me like jazz, experimental instrumental music and reggae. I got to play and hear everything.”

Bulat co-hosted a show from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. on Tuesday mornings, called Happy Tuesdays, which won the Outstanding Open Format Show award in 2003-04.

“We always started the show with the song, *Poodle Rockin’* by the band Gorky’s Zygotic Mynci, an interesting band from Wales,” says Bulat. “It was great times.”

Though it ultimately didn’t win, *Oh, My Darling* made the Polaris Music Prize short list in 2008. The Polaris, similar to Britain’s Mercury Prize, is decided on the night of the gala by a jury of 11 music critics, producers and performers and awarded to the best album of the year, regardless of record sales and profile.

This daring debut is a throwback to the day when albums mattered. It’s a disc full of songs of innocence and songs of experience to steal a phrase from Blake. Like the heyday of vinyl, this record isn’t about the single. It isn’t about downloading the flavour-of-the-week for 99 cents. It’s about the experience. The experience of buying the record — the shop, how it was found, and also the listening experience where you would listen from the first song to the last, then take the time to flip the record over and listen to side two.

From the charming opener “Before I Knew” to the lulling closer: “A Secret,” there are so many textures and sonic layers that more of its subtleties are revealed with each successive spin. The love-child of Nina Simone and Joni Mitchell marks this voice, which is as raw as a mid-winter morn and filled with tenderness and vulnerability.

“The record is the sound of me growing up,” Bulat says.

Bulat is currently in the studio again with Bilerman at the new Hotel 2 Tango in Montreal. She promised herself she wouldn’t divulge much about the sessions to anybody, not even friends, until it’s complete — taking some sage advice from one of her literary heroes: Ernest Hemingway.

“I was recently reading this book of interviews compiled by the Paris Review,” she explains. “There is one with Hemingway and he was saying how he doesn’t believe in talking about the [artistic] process too much and it really resonated with me. “It tends to write itself. And, if you don’t let it write itself, and you start speaking before it’s time, it will get back at you. I’m a little superstitious I guess.”

Photo courtesy Universal Music Canada
By Jeannie MacFarlane, BA’82

Three Canadian universities -- each very different from the other -- are welcoming Western alumni into leadership roles.

Prem Watsa, MBA’74, chairman and CEO of Fairfax Financial Holdings, takes up his new post as chancellor of the University of Waterloo this spring. Former federal cabinet minister Perrin Beatty, BA’71 -- now president and CEO of the Canadian Chamber of Commerce -- is the new chancellor of the University of Ontario Institute of Technology, based in Oshawa. Dr. Mark Evered, PhD’75, has been named president of the new University of the Fraser Valley, located just east of Vancouver.

In challenging times, Watsa said, a good university education is “more important than ever.” He was named 2008’s CEO of the Year by the Globe and Mail, which lauded his company’s success in the face of economic downturn. Watsa founded Fairfax -- which posted over $1-billion in profits for 2007 -- in 1985 after starting out at Confederation Life, where he rose to the post of vice-president. Business experience has taught him a lesson he will use in his new role as chancellor: “Stay positive and look at adversity as opportunity.”

Watsa grew up in Hyderabad, India, and after earning a chemical engineering degree he came to Canada to study at Western, where he worked nights in order to support himself, “met great friends … and got a wonderful education.” Now he looks forward to serving the community while representing UW, and to fostering a new generation of entrepreneurs. Integrity, a solid work ethic and the right attitude are essential tools for tomorrow’s business leaders, he added.

Beatty brings long and varied experience to his new commitment as chancellor at UOIT. Originally from Fergus, Ont., he was elected to the House of Commons just a year after graduating from Western, and became the youngest federal cabinet minister up to that time. He held several portfolios including Health and Welfare, National Defence and External Affairs. After his political career, Beatty returned to Western from 1994-95 as an honorary visiting professor in Political Science, then served as president and CEO of the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation until 1999, and took leadership roles in manufacturing, exporting, labour and business associations. He joined the Chamber of Commerce two years ago.
UOIT, which began accepting students in 2003, emphasizes science and technology while focusing on research and careers. Having had the chance to “witness the dramatic changes taking place around the world,” Beatty said he believes that “now more than ever, Canada needs to be engaged with the global community in a wide variety of ways. To be successful ... we need to have the best-educated population on the globe” and to develop and produce “the most advanced technologies.”

Beatty recalled his years at Western as eclectic, formative -- and fun. They taught him to value “a lifelong love of learning, whether inside the classroom or outside of it.” A university must “light a spark in students,” he added.

For Evered, it is “the rare opportunity to guide the development of a brand new university” that is the most appealing aspect of taking the reins at UFV. The school is the former University College of Fraser Valley, which changed status in April 2008. He admires the institution’s educational approach -- it offers a mix of vocational, academic to professional programs -- and worked with a similar model in his prior posting as provost and vice-president academic at Thompson Rivers University in Kamloops, B.C. In this “uniquely comprehensive” setting, he said, students can benefit from links between educational styles and disciplines, tailoring their education to suit their requirements and those of “our communities and today's economic realities.”

A native of Hamilton, Ont., Evered was an assistant professor in physiology at Western’s Faculty of Medicine from 1977-84. His research focused on body fluid regulation. Moving on to the University of Saskatchewan, he was head of the department of physiology, then associate vice-president academic and vice provost. He took up his post at TRU in 2004.

“I remember fondly my time at Western, both as a graduate student and as a young faculty member” working with “excellent role models,” he recalled. As president he values the new and innovative -- and some of the fundamentals of a strong university experience that he learned early on. At Western, he added, “I developed a strong commitment to quality teaching and student engagement that has served me (and, I hope, my students) ever since.”

A new generation of students will now benefit at three different universities from the leadership of these alumni, who bring with them lessons learned at Western.
The chemistry of music
Fred Pattison’s journey through science and song

By Nicole Laidler, BA’03, MA’04

Dr. Fred Pattison, MD’69, has some words of wisdom for University of Western Ontario students and alumni. “Take risks. Opportunity doesn’t usually knock twice,” the 85-year-old professor emeritus says. “That’s the single most important piece of advice I would give any young person. Don’t risk losing an opportunity.”

It’s a philosophy that has served Dr. Pattison well. By his own admission, he has lived “the most fascinating life,” following his heart and embracing any adventure that came his way.

Growing up in Scotland, Dr. Pattison had two passions – chemistry and music. And while chemistry won out on the professional front, the piano remained a constant in his life.

He has paid tribute to both, endowing the chemistry department’s Fred Pattison Senior Lectureship – now in its 17th year – and the brand new Fred Pattison Piano Competition at the Don Wright Faculty of Music.

“When I was a teenager, it was a question of trying to decide between music and chemistry,” he recalls. “It was a difficult decision, but the general feeling was that chemistry is great for making one’s livelihood and that music is great for a hobby. So that was the decision I made.”

Dr. Pattison graduated from the University of Cambridge with a PhD in organic chemistry in 1947. He then set out for Canada, spending a year as a lecturer at Dalhousie University. The highlight of his time in Halifax? Performing live piano recitals for CBC Radio.

“There was no pre-recording in those days,” Dr. Pattison remembers. “You sat in the studio, the red light went on, and you knew that you were live right across the country with an audience of half-a-million.”

Another CBC program about Canadian cities inspired Dr. Pattison to send a letter of introduction to the University of Western Ontario’s fledgling chemistry department. When he joined the faculty as an assistant professor in 1948, Western was a teaching school with around 2,000 students. “I was single at the time, so I ate along with the students and pretty much
knew the whole student body,” he says. Dr. Pattison established the department’s PhD program, became professor and department head in 1959 and was awarded an ScD by the University of Cambridge.

But instead of settling in to professorial life, Dr. Pattison decided to change careers. “I thoroughly enjoyed chemistry and going to conferences around the world, but the urge to study medicine was becoming stronger and stronger. I felt that I had to put up or shut up.”

So, at the age of 42 he said goodbye to faculty lounge lunches and became a first year medical student. “It was an interesting exchange,” he admits. “I brown bagged it with my fellow students, went to all the parties, and enjoyed it very much.”

After graduation, Dr. Pattison accepted a two-year posting with the International Grenfell Association, providing solo medical care for around 6,000 people scattered along 120 miles of Newfoundland’s North Atlantic coast. His wife Anne and a brand new piano made the long trip to the village of Roddickton. “Eaton’s (department store) said they delivered anywhere in Canada. They didn’t know what they were letting themselves in for,” he chuckles.

“I love the rugged life,” explains Dr. Pattison, who often traveled by snowmobile, helicopter or boat to reach his patients. “And after the appropriate time, we had a lot of friends. They don’t make friends easily in Newfoundland, but once you’re in, you’re in for life.”

The family returned to London in 1973. Dr. Pattison joined Western’s student health services, holding the position of director at his retirement in 1988. During the same period, he was also director of the Middlesex-London Sexually Transmitted Disease Clinic.

And although he had not had any formal connection to the chemistry department since his resignation in 1965, Dr. Pattison decided to honour his former faculty. The annual Fred Pattison Senior Lectureship series began in 1992 and continues to attract preeminent scholars from around the world.

“This lectureship is not just for the faculty, it’s also for the students,” says Chemistry Chair, Dr. Kim Baines. “That is very important to Fred, and it’s very important to us.” Speakers spend three days at Western, talking organic chemistry with everyone from first-year students to full professors, she says.

Dr. Pattison also wanted to thank Western for all the wonderful concerts he enjoyed on campus over the years. “Yehudi Menuhin, Jacqueline Du Pré, Daniel Barenboim, Joan Sutherland - they were all at Western. What a privilege to have seen them,” he says.

Endowing an annual piano competition was the perfect way to encourage budding young musicians to “reach for the top,” he says. The inaugural event was won by 21 year-old Neal Cabigon this January.

Cabigon took home a $4,500 prize and will perform a solo recital during orientation week this coming September. And at the end of next year, he will face the same dilemma that challenged Dr. Pattison so many years ago.

“After I finish my music degree I’m going to see if I can get back into medicine,” says Cabigon, who completed his med school pre-requisites at the University of Regina before transferring to Western for music. “It’s an internal struggle I have. But piano is a rather ambitious career goal. As long as I don’t lose my love for music, I think I’ll be happy.”

After all, Dr. Pattison’s scientific career may be behind him, but he still plays chamber music with friends.
Western President Paul Davenport with students at Robarts Research Institute, from left: Erin Mulvihill, Arash Kia, Sonali De Chickera and Andrew Curtis. (Photo by Shawn Simpson)
“We’ve lost more trees here this winter than in any five winters before this,” Paul Davenport said a little mournfully, picking his way gingerly down a snow-covered path and over the shattered remains of a dark and leafless tree.

The mischief wreaked by a winter that’s featured a few quick dumps of heavy, wet snow was everywhere apparent in the woods behind Gibbons Lodge, the President’s residence at the University of Western Ontario, where Paul Davenport has lived since 1994. Broken branches and sometimes entire trees lay scattered at odd angles on the snow. The trails Davenport cut by hand with a chainsaw when he moved to London were obscured, in spots, by the fallen brush.

A little weather damage doesn’t really blur the beauty of this retreat behind a gorgeous old house, home to generations of Forest City swells before it became the abode of Western presidents. The woods will grow back quickly. They always do. Soon a few employees from Western’s Physical Plant division will be pressed back into service to clear the trails Davenport cut during the first few summers after he moved from the University of Alberta 15 years ago. Western biology students will be back out here on field
trips cataloguing the wood’s assorted trees. American beech, hop hornbeam, sugar maple, Scotch pine, some native to Southwestern Ontario, others introduced over the years as generations of newcomers moved here.

All that will be missing after the thaw and another summer of brush clearing will be Paul Davenport. After a decade and a half that saw him lead Western through some of the most sweeping changes in the university’s history, Davenport is retiring with his wife Josette to her native France.

It was Davenport’s idea to take me out to the woods behind Gibbons Lodge, to see trails he cut where none had been before, to walk through this quiet little world so close to Western’s lecture halls and labs but so different in mood. His obvious affection for what previous tenants had treated as so many acres of boggy bracken betrays a nature-loving side few might suspect in an economist (Stanford ’69, magna cum laude; MA and PhD, University of Toronto) with more than three decades’ experience as a university administrator.

But then the lesson of Davenport’s life is that a person’s life is more than his studies. Davenport has always found time for romance and beauty amid his steelier academic and administrative chores. He has tried to bring the same balance to Western, to transform the university academically without losing sight of its social mission. Faculty and students alike have been reminded again and again that there is no point making a living if you never live.

“Our mission is the best student experience in a research-intensive university,” he told me in his comfortable, tidy office in the Stevenson-Lawson Building. He developed that mission, with the university’s Board of Governors,
soon after he arrived here in 1994 after five years at the University of Alberta. In fulfilling the mission, Davenport has applied a broad but ambitious definition of “student experience” that encompasses both social interaction and academic excellence. The results speak for themselves. Western has rated first for student satisfaction in all seven years of the Globe and Mail universities survey.

When Davenport arrived, the woods behind Gibbons Lodge weren’t the only thing about Western that needed tending and pruning. In this as in much else, Davenport was guided by empirical data. “Paul’s an economist,” one faculty member told me during my visit. “He believes in indicators.” The most disquieting indicator was entry grades, which had begun to decline. Entry grades are a pure indicator of competitive pressure: if students are scrambling to get in, entry grades inch upward as only the finest kids get in. And if not, not.

“Western was becoming known as the place you went if you couldn’t get into your first choice,” Davenport said. “Nobody wants to be there. And that went hand in hand with Western’s reputation as a party school.”

Everyone wants to have a good time, but by the late ’80s and early ’90s too many at Western were letting a simplistic definition of a good time get in the way of more exalted objectives. Early on, Davenport sat down with the members of the Philosophy department around a big table. He waved a copy of that year’s Maclean’s university issue, featuring an Animal House-style account of floor-party shenanigans. Davenport’s tone was, just look at this nonsense we have to put up with. One of the philosophy profs stuck a hand up. “Dr Davenport, a lot of that article is true.”

“That was a big wakeup call for me,” Davenport said.

So as gently as he could, he cracked down on Frosh Week binges and weekend party-bus charters. Some students and alumni worried that the new guy was chasing Western’s spirit away. “You’re not going to turn Western into a bunch of nerds, are you?” one donor asked Davenport. No, actually. But today Frosh Week events are dry; students have more energy left...
Davenport takes three-month study leave to conduct research in Paris, France on the role of universities in the knowledge-based economy. Provision for the study leave from May 1 to July 31 was included in the reappointment contract.

Next fundraising campaign planned that will culminate in 2003, Western’s 125th anniversary.


Tuition for most undergrad programs rises 10 per cent in 1998 and nine per cent in 1999. Davenport and Faculty Association President Professor Aniko Varpalotai, debate the pros and cons of deregulation of tuition fees by the provincial government in Alumni Gazette article. (Fees at Western range from $3,860 in Engineering to $14,000 in first-year dentistry).

1999 | Davenport takes three-month study leave to conduct research in Paris, France on the role of universities in the knowledge-based economy. Provision for the study leave from May 1 to July 31 was included in the reappointment contract. Next fundraising campaign planned that will culminate in 2003, Western’s 125th anniversary.
Putting a stronger emphasis on academics was always going to be a challenge. Doing it in the mid-1990s was harder. Canada was pulling out of a protracted recession. Federal and provincial governments were coming to terms, belatedly, with massive budget deficits. Bob Rae’s New Democratic Party lost the 1995 election to the Mike Harris Conservatives who had a strong mandate to balance the provincial books.

**2000** | Davenport accepts honorary degree at University of Toronto on June 19. He is awarded a Doctor of Laws, honoris causa, from the country’s largest university for outstanding contributions to higher education over his 30-year career as a university scholar and leader, and as a champion of liberal arts education. Undergraduate full-time enrollment is 16,602. Bachelor’s degrees granted: 4,916.

**2001** | Undergraduate full-time enrollment for 2000-01 is 17,160. Bachelor’s degrees granted: 5,183. Canada Summer Games hit London with the new TD Waterhouse Stadium at Western providing the setting for opening and closing ceremonies. Western’s sports facilities were used for a number of events. Davenport named a Knight of the Legion of Honor by the Government of France. On September 28, just one year after the Campaign Western public launch, the campaign is at the $205-million mark, 76 per cent of its goal of $270-million.
divide, in this era of growing research funding, of large collaborative grants, of increasing emphasis on accountability for the quality of education. There’ll be those universities that are seen as top tier, and there’ll be everybody else.’ And in those early years I thought we were at risk of falling into the latter category.”

The early years didn’t last forever, though it sometimes felt that way at the time. Immediately after they balanced the federal budget in 1997, Jean Chrétien and Paul Martin started to put surplus dollars into a few of their own priority areas. University research turned out to be one of them. The Harris government followed suit soon after.

Now, a president seeking to burnish his school’s reputation for research will never sneeze at dozens of millions of dollars in money for research infrastructure, top-tier investigators, graduate scholarships and grants. But every silver lining needs a little cloud to keep it company. Operating grants for post-secondary education didn’t keep pace with the research windfall. Neither, for the longest time, did tuition fees. Something had to give, and student-teacher ratios ballooned. Here again, Western’s administration tried to hang onto a few priorities. The best teachers were parachuted with headset microphones into Alumni Hall, where their charisma and expertise still had a chance of breaking through to teeming crowds of undergrads. This enabled seminars to stay cozy, so students could work on the social interaction, leadership skill-building and other elements of the rich student experience Davenport was aiming for.

While he was tending to all this business at home, Davenport drew a conclusion that came naturally after so many years of being buffeted by political decisions: he decided to push back, gently and with his trademark good humour.

“Some university presidents focus on their home campus alone, leaving to others the responsibility to shape the public policy environment,” said Robert Prichard, who was president of the University of Toronto for much of this time. “Paul didn’t. He has been an articulate, principled and persuasive leader of the cause of higher education, both provincially and nationally, leading both the Council of Ontario Universities and the Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada.” Prichard credits 2002 | For third consecutive year, number of students applying to Western is second only to U of T. Construction boom planned on campus from 2002 to 2005, including Western's ninth new student residence, Perth Hall, slated to open in front of Althouse College in 2003 and a seven-floor expansion at Robarts that will nearly double the floor space.

2003 | Western celebrates 125th anniversary. Board of Governors reappoints Davenport for third term as President until June 30, 2009. He is only the third president to serve longer than 10 years. Davenport receives Order of Canada May 9 at Rideau Hall from Governor General Adrienne Clarkson. He was cited as devoting his career to “developing educational opportunities for young people to acquire the tools needed to succeed.”
Davenport with making “a significant difference both on his own campus but also on campuses from coast to coast” by cajoling governments into supporting research, lifting tuition caps and improving graduate studies.

Through it all, Davenport never forgot that leading by example meant leading the kind of rich and rewarding life he wanted a generation of students to lead. He pursued two of his great loves: jazz music and the art and culture of France.

He grew up in Summit, New Jersey, a short train ride from Grand Central Station in New York City. “Every so often we’d go into the city with my dad, either to go to a Brooklyn Dodgers baseball game – we were rabid Dodgers fans; my father and his father were both born in Brooklyn – or we would go to a jazz club. I played piano; my best friend, Mike Bloomstein, played saxophone.” The legendary clubs, the Five Spot and the original Birdland and the Village Gate, were thriving. “We heard some of the great musicians of the day, Thelonious Monk, John Coltrane.”

Davenport’s love of jazz was most apparent at Western from 1997 to 2004, when every month or so he would appear on Barney Booth’s jazz show on CHRW. They’d spin some of the old favourites, run phone-in contests. That lasted until Barney, a retiree, passed away.

The love of France bloomed in 1967, when Davenport spent six months at Stanford University’s undergrad campus in Tours, in the Loire Valley. Weekends were for trips into Paris. “I remember the first time I walked into the Jeu de Paume,” the museum at the north end of Luxembourg Garden that in those days held the best collection of Impressionist art. “My eyes were just popping out. And I’ve kept up with the impressionists ever since.”

His wife Josette has helped him in that endeavour as in every other. In recent years Davenport has made France the focus of his part-time teaching. He developed a continuing-education course, The Paris of the Impressionists, and leads a summer bike trip through the Loire valley.

I pointed to a brightly-coloured painting of dancers on his office wall.

“Western was becoming known as the place you went if you couldn’t get into your first choice,” Davenport said. “Nobody wants to be there. And that went hand in hand with Western’s reputation as a party school.”
As part of “Engaging the Future,” the new strategic plan for Western, $230,000,000 is planned for campus renovation and new construction until 2013 - the largest building spree in the university’s history. The plan includes 14 proposed new buildings or major renovations. Davenport says that the most challenging issue to deal with in his terms as president is “the gap between our resources and the outstanding potential of our faculty, staff and students.”

On the heels of its 100th anniversary of publishing a student newspaper, the Gazette finds itself embroiled in controversy as a result of its April Fool’s edition that offended many. Davenport and the Board of Governors took action as a result that promised to focus on diversity and equity going forward. President Davenport leads a group of students on his first of three bicycling tours through Touraine, in Loire Valley southwest of Tours, France. Each student is required to develop a presentation on a particular aspect of Touraine history and culture. Western reaches number one again in the Globe and Mail University Report Card survey.
Paul has been an articulate, principled and persuasive leader of the cause of higher education, both provincially and nationally, leading both the Council of Ontario Universities and the Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada.

2008 | Students at Western make largest contribution ever from a student body to a Canadian university on January 24. The pledge will break a record by totaling more than $100-million over the next 30 years towards support of the new Western Sports and Recreation Centre and to undergraduate and graduate bursaries. Davenport was honoured June 1 by the Jewish National Fund at its annual London Negev Dinner for his “steadfast belief in the importance of diversity, tolerance of ideas, and support for free speech.” Western receives #1 university title for seventh year in Globe and Mail rankings.

2009 | Western’s new president and successor of Paul Davenport is named: Dr. Amit Chakma, Vice-President, Academic & Provost at the University of Waterloo and Professor in the Department of Chemical Engineering. Chakma will begin his term as Western’s 10th president and vice-chancellor July 1. Market downturns in the fall of 2008 and subsequent negative effects on endowed funds forces administration to make larger budget cuts for 2009 and put some planned campus construction on hold. The province announces funding for more graduate student spaces. Western will receive funding for 274 new master’s and 230 new PhD spaces, making it second only to the University of Toronto for the most new graduate students in Ontario universities.
Michelle Chislett, BES’03, (MBA, York) lets her passion and interests light her career path. Following her studies at Western, she specialized in wireless communication with Primus Canada, where her father Ted Chislett, BES’75, MBA’78, is President.

Both father and daughter were inspired by Professor G.S. Peter Castle, BES’61, PhD’69 (Emeritus Professor, Electrical and Computer Engineering) while attending Western. His course on energy and the life cycle of coal stood out for Michelle and sparked her passion for renewable energy.

While completing her MBA at York University, the sustainability portion of her Master’s degree dealt with renewable energy. After reading a newspaper story about SkyPower, a wind power developer, she contacted them and was hired on.

When she joined the international renewable energy firm based in Toronto a few years ago, the company just dealt with wind energy. Chislett quickly established and headed up the solar branch of the company, the first utility scale solar company in Canada and the largest. She is presently vice president and co-head of the solar group at SkyPower.

"It's a fast-growing company and I think that's what attracted me in the first place."

Solar power on the scale that SkyPower is developing is new to Canada. For decades Canadians with some green initiative could purchase solar panels, charge batteries with the power collected and run lights and other small appliances. But what about creating a 'solar park' that would help generate energy for an entire community?

Chislett explains that the company goes out and does ‘greenfield’ work in communities.

“We’re literally out in the communities, finding suitable pieces of land to purchase. We’re also educating municipalities and communities about the benefits of solar energy.”

Chislett says for the most part, communities are extremely supportive of solar.

“These parks emanate no noise. There are no moving parts. Once built, they basically sit there and absorb the sun and turn it into electricity.”

Aside from the increase in the tax base, an additional benefit to the community is that during the construction phase the company hires a significant amount of people, 50 to 80 per standard solar site.

“So, it’s really a lot of education and a lot of time spent on the ground explaining to people what solar is and what solar can do for our grid and our future. There’s the benefit that you generate locally and use the energy locally.”

Aside from the renewable energy benefits of offsetting 9,500 metric tonnes of carbon emissions from the creation of solar parks, Chislett finds that the communities have a sense of pride of having and supporting these projects.

The Western alumna credits her background for helping her current career.

“I believe engineering is an excellent foundation – and it brought me credibility in the field – especially when talking to utility workers with 50 years of experience. It sets a good foundation in communication.”

She says for new graduates, the best thing they’ve got going for them is their commitment and passion to the field.

“That’s probably one of the most important things to be successful in this field. With an engineering background or any other technical background, if you have the passion and the interest there, that’ll come through and you’ll be successful.”

SkyPower hopes in the future to have rooftop projects in cities like Toronto to help offset the load on Ontario’s energy grid. As for her personal future, Chislett can’t see herself leaving the industry.

“I have a real passion and commitment to the renewable energy field. I see myself staying in energy, whether that’s the renewable side of things or conservation side of things. I feel that my education (has helped) and that when I gain experience over the years I will be able to go almost anywhere in the world and work in renewable energy.”

She also encourages young women to study in the field and enter into what is traditionally a male-dominated field.

“There are plenty of opportunities for women. It’s nice to bring different opinions and perspectives and I think that will result in better outcomes for the industry.”

Chislett also believes it is important for new grads to have a good mentor that understands them individually and professionally, and that can guide them in a good direction. “I was lucky enough to have a good mentor and even luckier to have my father as a mentor.”

By David Scott
Changing the world through education

Far-reaching research makes difference in classrooms

By Pat McLaughlin, BA’71, MA’81

From teaching to research, from students to faculty to graduates, from London to the rest of Canada and around the world, Western’s Faculty of Education is helping to make a difference in the lives of children and young people.

Western’s Faculty of Education is affectionately known as Althouse by many of its over 35,000 BEd, MEd and PhD alumni.

“Our faculty and graduates are shaping the future of education,” says Dean Julia O’Sullivan, “… influencing what’s happening in classrooms, and helping to raise the bar and close the gaps in education for all students.”

UNESCO (United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization) estimates that by 2015, the world will need 18 million new teachers to ensure universal primary education. O’Sullivan, whose research area is early learning and literacy, believes that all children are entitled to the “golden ticket” – the ability to read and write well enough to support success in school. Children with the golden ticket are far more likely to graduate high school. Those who do not graduate face limited opportunities. Beyond the cost to the individual are the enormous costs to communities and nations.

“Everything teachers do is important but, for me, there is nothing more important than teaching young children to read and write well and preferably in more than one language. In the faculty, we are preparing teachers who can support school success in multilingual multicultural classrooms.”

Research in the faculty is dedicated to improving education for all. “Education is changing constantly and rapidly. We welcome that change. We don’t simply respond, we help shape the nature of the change itself,” says the Dean. “The research that starts here in partnership with schools and community organizations does not gather dust on the shelf. It moves out to influence what is happening across the country and around the world, changing policy and improving educational practices.”

Working with its community partners – schools, school boards, ministries of education and fellow researchers, the faculty’s internationally recognized scholars are investigating a wide range of critical issues in education: research in boys’ education is producing groundbreaking work which is being taken up in educational policy; a program to prevent bullying in schools that began with a research project, in consort with one London school board, is now part of the curriculum in schools in every province in Canada; an intergenerational art class where young children and persons in elder-care share play and paint together is helping researchers gather information on the challenges that face the ‘sandwich generation’; a program has been developed to assist women who have suffered abuse at the hands of an intimate partner, a program that enables these women to go to school. The research component of the project is adding to knowledge about the life-changing effects of education on marginalized women.

None of this research would be possible without the committed and generous support of the community. “We simply couldn’t do it without them,” says O’Sullivan. “Our close connection to the community in Southwestern Ontario is key to our success in research.”

The Faculty of Education’s community also extends beyond local, provincial and national borders. International students come to complete MA and PhD programs, this year from China, Mexico, Zimbabwe, Pakistan and Brazil. “I was an international student myself,” says Dean O’Sullivan. “Some students, like me, stay on in Canada. Others go home and bring what they have learned at Western to their own people and countries. They remain part of the faculty’s community and facilitate our work on the international stage.”

Ongoing international research includes a study of Maasai girls and the effect of cultural traditions on women’s health in Tanzania; women and education in Iran; an examination of the fate of foreign educated teachers in Canada; an international perspective on multilingual education in India, Africa and Europe, to name a few.

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story continued from page 27

Globetrotting faculty members, graduate students and BEd students cover many miles to do research, speak at learned conferences, give professional workshops, and volunteer in remote communities. Passports have been stamped this year in many countries including Kenya, Tanzania, Turkey, Ireland, Scotland, Iran, Ghana, Australia and the UK.

Capitalizing on the exponential changes in technology, international interchanges for students and faculty are becoming commonplace. The faculty pioneered the delivery of online courses for teachers in Ontario. Building on that strength researchers are using and developing technologies to provide more interactive courses over the web, to create virtual research networks, to develop innovative teaching tools and to connect with educators everywhere. Classes can be taught from the faculty and broadcast simultaneously to all parts of the world through the Internet. Immersive technologies can take students and teachers anywhere from Westminster Cathedral to the Great Pyramids and virtual classrooms can beam across continents.

“We can go beyond imagining what future technological developments will bring to education,” says O’Sullivan. “We can be part of making it happen. Educators must take the lead in this new world simply because teachers are now instructing students who have been texting and Googling since preschool and because technology opens up undreamed of possibilities for teaching. Reaching across boundaries and borders will help fulfill our vision as Canada’s foremost faculty of education – advancing education for all.”

The inclusive nature of “education for all” is an imperative principle and a sustaining value at the Faculty of Education. There are huge gaps in educational achievement in this country between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal populations. Western’s Dean of Education says a partnership between the Faculty and Aboriginal communities called the “Teaching and Learning Circle” will ensure that all educators have the tools to close those gaps.

First, every graduate from the Faculty’s programs will be educated about Aboriginal issues. Through course work, placements and internships, in schools and educational organizations serving Aboriginal children and young people, all of Western’s graduates will develop an understanding of Aboriginal culture, language and issues in education and take that understanding to teaching and leadership positions in schools across the country. “No other Faculty of Education in Canada has made that commitment,” says Dean O’Sullivan.

The extensive and varied research taking place at Western is changing the way we think about education both in Canada and around the world.
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**Peter Rogan** – Tier 1 Canada Research Chair in Genome Bioinformatics (New - $1.4M) - Rogan is developing new ways to identify and interpret genetic variations so patients can get personalized, individual molecular diagnoses, and possibly avoid or fight disease. His software will be used to evaluate the impact of millions of variants on genes, helping researchers to understand and predict their severity in common diseases. His team will test these predictions in the lab.

Rogan also developed single-copy DNA probe technology, a technology used to diagnose human congenital and acquired genetic disorders such as leukemia. These probes can precisely analyze abnormalities in chromosomes. Rogan also received $374,063 in infrastructure funding from the Canada Foundation for Innovation for Chromosomal and Point Mutation Discovery and Interpretation in the Post-Genome Sequencing Era: Tools for Bioinformatic and Genomic Analysis.

### IT’S TIME TO COME HOME TO WESTERN!

**H O M E C O M I N G  2 0 0 9 :  O C T O B E R  1 - 4**

The date has been picked. The planning is under way. All we need now is you!

If you graduated in a year ending in a 4 or 9, you’re celebrating a reunion milestone this Homecoming! Return to Western this fall to re-live your university days – reminisce with old classmates, root for the Mustangs and rediscover your favourite places on campus. All alumni and friends are welcome.

We are currently recruiting class leaders to rally classmates and plan reunion gatherings. If you’re interested in becoming a class leader, please contact our reunion coordinator at 519-661-2111 ext. 86613.

Stay tuned for details about Homecoming 2009 on our website: [www.westernhomecoming.uwo.ca](http://www.westernhomecoming.uwo.ca)
Moments captured
2008 Arlie Laxton Alumni Photo Contest Winners

More than 70 alumni answered the call for submissions to the annual Arlie Laxton Alumni Photo Contest. The keen photographic eyes of Western alumni captured stellar images from near and far, local and international, making a challenging job for judges Richard Gilmore, Media and Information Services, Faculty of Education; Shawn Simpson of SWS Photography (www.swsphotography.com) and Paul Mayne, photographer and reporter for Western News. Some overall comments from the judges were: “Watch your cropping of photos. Sometimes there is too much included in one image. Some entries looked like winners or finalists but ultimately weren’t chosen because of simple cropping. And in the Digitally Enhanced category it would be nice to see the original picture to compare how it’s been altered.”

W i n n e r  |  P E O P L E
Jerry Apanasowicz, BEd’78, Hamilton, Ont.

Photographer’s Notes: “This photograph was taken last March while working on a photo/video documentary in Cuba. Taken in Valle de los Ingenios (near Trinidad, Cuba). The farmer was sitting on his porch and as I was taking his portrait, his wife stepped out of the house and also posed. The subjects were paid for the sitting. I think the photo expresses the dignity and happiness of the Cuban people despite the hardships of the U.S. Embargo and the communist system.”

Judges’ Comments: “Great expressions, totally unposed. Can see an honesty in the people, realism. Looks like ‘Cuban Gothic’. Good connection between the subject and the viewer. Photographer has gained trust of the subjects, established a rapport. He put more time into it, talking to the people and getting a picture someone else wouldn’t get. The people aren’t self-conscious. There are all kinds of textures there, too.”

R u n n e r - u p  |  P E O P L E
Kelly Ziegner, BA’95, London, Ont.

Photographer’s Notes: Photo title: “Promise” – “This photo of my daughter, Leta, and her best friend (on left), Madison, was taken during an outing to a local farm in the fall of 2007. The photo was developed on metallic paper. The title ‘Promise’ represents both the promise and vow of friendship that children make to one another as well as the sense of promise and hope for the future that the photo evokes.”

Judges’ Comments: “No faces are needed. You know they’re smiling even if they’re not looking at the camera. It’s a nice moment, a happy moment. Most people can relate to it. Looks like southern Ontario in the summertime. Gives sense of privacy, best friends. Gives you a warm feeling. It’s optimistic.”
Honourable Mention | PEOPLE
Giang Le, BA’01, Frankfurt, Germany

Photographer’s Notes: Photo title: “The Boys at Lake Como” - Photo taken while sitting in the boat behind the three boys with a Canon DSLR EOS 350 (digital Rebel) and a standard lens. “Taken on August 9, 2008 at Menaggio, Lake Como in Italy. The past summer I met up with friends from Germany at Lake Como, while I was working in Milan. The picture captures the moment of serenity of life at its best — a weekend in the sun with just the boys, at Italy’s world-famous lake.”


Winner | NATURE
Andrew Leonard Campbell, BMus’82, Kani City, Gifu, Japan

Photographer’s Notes: Photo title: “Little Green Friend” — “A very small green frog sat motionless while I captured the details of its body camouflaged against the broad leaves of a canna plant.”

Judges’ Comments: “This is the best overall picture in all categories. It is well shot, well composed. It shows a richness of colour — even though it’s one colour. Different shades of green. It’s tight. The composition is great. Technique is good. The photographer took the time to get a special shot. It has texture and many levels of interest.”
**Runner-up | NATURE**
Jason Hashimoto, BA’05, Mississauga, Ont.

Photographer’s Notes: “This is a photograph of Webster’s Falls in Hamilton, Ontario. I awoke early to capture the sunlight at the top of the falls. I used a digital SLR and neutral density filter to capture the movement of the water as it flowed over the rocks.”

Judges’ Comments: “The photographer took the time to think this out. There is a contrast of how sharp the rocks are with the softness of the water in between. Composition is good. Technically strong photo. Literally flows from corner to corner, shows action.”

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**Winner | DIGITALLY ENHANCED**
Lynne Greenaway, BA’99, Toronto, Ont.

Photographer’s Notes: This photo was taken with a Canon 1Ds Mark III, 85mm lens, F8@1/200, shot in studio with a single light source. Consent was given by the model. Photo title: “Smoke and Mirrors” — “This portrait is a representation of our ‘hidden’ selves: the side we cover up and mask from others, the side we lose sight of, and even, no longer recognize.”

“I wanted there to be an abundance of smoke pouring out of this character’s mouth, which was difficult to capture. Using layers in Photoshop is the key. As for the reflection, it is the portrait itself flipped 180 degrees, and then I tweaked that layer to make it look like a soft reflection.”

Judges’ Comments: “It’s a trick but done well. Not overdone. Shows judgment. It’s skill with intent. Shows duality of personality, some mystery.”
Runner-up | DIGITALLY ENHANCED
Donna-Lee Caron, BA’95, London, Ont.

Photographer’s Notes: “This photo was taken in Granton, Ontario at O’Shea’s Farm, December 13, 2008. It had been a beautiful day for a sleigh ride with my daycare and just as we were leaving the weather changed into a real Canadian winter. I had one chance to capture this nostalgic scene before my batteries expired and the result was this snowfall scattered vision.” The photo has been digitally enhanced by: creating a vignette, enhanced lighting, added colour and noise filters, altered colours, removal of branches, dirt, snow pile from ground.


Honourable Mention | DIGITALLY ENHANCED
William Murtha, BA’68, Brighton, Ont.

Photographer’s Notes: Photo title: “Presqu’ile Dream” – “This is a handheld photo taken December 28, 2008 during a windstorm at Presqu’ile Provincial Park at RR #4 Brighton, Ontario that has been digitally enhanced.”

Judges’ Comments: Once this photo was cropped differently (as it appears in the magazine) it earned an Honourable Mention from the judges. “Like the colour of the sky. There’s some drama to it. It’s creating a scene.”

*(Unfortunately, once again, the amount of entries in the CAMPUS category was insufficient to allow for judging).*
By Paul Mayne

So how does one go about summing up in one word their participation in one of the most historical moments in United States history?

“Phenomenal.”

“Magical.”

“Amazing.”

For Western alumnus Jean-Michel Picher, LLB/MBA’06, the past two years as part of U.S. President Barack Obama’s campaign team ranks up there as one of the highlights of his life. From the initial ‘retail politics’ of greeting diners in small American towns, to experiencing the crowd of more than 225,000 in Chicago’s Grant Park on the night Obama was elected the first African-American president, Picher has experienced it all.

“It was a phenomenal feeling and such a magical event,” says the 35-year-old Picher. “There was a tremendous amount of hope and emotion to be part of that event.”

A self-proclaimed political junkie, Picher first immersed himself into political life while attending college in Maine, where he joined John Kerry’s senate campaign in 1996, working in the press office.

He came to Western in 2000 for the joint LLB-MBA program at Western. But after the World Trade Centre tragedy of 9/11 and what he says was the ‘impactful step’ made by President George Bush, he took leave from the program in 2003-04 to again join Kerry, this time on his presidential campaign. Following Kerry’s defeat, he returned to Western to complete his LLB/MBA degree, graduating in 2006.

Picher then spent time planning events for Obama’s campaign while preparing for bar admissions and articling, completing them last summer at Fraser Milner Casgrain LLP in Toronto. He promptly took a leave to join Obama as a full-time staffer, organizing events for Obama and running mate Senator Joe Biden.

“At times it felt like I had no business being there, but I knew I did,” says Picher. “You go to these tiny places and people are just engaged and so much a part of it. It’s sort of remarkable,” he says. “The energy was huge wherever you went. Senator Obama has no executive experience’ was always the knock on him, but the executive experience and skill I saw during the campaign was pretty amazing.”

Also amazing were the odd circumstances Picher would find himself in, whether under the stage with secret service agents while Biden was speaking, or being live on CNN - well, almost.

“On election night, I had to go out and check the microphone and the teleprompter before Senator Obama was to come out and CNN promptly decided to take that live,” Picher says laughing. “So there I was standing there like a fool.”

Could such pandemonium ever take hold on this side of the border? Picher doesn’t see it happening anytime soon. The fact Canadians pay for a large portion of political party budgets - and yet don’t truly get a say – makes for a closed electoral process.

“It’s a publicly financed political system, and closed voting system within that political system,” he says. “A reasonable person can agree or disagree whether it’s a good idea for the people to have a say as to who the nominee should be in a local riding or who should lead their party. Having seen the engagement that goes on in the States, and the declining participation in Canada, why become comfortable where you are? Parties don’t seem to have a duty to open up the doors, or an interest in opening up the doors, to allow everyday people a voice in who their candidates will be.”

While he has now been offered a spot on the Obama team, at the time of this interview he was simply relishing having been a part of history.

“Aside from the elation of winning, looking back on the campaign over the last two years it was a real sense of appreciation,” he says. “This is an amazing human being…and it was a real treat to share time with him, and to work for him.”

Picher did advance work for President Obama for his meeting with Prime Minister Stephen Harper in Ottawa in February and is one of two Canadians who are key staffers for the president.
By Paul Mayne

This September will be just a bit more exciting than normal for the Faculty of Engineering.

Along with the opening of the newly constructed $22-million Claudette MacKay-Lassonde Pavilion, the faculty will welcome its inaugural class for the new Green Process Engineering program.

A first of its kind in Canada, the program – the eighth for the faculty – will combine and integrate the fundamental principles of chemical engineering to design commercial products and processes that are safe, economical and environmentally friendly.

Chemical Engineering professor Cedric Briens says engineering has always been a caring profession with a focus on design and innovation to respond to the pressing needs of society. He adds this emerging program will address environmentally friendly chemical products and processes by reducing pollutants at the source.

“It’s quite the step for our faculty and the university,” says Briens. “I’m excited to see Western taking the lead with such a program and I feel we will be attracting some great students with a strong commitment to the environment.”

Engineering students will have the opportunity to apply to the Green Process Engineering program upon completing their first common year.

The program will educate students to apply innovative process engineering tools to design sustainable and safe chemical processes based on alternative product design and improved process efficiencies by reducing waste generation. The program also explores alternative sources of energy with reduced carbon emissions.

Briens says environmental issues have generated extensive discussions on policy making and planning, which call for a specific set of skills that are not currently incorporated in any engineering curriculum. Engineered products designed and processed by innovations that are environmentally friendly are at the forefront of green process technologies.

Some of the distinguishing features of the program include the emphasis on green chemistry, green power, solar and bio-fuel cells, and conversion of waste (such as agricultural byproducts) to biodiesel and bio-ethanol products.

“It’s one thing to lobby your local politician to make environmental changes, but this program will allow the students to, in essence, change the world themselves.”

Many of the Green Process Engineering students will be the first to take advantage of the university’s new ‘Green Building’, which will house space for student engagement and educational experiences through hands-on design opportunities.

Students and researchers will work in a facility that was designed and constructed with advanced environmentally sustainable construction technologies and the latest and innovative environmentally friendly concepts, housing research on green technologies, processes and materials.

The Claudette MacKay-Lassonde Pavilion, the first LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) certified building on Western’s campus is the 15th such building in Ontario.

“It’s an exciting time for us,” says Briens. “In a time when all the news is about jobs being eliminated today, we’re looking ahead to what the jobs will be down the road.”

Cedric Briens and Franco Berruti, Chemical and Biochemical Engineering. Photo by Shawn Simpson
TRIATHLON FOR WOMEN

Author Lisa Lynam, BSc’92, MA’93, aims to inspire every woman – no matter their fitness level – with her new book Triathlon for Women - A Mind-Body-Spirit Approach for Female Athletes. Lynam, a nine-time Ironman finisher, currently lives in Victoria, British Columbia. The 200-page full color book includes inspiring stories and tips. Lynam wrote Triathlon for Women as a result of her decade of experience coaching and mentoring hundreds of women in swimming, biking and running. She has been directing women’s triathlon clinics for 12 years and coaching triathletes for 10 years, helping first timers or veterans succeed in completing or competing in short sprint to Ironman triathlons. The book includes aspects of fitness and skill development, smart nutrition choices, strength training, race planning, and mental aspects, but also goes beyond the theories and science with a more thorough mind-body-spirit approach that raises the interests and enjoyment of all women who seek fulfilling triathlon lives. Available at: www.amazon.com

THE PORTABLE MLIS

The Portable MLIS - Insights from the Experts by Ken Haycock, BA’68, and Brooke E. Sheldon brings together the work of 18 leading educators and practitioners in the field of librarianship. Separated into three parts, this is a broad overview of the profession, answering the age-old questions, “what is it that you do?” and “why do you need to go to school?” Beginning with five essays on the foundations, values, and context of the field, the work continues with 11 chapters on the functions and competencies of librarianship, followed by two chapters on “Moving beyond Boundaries.” Twelve appendices provide documents of importance to librarians and their field. Notes for each chapter are presented in a listing at the end of the work, along with an extensive index to assist the user in locating the area of importance to them. Typically, interested laypeople and students are introduced to the knowledge, skills, and abilities of professional librarians piecemeal or through introductory or core courses.

www.greenwood.com/catalog/LU5847.aspx

DEMOCRACY AND SELF-ORGANIZATION

In his most recent book, Democracy and Self-Organization: The Change of Which Barack Obama Speaks, Robert Aziz, BA’78, draws on his understanding of human psychology and culture to provide unprecedented insight into the dynamics of meaning underlying Barack Obama’s politics of change. Conclusions reached about our current cultural crisis of meaning in his work The Syndetic Paradigm: The Untrdden Path Beyond Freud and Jung (2007) form the basis of this analysis. In Democracy and Self-Organization, carefully and systematically, directly and substantively connecting the leadership initiatives of President John F. Kennedy and Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. to his thesis, Aziz convincingly situates the change of which Barack Obama speaks within the context of the now urgent demands of democratic culture’s unfolding destiny. For more information please visit: roberotaziz.com. See also Dr. Robert Aziz on The Huffington Post.

GARDEN CITY HOCKEY HEROES

St. Catharines Ontario native John Hewitt, HBA’59, is author of Garden City Hockey Heroes. The book traces the history of Junior A hockey in St. Catharines from 1943 to 1977. After a lengthy teaching career, Hewitt became a hockey columnist for the St. Catharines Standard in 2001. Hewitt has also written hockey columns for the Niagara Falls Review and The Society for International Hockey Research. For the last five years he has been working on a book entitled Garden City Hockey Heroes. It details the history of the 34 St. Catharines Junior A clubs that played in the city from 1943 to 1977. The book will contain more than 700 pictures and artifacts, along with bios of the 124 players who saw action in at least one NHL game. Among the players profiled are Hockey Hall of Fame members Marcel Dionne, Phil Esposito, Bobby Hull, Stan Mikita, Pierre Pilote, and former coach, GM and team owner, Rudy Pilous.

www.hewittonhockey.com

THE PSYCHOANALYST INFIDEL+

La Terre De Personne by the late Georg R. Garner, BA’70, MA’72, was published and illustrated by Corrine Alexandre-Garner in June 2004. It contains two short texts, one is biographical and the second one is on mourning. Edited in memory of her husband Georg Garner, who was Chairman of the Federation des Ateliers de Psychanalyse. Draw me a metaphor - Tribute to Georg R. Garner (ISBN: 978-2-9519619-5-1) was also published in tribute. The Psychoanalyst infidel by Georg R. Garner (1950-2003) brought the secular analysis to a degree of urgency, which this collection is bound to honour. Bricoleur expert in images and concepts, thinking and working in three languages (Viennese, English, French), it has ventured in many directions here grouped under four themes: the alien Other as the formation of subjectivity in classical age and its damage seen in the collapse of the modern perspective, voice and silence, social and political critique.

www.fabula.org/actualites/article22511.php

NOTES TO MY SON, TO MY DAUGHTER

In Notes to My Son, Vesna Bailey, BA’84, has captured those last-minute words that are meant to last a lifetime. These notes to her son were written to guide and inspire him in all things important including thoughts on being a gentleman; on self-discipline and work habits; on values and learning; on cherishing the love of friends and family, and --- on living a life reflecting in himself the best of humanity... and on sorting laundry! Notes to my daughter - Within these notes to her daughter Vesna’s voice has struck an eloquent chord, resonating with a gentle instruction on all things important in life while lighting a fire within all readers to “carpe diem!” (seize the day!); to live with self-conviction, joy, exuberance, passion, a responsibility to attain one’s potential, and to reflect in oneself the best of humanity ... and to live with a mission to find an uncommon happiness at every turn of the fantastic personal journey that awaits.

www.notesbeforeyougo.com or at The BookStore at Western

GUANTANAMO NORTH

Guantánamo North-Terrorism and the Administration of Justice in Canada by Robert Diab, BA’93 (Philosophy), MA’95 (Theory & Criticism), MA’97 (English). After September 11th, the Canadian government made significant amendments to the law, arguing that terrorism made extraordinary measures necessary. In a nation with a high regard for human rights and civil liberties, non-citizens with suspected links to terrorism are being held indefinitely without charge on secret evidence. The scope of state secrecy now extends to almost
anything relating to national security. The courts have found these and other changes, including ‘preventive arrests,’ ‘judicial interrogations’ and convictions for terrorism without intent, consistent with the Charter of Rights. Examining the role of Parliament, the courts and law enforcement, this book argues that the anti-terrorism measures are unnecessary and shows that those measures move the administration of justice further from human rights and freedom. Robert Diab is an instructor at Capilano College in North Vancouver and also holds a graduate degree in law. He is a practising lawyer with experience in criminal, administrative and constitutional law.

www.fernwoodpublishing.ca

**KICKSTART**

Alexander Herman, Paul Matthews, and Andrew Feindel, HBA’04, had recently graduated from university and weren’t sure what to do with their lives. Then they had an idea. Over the next two years, they interviewed over 70 well-known Canadians in a variety of fields and asked how each had kickstarted their own careers. The stories they heard were not always what they expected. But each one proved insightful - and inspiring. **Kickstart:** How Successful Canadians Got Started presents these stories in the participants’ own words — everyone from visionary entrepreneur Jim Pattison and groundbreaking astronaut Roberta Bondar, DSc’95, to ballerina Karen Kain and cartoonist Lynn Johnston; from Chief Justice Beverley McLachlin and former Prime Minister Brian Mulroney, LLB’07, to heroic humanitarian James Orbinski and adventure journalist Patrick Morrow. It’s the authors’ hope that the Kickstart Project will inspire greater debate about what it will take for a new generation to push Canada to the forefront of the 21st century.

www.kickstartcanada.com

**SAGE ENCYCLOPEDIA OF QUALITATIVE RESEARCH METHODS**

The **SAGE Encyclopedia of Qualitative Research Methods**, edited by Lisa M. Given, BA’93, BED’94, MLS’96, PhD’01, presents current and complete information as well as ready-to-use techniques, facts, and examples from the field of qualitative research in a very accessible style. In taking an interdisciplinary approach, these two volumes target a broad audience and fill a gap in the existing reference literature for a general guide to the core concepts that inform qualitative research practices. The entries cover every major facet of qualitative methods, including access to research participants, data coding, research ethics, the role of theory in qualitative research, and much more—all without overwhelming the informed reader. The **SAGE Encyclopedia of Qualitative Research Methods** is designed to appeal to undergraduate and graduate students, practitioners, researchers, consultants, and consumers of information across the social sciences, humanities, and health sciences, making it a welcome addition to any academic or public library.

http://www.sagepub.com/refbooksProdDesc.nav?prodId=Book229805

**THE RELUCTANT GIGolo**

The **Reluctant Gigolo**, first published novel by John A. Fraser, BA’66, is entered in the 2009 Stephen Leacock Award competition. In the humorous and lively novel, a new job on a cruise ship as a Gentleman Dance Host for solo women passengers and begins sailing into unimagined adventures. His cabin mate is Slick Rick Skipper, a free-booting former entrepreneur who is always on the hustle. Narrator John Fraser is retired and has already spent two years on cruise ships as a dance host and bridge lecturer. His wealth of experience sprinkles his tale of intrigue with spirited descriptions of the quirky characters, shipboard romances, and unbelievable shenanigans that circulate among the senior citizen passengers who holiday extensively at sea. As Jack dances his way from colorful port to port, he rapidly realizes that there is plenty of libido to go around and even more life to live after sixty.

www.iUniverse.com

**TURNAROUNDS**

**Turnarounds:** Brains, Guts & Stamina by Peter McCann, MBA’88, with Brian Hunter, MBA’78, and contributing authors has strong, clear advice about the essentials of a successful turnaround, and real-life case studies of the turnarounds of small and medium sized businesses by the CEOs and consultants who made it happen. Peter McCann is a Turnaround CEO, a consultant to distressed companies, an international lecturer and author. The contributing authors include two additional turnaround executives, a commercial lender, an advertising executive, a communications professional, an academic and a psychiatrist. Their collective experience spans many industries, small and medium sized businesses in the U.S., Canada, Britain and Finland. Available from Amazon.com and 1-888-232-4444

**SUPER TRENDS OF FUTURE CHINA**

**Supertrends of Future China** is a business book about China business opportunities in the changing economic environment. Jason Inch MBA’04, BA, MCSE, and co-author James K Yuann both live and work in Shanghai and have seen firsthand the transformation of the Chinese economy, from mass-production to value-added, from rural to urban, from production to consumption. This view of a changing China is not widely known so the pair published the book to make readers better informed of China’s new role in the world economy. This complete book of new China opportunities presents the latest information and analysis from a positive and objective angle, focusing on the potential for business success rather than finger pointing and fear mongering. Written by businesspeople for businesspeople, it is an essential book for anybody doing business, investing, or working in China. It will also appeal to general readers interested in China’s social, economic, and environmental development.

www.worldscibooks.com/eastasianstudies/6847.html or www.amazon.ca

**THE WHISTLING BISHOP**

Emily-Jane Hills Orford, BA’78 has two new books just released. **The Whistling Bishop** is the story of Bishop J.C.M. Clarke of the Arctic. For thirty-five years, James Charles Macleod Clarke (1920-2006) toted a military-issue rifle and a Bible as he slepted, walked, boated, and flew across thousands of miles of northern tundra to minister to his scattered congregation. He slept in whatever shelter was available: tents, snow houses, and poorly insulated houses. Most important to his service in the North, James Clarke (Jamie to his friends and family) was loved and trusted by the Inuit and all who lived in the North. Fluent in Eskimo (Inuktitut), German, and several other languages, he is best remembered for his mischievous smile, quick wit, and his glorious whistle. Wherever he went, he whistled. He whistled popular songs, children’s songs, folk songs, operas, as well as his favourite music, church hymns. *Personal Notes* is the story Margaret Murray Downer (née Dickson), who was born in Glasgow, Scotland in 1902. Her life spanned the twentieth century and two continents. Both available at: www.chapters.indigo.ca
Louise Pitre, BMus’79, DMus’06, has made a career of performing on stages across North America – from London’s Grand Theatre to Broadway – but it all began as a student on the stage of Western’s Talbot Theatre.

It was 1979, and Pitre was in her final year of earning her music degree. She had planned to become a teacher after graduation, but all that changed when she got her first acting role in the Purple Patches play, Flicks, at Talbot Theatre.

“It changed my life forever. It gave me my passion and allowed me to see the dream – and then go get it,” says Pitre, who has starred in numerous theatrical productions, including her Tony-nominated role in Mamma Mia on Broadway.

This is why Pitre wanted to help raise money for the renovation of Talbot Theatre. After 43 years, the landmark will have improved acoustics, updated equipment, better electrical and sound systems, as well as new seating.

The total cost is $5 million. The university has committed $2.5 million toward the project, with the remainder to come from private donations.

To honour Paul Davenport’s 15 years as Western’s president and a champion of the arts, Talbot Theatre will be renamed the “Paul Davenport Theatre.”

Pitre says she has signed on to be the face of the Talbot Theatre campaign because it is one way to give back to the school that helped launch her career in theatre, and because she holds Davenport in high esteem.

“Mine is but one of countless stories about Western students who have discovered their love of music and the performing arts – professionally or personally - on the stage of Talbot Theatre,” she says. “It’s a jewel within our campus and it deserves our support.”

Pitre has known Davenport since they met in New York during her run on Broadway in 2002.

“He has a special affinity for music and the performing arts and he has been supportive of my career and many others. He is also a true performer himself. He deserves to have his achievements commemorated and publicly acknowledged.”

In March, faculty and staff were invited to support the renovation project. An electronic appeal was distributed via email encouraging members of the campus community to make a gift online or through payroll deduction. The solicitation includes a dedicated website highlighting details of the renovation and a video featuring Pitre.

Donors can provide general support for the renovation, with any gift amount welcomed, or they can “buy a seat” in the newly renovated theatre for $1,000. Those who take part in this special opportunity will be recognized by having their name engraved on a brass plate inset into the armrest of one of the new seats.

The faculty and staff appeal is part of a larger campaign to attract support for the Paul Davenport Theatre from alumni, friends and members of the London community.

“A beautiful renovated performing arts space on campus benefits everybody – those who work there and those who learn there, as well as those in the broader community,” says Pitre. “Western has risen in profile over the last many years largely thanks to Paul Davenport and the theatre on campus should match the level of class the university has attained.”

For more information contact Carole Stinson, Campaign Director, at 519 661-2111 x 85696 or e-mail cstinson@uwo.ca. Web: www.givingtowestern.uwo.ca/Talbot_Theatre/
Vaughn Martin declares for 2009 NFL draft

By Andy Watson

Western Mustangs defensive lineman Vaughn Martin has declared his eligibility for the 2009 National Football League draft.

Martin, 22, is one of 61 underclassmen who have declared for the late-April draft.

Represented by former Mustang receiver Matt Baxter as his agent with Enter-Sports Management of Atlanta, Martin and the staff with the Western Mustangs have sent film to 24 of the NFL's 32 teams.

He held pro days in Windsor, Ont., and London, Ont., in March, allowing scouts an opportunity to evaluate him. “This is a tremendous opportunity for me and I want to give it my best,” says Martin. “We’ll see what happens. I’ll either be back at Western next season for a run at the Vanier Cup or in the NFL.”

Martin is not eligible for the Canadian Football League draft until 2011. He said he plans to train in Atlanta as soon as the school year is over.

The six-foot-three, 328-pound lineman has been working hard with Western’s strength and conditioning coach Jeff Watson in the off-season.

Western Mustangs head coach Greg Marshall says the NFL teams have been “pretty serious” about their interest in Martin.

“I’d love to have Vaughn play at Western again for his full five years, but this is an opportunity for him,” says Marshall. “He has been working out hard, he’s focused ... we like to provide opportunities for our players, either in football, educational opportunities or otherwise, it’s not just about winning championships.”

According to Baxter, Martin is in the 99th percentile for someone of his size and weight. Scouts from the New York Jets and Houston Texans have even come to London to measure his height and weight.

Professional scouts who came to watch Martin this season often spoke about how impressed they were with the mobility of the lineman.

Martin, who finished his sophomore season, came to Western after playing at Milford Academy in New York State. The native of London, Ont., is a former all-star and played in last year’s East-West Bowl in Hamilton, Ont.

Originally committed to Michigan State, Western coaches Mickey Donovan and Greg Marshall were able to woo Martin to return to play closer to home at Western.

With three years of eligibility remaining, he could return to Western. Unlike NCAA football players who declare their candidacy for the draft, CIS players are able to return to play at their school.

The Jamaican-born Mustang was a member of the Forest City Thunderbirds and Team Canada at the 2006 NFL Global Junior Championship in Detroit prior to coming to Western.

In the 2008 regular season, Martin had 20.5 total tackles and 1.5 sacks along with two fumble recoveries. He also ran the ball in Western’s big package for short yardage situations, rushing two times for six yards and a pair of touchdowns.

Then in the 2009 playoffs, Martin helped Western to win the national semifinal Mitchell Bowl over Saint Mary’s and then was one of the top Mustangs in the 2008 Vanier Cup against Laval.

Martin finished the playoffs with one solo sack, six solo tackles, a forced fumble and a number of hurries. Often, he was doubled on the line.

Defensive lineman Vaughn Martin (Photo by Craig Glover)
By Andy Watson

Former Mustangs football coach Larry Haylor is among the six new inductees into the Wall of Champions, The University of Western Ontario Mustangs football hall of fame. The induction dinner will be held on Wednesday, April 22.

The Champions Club announced the 2009 inductees into the Wall of Champions on February 11. The other inducted players include: post-70s fullback Duane Forde (1987-90) and linebacker Kevin Ford (1977-81); pre-70s quarterback George Arnott (1947-50) and star quarterback Ray Truant (1950-52); and the 1959 Western Mustangs football team.

The Wall of Champions awards dinner, which will be held in the Great Hall, was founded in 2004 to recognize individuals who have made significant contribution to Mustangs football.

Tickets and tables can be ordered by phone at 519-850-2548 or by e-mail at events@uwo.ca or online. Sponsorship opportunities are also available. Proceeds support student awards in athletics at Western.

To date, 42 Mustangs football alumni have been inducted to the Wall of Champions, along with two championship teams. The list of inductees is a “who’s who” of Canadian football and Canadian sport in general.

Past inductees include current head coach Greg Marshall, who guided the Mustangs to the Yates Cup in his first season as bench-boss, former Buffalo Bills special teams star Tim Tindale, and the 1957 championship team.

The 2009 inductees:

Players

Post-70s

Duane Forde 1987-90
- Fullback
- OUA All Star 1989, 1990
- 1989 Atlantic Bowl MVP (Don Loney Trophy)
- Yates Cup champion 1988, 1989 and 1990
- Vanier Cup Champion 1989
- 1st round draft choice (1991)
- Calgary Stampeders
- 10-year CFL career – Grey Cup Champion

Kevin Ford 1977-81
- Linebacker
- 3 time OUA All Star 1979, 80, 81
- All Canadian 1981
- 3 time Yates Cup Champion 1979, 80, 81

Pre-70s

George Arnott 1947-50
- Quarterbacked 3 Yates Cup championship teams ’47 ’49 ’50
- Quarterback of undefeated 1947 Yates Cup team (6-0-1)
- League All-Star ’49 ’50
- Member of four Senior Intercollegiate Basketball Championship teams 1947-50
- Captain 1950-51 basketball championship team

Ray Truant 1950-52
- Star QB
- Member 1950, ’52 Yates Cup Championship team
- 1952-53 Dr. Claude Brown Trophy
- Western most outstanding athlete
- Member 1951-52 O-QAA Basketball championship team
- 4th round draft choice (1953)
- Hamilton Tiger Cats

Builder

Larry Haylor 1984-2006
- All time win leader in CIS coaching history
- Career record of 178-47-4
- 8 Yates Cup Championships
- 2 Vanier Cup Championships
- 22 Consecutive seasons with a record .500 or better
- 6-time OUA Coach of the Year

Team

1959 Western Mustangs

- 1956 CFL all-star
- 1956 Hamilton Tiger Cats nominee most outstanding Canadian player

The 1959 champion Western Mustangs
Do your part for the environment. Alumni Western is reducing the number of printed event invitations.

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

Check out our event listings and register at: www.alumni.uwo.ca

Canada

Calgary, Alta.
Off to Western
Western Road: The Rick McGhie Tour
August 13, 2009

Durham Region, Ont.
Western Road: The Rick McGhie Tour
Summer 2009

Elgin County/St. Thomas, Ont.
69th Annual Alumni Dinner Picnic
June 10, 2009

Hamilton-Burlington, Ont.
Off to Western
August 19, 2009

Kitchener, Ont.
Nine & Dine at Rebel Creek Golf Club
July 30, 2009

London, Ont.
West Side Story Day Trip to Stratford
4th Annual Love Your London
Western Road: The Rick McGhie Tour
Evita at the Huron County Playhouse
June 5, 2009
Six Degrees Homecoming
August 20, 2009

Mississauga, Ont.
Off to Western
August 18, 2009

Ottawa, Ont.
Beer Tasting in the Market
Off to Western
June 12, 2009
August 11, 2009

Port Hope, Ont.
Northumberland Alumni Reception
May 21, 2009

Sarnia, Ont.
Sarnia Speaker Series
June 11, 2009
August 12, 2009

Toronto, Ont.
Presidential Tribute Dinner
The Science of Beer
Queen’s Park Alumni Reception
June 5, 2009
Six Degrees Toronto:
Martini Mix & Sip
Jersey Boys
Anne of Green Gables
The Musical Alumni Western Golf Tournament at Lionhead
Western Road: The Rick McGhie Tour
New York Red Bulls @ Toronto FC
Pre-game Reception
New York Yankees @
Toronto Blue Jays
Toronto Argonauts Group Event
August 20, 2009

Vancouver, B.C.
Six Degrees Vancouver:
Speed Networking
Off to Western
Western Road:
The Rick McGhie Tour
August 12, 2009

Windsor, Ont.
Western Night at Detroit Tigers vs.
Cleveland Indians
Off to Western
August 19, 2009

International

Detroit, Mich.
Western Night at Detroit Tigers vs.
Cleveland Indians
July 10, 2009

Hong Kong, China
Western/Ivey Annual Alumni Dinner
Hong Kong Convocation
Dragon Boat Races at Stanley Beach
May 23, 2009
May 24, 2009
May 28, 2009

London, U.K.
Dr. Davenport Tribute Reception
April 7, 2009
April 23, 2009
April 27, 2009

Shanghai, China
Canuck Connection Inter-University Alumni Reception
July 1, 2009

Chapters

Dentistry
Alumni Reception at the ODA
Spring Meeting (Toronto, Ont.)
Alumni of Distinction Award Reception (London, Ont.)
May 1, 2009
October 2, 2009

Engineering
Alumni Homecoming Reception
October 3, 2009

Law
Alumni Dinner with guest speaker
Michael Ignatieff (London, Ont.)
50th Anniversary Reception (London, Ont.)
April 14, 2009
October 1, 2009

Medical
Dean’s Luncheon for Homecoming
Reunion Classes
October 3, 2009

WAA
Women’s Athletic Alumnae
Golf Tournament
August 6, 2009
Alumni Awards Dinner
October 2, 2009

"W" Club
"W" Club Golf Tournament
August 6, 2009
Alumni Awards Dinner
October 2, 2009

Future Western Homecoming Dates

2009
October 1 - 4
2010
September 30 - October 3
2011
September 29 - October 2
2012
September 27 - 30

Golf Tournaments

Toronto Branch Alumni
May 30, 2009
June 5, 2009
June 26, 2009
July 6, 2009
July 17, 2009
August 6, 2009
August 6, 2009
August 21, 2009
August 21, 2009
September 15, 2009
October 4, 2009

Huron Alumni

Hockey Alumni

Wrestling Alumni
Basketball Alumni

Women’s Athletic Alumnae

"W" Club
Football Alumni

Tennis Alumni
King’s Alumni

Homecoming Alumni
49 Arts and Science 60th Reunion Homecoming 2009. Save the Date. We have reserved space for dinner at The London Hunt and Country Club on Saturday, October 3, 2009. RSVP with George Turnbull at 416-239-2087 or Pat McFarlane at 519-660-6037.

On June 10, 2008, Goebelle MacAdam Alexander LLP Chartered Accountant (Georgetown and Mississauga) celebrated the 40th anniversary of the founding of the firm by Graeme Goebelle, BA’59 (Huron). In 1998, GMA LLP was honoured to receive the Halton Hills Chamber of Commerce Business of the Year Award.

Gary N. McLean, BA’64 retired in 2007 after 39 years as Professor of Human Resource Development and Adult Education at the University of Minnesota, and began the next day as Senior Professor and Executive Director of International HRD at Texas A&M University in College Station, TX. Gary has been installed in two Halls of Fame: International Adult and Continuing Education (2006) and the Academy of HRD (2007).

Paul McGill Beeston, BA’67 (Political Science, Huron), was appointed in October as Interim President & CEO of the Toronto Blue Jays.

Keith Paul Ambachtsheer, MA’67 (Economics), was recently named Chair, The Princess Margaret Hospital Foundation. Ambachtsheer joined the foundation’s board in 2001. He is President of KPA Advisory Services Ltd., which provides strategic advice on pension governance, finance, and investment matters to governments and pension organizations around the world. Keith is also founding Director of the Rotman International Centre for Pension Management and Adjunct Professor of Finance at The Rotman School of Management, University of Toronto. He also holds an undergraduate degree in Commerce and Economics from the Royal Military College of Canada and conducted further post-graduate studies at McGill University.

Douglas Ralph Cummings, BA’69 (Economics), was recently appointed Division Vice-President, GlobalView Sales. ADP’s GlobalView service offering powers the global human resources strategy of large, multinational employers. Cummings has led the ADP Canada sales organization since 2004, driving four years of strong growth. Prior to joining ADP, he held senior sales and general management positions with leading IT organizations.

Joe Hollick, MEng’72 retired from the City of Burlington three years ago after a 31 year career in their Engineering Department where he was responsible for over 500 construction projects involving everything such as roads, bridges, sewers, fire stations, ice rinks, pools, libraries, museums, the waterfront, parking garage, etc. Since then he has been pursuing his two hobbies of photography and of documenting Hamilton’s waterfalls. These two hobbies paid off as on October 7, 2008, he received the 2008 Ontario Tourism Award for Best Travel Photography. The award was for the “Waterfalls of Hamilton Spring” poster which he created. It portrays 20 of Hamilton’s numerous waterfalls in springtime.

The Honourable Elaine Jane Adair, BMus’73, MA’78 (Music), a partner with Clark Wilson LLP in Vancouver, is appointed a Judge of the Supreme Court of British Columbia. Madam Justice Adair received a Bachelor of Laws from the University of Toronto in 1981. She was admitted to the Bar of British Columbia in 1982. Madam Justice Adair was an associate with Shrum, Liddle & Heberton, Vancouver predecessor to McCarthy Tétrault LLP, from 1982 to 1988, and a partner with McCarthy Tétrault LLP beginning in 1988.

Jim Jackson, MA’74, Professor of Sociology, Humber College, is on a sabbatical leave this term. Jim will present a paper, Diversity in our Classroom, at the Canadian Population Society (CPS) Meeting, at The Congress, in May 2009. He teaches sociology to both daytime and online students. Corey, (nee Heine), BA’76, BEd’77, is now taking her MEd at OSIE, and is a teacher in the York Region District Board of Education. Brian, their oldest son, is working as an online journalist and Brent, their younger son, is completing his third year in the Paralegal program at Humber College.


Michael Garth Weedon, MBA’76, is the new executive director of The BC Bioenergy Network. Weedon has an extensive career in senior management and a strong interest in the environment. He has held senior finance and global management positions in industry with over 25 years experience with large corporations including B.F. Goodrich, Sherritt Inc. and the Loewen Group. He also received a BA from the University of Toronto.

Peter Dominic Charbonneau, MBA’77, has been appointed to the board of directors of the CBC/Radio Canada. A member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Ontario, Charbonneau has served on several directors’ boards of prominent technology companies like Mitel Networks Corporation, Telus Corporation, and March Networks. For the last seven years, he has been in charge of placement and management of various funds at SkyPoint Capital Corporation, where he is also one of the three general partners of the company.

Rob Miller, MA’77 was appointed Senior Producer of News at CBC Radio in Windsor, Ontario on June 1, 2008. The appointment follows 26 years as a TV reporter at CBC-TV in Windsor. Before beginning his television career he worked at CKWW radio in Windsor and a previous stint as a reporter at CBC radio in Windsor. He also holds a BA’76 (Communication Studies) from the University of Windsor. He’s married to Western graduate Anna Jurak, BSc’80.

David Charles Poynton, LLB’78, has joined Iberian as Senior Vice-President, General Counsel and Corporate Secretary. Poynton has over 20 years of legal experience in private practice, primarily focusing on the mining industry. With a solid background in corporate and commercial business law, ranging from day-to-day advice to structuring and implementation of complex domestic and global M&A and financing transactions, Poynton has a unique understanding of the industry, and the issues that face the industry.

Daniel Joseph Pigeon, BA’78 (Comp Sc/Econ), recently joined Pengrowth as Vice-President, Investor Relations. Pigeon has more than 20 years of professional leadership experience in strategic financial planning, capital structuring and financing, enterprise-wide risk assessment and management. Most recently at Fortis Alberta Inc., Daniel held the position of Vice-President, Finance & Chief Financial Officer. Prior to Fortis, Daniel held the role of Director of Financial Operations & Investor Relations and later as Vice-President, Portfolio Strategy & Execution with TransAlta Corporation. In these roles, Daniel was responsible for the development and execution of growth strategies in North America, Mexico and Australia.

Peter C. Mitchell, BA’78 (Economics), was recently appointed as Chief Financial Officer of Taseko Mines Limited. Mitchell also holds an MBA from the University of British Columbia. He is a chartered accountant and worked as Senior Vice President and CFO of Crown Packaging Ltd., as well as Vice Chairman and CFO of Von Hoffmann Corpoation of Saint Louis, Missouri. More recently, Mitchell has held leadership roles in the for-profit education sector as President of Florida Career College based in Fort Lauderdale and prior to that, as President and CEO of Vatterott Education Centers, Inc. in St. Louis, Missouri.

Michael Alan Beber, BA’81 has been appointed as senior vice president of growth and innovation at USIS. Prior to joining USIS, Beber was a management affiliate with MidOcean Partners, a leading middle market private equity firm where he focused on evaluating opportunities in the business processing and professional services sector. Prior to joining MidOcean Partners, Beber was the chief strategy development officer for Marsh & McLennan Companies (MMC). He served on MMC’s executive committee and was chairman of its expansion committee.

Elizabeth Margaret Rossnagel, BA’81, MLIS’83, has been appointed CEO/Director of Sault Ste. Marie’s Public Libraries. Her new job in Sault Ste. Marie has enabled her to marry her work with another passion ‘a love of the Great Lakes.’ As the Sault’s CEO/director of public libraries, she will be working in a community near two of the lakes and at the main library branch, located on the city’s waterfront. She was previously director of the Lethbridge Library.
Robert Ross Rooney, LLB’83, was recently appointed as Executive Vice-President, Legal and General Counsel for Talisman Energy Inc. Rooney was previously partner and one of the top corporate M&A and international oil and gas lawyers at Bennett Jones LLP in Calgary throughout his 22 years with the firm. Since leaving his law practice in 2005, Bob has been active in the oil and gas business and has served as a director and chairman of several private and public energy firms located in Calgary and Houston.

David Geophry Tafel, BA’83(Economics) has been appointed President of Centurion Minerals Ltd. In the past, he has served as Chief Financial Officer and Vice President, Corporate Development of MBMI Resources, Inc. Mr. Tafel has been Chief Executive Officer and President of Piper Capital, Inc., since May 2006. He serves as the President of Pacific Capital Advisors Inc., an investment banking firm offering corporate advisory services. He serves as Chief Financial Officer and Vice President of Administration of Garson Resources Ltd. He was a former financial advisor for a leading full service investment dealer.

Jeffrey John Dossett, HBA’83, has joined Yahoo! as senior vice president, U.S. Audience. Dossett will oversee Yahoo!’s consumer experiences in the U.S., including the company’s leading media properties. In 2002, Dossett took two years away from his career at Microsoft to pursue his passion for adventure with a goal to climb the highest mountain on each of the seven continents, known as the “Seven Summits”. Reaching the summit of Mount Everest on May 24, 2004, Dossett became the third Canadian in history to successfully complete the Seven Summits.

Brian D. Jeffs, BA’84 (Economics), was recently named to the position of assistant vice-president (administration and finance), a newly created role, at Lakehead University, Orillia Campus. Jeffs is a certified general accountant. He worked at the University of Western Ontario for 20 years, during which time he served in a variety of capacities, both administrative and academic.

Stuart Thomson Graham, BA’85 (History) was recently named President of PIMCO Canada. In this role Graham will manage PIMCO’s Canadian business and build and strengthen relationships with clients, regulators and industry organizations in Canada. Graham will be based in PIMCO’s Toronto office. He will lead an established team of talented professionals who are actively working with many significant Canadian clients, consultants and prospects. Graham joins PIMCO from MFC Global Investment Management, where he was Vice President and Managing Director of Institutional Investments. He also holds a Bachelor of Laws degree from the University of Ottawa.

Karine Farmer, BA’85, MDiv’07 was ordained a priest in Christ’s Holy Catholic Church on June 4, 2008 at St. Paul’s Cathedral in London, Ontario. The Rt. Rev. Bruce Howe, Bishop of the Diocese of Huron in The Anglican Church of Canada, was the ordantor. The Rev. Farmer is serving in the Anglican Parish of the Holy Spirit (St. Paul’s, Clinton; St. Thomas’s, Seaforth and Trinity in Mitchell). Parish life is keeping her very busy and she is loving it.

Brady Stephen Lukow, HBA’86, has been appointed as Shoppers Drug Mart Corporation’s new executive vice-president and chief financial officer. Lukow brings extensive experience with Shoppers Drug Mart gained over 14 years in senior finance roles with the company, as well as prior experience in the grocery retail industry. He joined Shoppers Drug Mart in 1994.

Irene Britt, MBA’86, was recently named President, North America Foodservice, Campbell Soup Company. Britt joined Campbell in 2005 as Vice President and General Manager, Sauces and Beverages. Under her leadership, Campbell’s has had strong growth across the sauces and beverage portfolio, especially in the company’s beverage business which has experienced double-digit growth driven by innovative new products, expanded distribution and bold advertising. Prior to joining Campbell, Britt spent eight years with Kraft Foods, most recently as Senior Vice President and General Manager of the Salted Snacks Division.

Michael L. Andrade, BSc’86, has been appointed to Senior Vice-President and General Manager, North America for Celestica. He has been with the company since its inception in 1994 and has held a number of positions with increasing responsibility in areas such as engineering, operations and global strategy. In his new position, he is responsible for developing and driving the business strategy for Celestica’s operations in Canada and the United States. He also holds an MBA from York University.

Michael John Miller, BA’87 (Economics), has been appointed Executive Managing Director and Head, Equity Products with responsibility for the BMO Capital Markets institutional equity research, sales and trading businesses in Canada, the United States and globally. He is a member of the firm’s Executive Committee. Miller joined BMO Capital Markets in 1987. Since then, he has been involved in various Canadian and U.S. equity research and portfolio management capacities, including five years as Manager of Research.

Richard William Scott, BA’87 (Economics) has been appointed to the position of President and Chief Operating Officer at All Weather Windows. Scott has served in a variety of senior roles in the company, most recently as Vice-President and General Manager. Scott has over 20 years experience in the Canadian window and door industry, many of them spent in senior management positions.

Stephen Michael Liptrap, HBA’88, was recently appointed as Executive Vice-President of Human Resources and Organizational Development, Morneau Sobeco Income Fund. Liptrap is responsible for ensuring that the company’s people capacity and capability continue to enable the business strategy of the Morneau Sobeco and Sheppellfii divisions. Liptrap brings over 20 years of senior executive business and HR management experience in large Canadian-based organizations. He has led global HR teams in large-scale growth initiatives and major transitions, as well as executing on the management of specific functions such as pension and benefits, workplace health, and the leadership of the total HR function.

Laura Dottori-Attanasio, BA’88, was recently named managing director and global head of the corporate credit products team at CIBC World Markets.

Aaron William Regent, BA’88 (History) has been appointed to the post of president and chief executive officer of the global mining company Barrick Gold Corp. Regent resigned his job as co-chief executive officer of Brookfield Infrastructure Partners L.P. to take the position with Barrick. Regent was previously president and chief executive of Falconbridge Ltd., a Canadian-based mining company that merged with Noranda Inc. in 2005. The combined company was then sold to Xstrata PLC in 2006.

Jeffrey William Ward, BSc’89 (Geology), PGeo was recently appointed as Vice President, Exploration and to the Board of Directors of Kivalliq Energy Corporation. Ward is a registered professional geologist in British Columbia and Alberta. He has 25 years experience exploring for base metals, precious metals and diamonds with companies such as Corona Corporation, Ashton Mining of Canada Inc. and Stornoway Diamond Corporation, where he worked on reconnaissance to advanced-stage projects throughout Canada’s north. As regional Project Manager, Ward directed exploration programs in the Northwest Territories and Nunavut for over eight years.

Patricia Louann Campbell, BSc’89, a highly respected and senior health care leader, has been appointed the first Chief Executive Officer of Echo: Improving Women’s Health in Ontario. Echo was established as a new agency in 2007 by the Ontario Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care. Under Campbell’s leadership, Echo is quickly establishing its Toronto-based offices, recruiting staff and building relationships within the women’s health and broader health-care community.

Dr. Jeffrey Michael Turnbull, Med’90, is the new chief of staff at The Ottawa Hospital.

Johannes van der Mark, Dip’90, MSc’93 (Physiology and Pharmacology), has been appointed to Vice President, Business Development at Nycomed Canada Inc. van der Mark’s combined experience in business development, marketing, sales and scientific research ideally places him to provide leadership in securing new business opportunities for Nycomed. He has held positions of increasing responsibility with pharmaceutical companies in Canada over the past 15 years. He also holds an MBA from the Schulich School of Business at York University. Nycomed is a privately owned research-based pharmaceutical company.

Jordan Cary Starkman, BA’91, was recently appointed President & CEO of Pay By The Day Holdings Inc. He worked for seven years as an independent consultant for various publicly traded companies responsible for initiating new business and developing long-term relationships with customers. Jordan also holds a BA in Statistics from the University of Western Ontario, and has been registered as a licensed real estate agent since September 2006.
Neil O. Armstrong, BESc’91, was named the new vice president of operations for Esab Canada. He will oversee relations for key distributor accounts, marketing, service, supply chain and general operations. Armstrong joined Esab in 1991. He has held various positions throughout his career at Esab including technical sales representative, marketing manager and logistics manager.

 Alyson Francine Goldman, BA’92 (Physical Ed), has been appointed partner at Burnet, Duckworth & Palmer. She will be working in Corporate Governance, Mergers and Acquisitions, Public Offerings and Private Placements, Royal Trusts, Income Trusts, REITs.

 Zahid Raza Salman, BSc’92 (Actuarial Science), has been appointed as Executive Vice-President with Morneau Sobehco Income Fund. Salman is responsible for all pension and benefits consulting and outsourcing practices in Ontario, Western Canada and the U.S. He has worked in the pension and benefits industry for over 15 years, including as Canadian Chief Operating Officer for another major professional services firm. An actuary by background, Salman has been active in serving employers throughout his career and has been a frequent speaker and author on retirement and benefits issues.

 Kevin Robert McHenry, BEd’92, was recently appointed as the eighth Headmaster of St. Andrew’s College, effective July 1, 2009. McHenry has been a key member of St. Andrew’s leadership team for the past six years. As Assistant Headmaster, he has brought dramatic change to the school’s academic life. His experience includes 10 years in the public school system, where he was rapidly promoted to leadership positions. St. Andrew’s College is one of Canada’s leading independent boarding and day schools, offering programs for boys in grades 6 to 12.

 Catherine Bell, BA’93 and Shahauna Siddiqui, have recently joined forces with Carolyn Duckworth and Bryan Arthur to create a new company BluEra – Beyond Executive Search. BluEra is a boutique retained executive search and team building firm located in Calgary. They evaluate, create, and build high performing teams, drawing on their professional and personal networks and their deep knowledge of the renewable energy, oil and gas, and retail industries. More information can be found at www.bluera.ca

 John Chikara Koyanagi, MBA’94, recently joined the senior management team of NAL Oil & Gas Trust. Koyanagi joined NAL on October 14, 2008, in the position of Vice President, Business Development. John has over 20 years of upstream oil and gas experience, primarily in transaction related roles. John started his career at Shell Canada and later joined Amoco Canada/BP where he held positions at the senior management level involving both North American and international operations and business development.

 Sarah L Robertson, BA’95 has been promoted to Director, Corporate Communications & Stakeholder Relations GlaxoSmithKline Inc. In this role, she is responsible for the strategic leadership of Glaxo’s communication and public relations issues in Canada, including the development of strategies to support brand promotion, public policy and corporate reputation, as well as all internal employee communications. Sarah will also be accountable for providing leadership to the GlaxoSmithKline Foundation and leading their work with key stakeholder groups. In this role, she will sit on the Public Affairs and Reimbursement division’s leadership team.

 Edward Glenn Hadden, BA’96 (Economics) was recently appointed a new partner-level managing director with Goldman Sachs.

 Nicole W.S. Phillips (nee Suen), MBA’97 is pleased to announce her marriage to Patrick Phillips in November 2008. On the job front, Nicole continues her role as Underwriting Counsel at Stewart Title Guaranty Company. Friends may contact Nicole at n.phillips@live.ca.

 Mark Langlois, MBA’97 has been appointed as Vice-President of Application and Consulting Services for ED$ Canada. Mark is leading a team of over 1,000 application professionals across Canada with deep expertise in industry consulting and business applications. In his role, Mark oversees four high-maturity global delivery centres in Ottawa, Toronto, Winnipeg and Edmonton where the EDS team delivers innovative technologies and comprehensive services to improve our clients’ business performance and reduces their application and infrastructure costs with world class practices in Legacy, Microsoft, Java and Testing. Prior to joining EDS, Mark served as Applications Partner for Accenture Canada and Director Application Management Services at IBM.

 Allan Edward Armitage, PhD’98 (Geology) was recently appointed as Vice President of Exploration for Uranium North Resources Corp. Armitage will lead Uranium North’s exploration team and manage the Company’s exploration programs in Nunavut and Saskatchewan. As a professional geologist with over 20 years experience both internationally and in Canada, he most recently held the position as Vice President of Exploration for Triex Minerals Corp., where he oversaw and implemented uranium exploration programs predominantly in Nunavut and Saskatchewan. In addition, he has held senior exploration positions with Comalplex Minerals Corp. and Commander Resources Ltd. with a strong focus in Nunavut.

 2000s

 Erica Lesley Nielsen, MBA’02, was recently appointed as a new associate partner at Oliver Wyman’s Canadian General Management Consulting practice. Nielsen advises clients on strategic growth and business design issues as well as supply chain transformation and operational improvement. She predominantly works with consumer goods and industrial goods clients throughout North America. She is recognized as an office leader, particularly in developing local talent. She joined the Toronto office in 2005. Nielsen also holds a Bachelor of Commerce degree from the Asper School of Business, University of Manitoba.

 Ryan Rubin, BA’08, obtained a position with EcoMedia as an Account Developer/Manager. EcoMedia operates the World’s Largest Publicspace Recycling Program and Rubin directs their efforts towards implementing an outdoor recycling program on campus at Western.

 In Memoriam

 Dr. Robert (Bob) Howard Elder, MD’49, died peacefully in his sleep on November 11, 2008 at the age of 88. He is remembered with love by his wife Suzanne (nee Racine), his children Michelle (Paul Martin), Paul (Sherri), Peter (Christine Harkin) and Steven (Wakana Kitamura). He will be missed by his grandchildren Geoffrey, Nicholas, Liam, Benjamin, Sebastian and Josephine. Bob grew up in Tillsonburg, Ontario, in a loving and musical family. He served in the Canadian Medical Corp in WWII, and then attended medical school at the University of Western Ontario. After a distinguished career in Medical Microbiology ending as Chief of Laboratory Medicine at the Ottawa Civic Hospital, Bob continued to work as a consultant in this field that he loved so much. His retirement years centred on his children, grandchildren and activities with his wife Suzanne. Even though Alzheimer’s began to limit his abilities, Bob always displayed a spirit of contentment and thankfulness for a rich and varied life.

 Marian (McNeil) Parker, BA’51, passed away July 12, 2008 at Mapleview Lodge, Athens, ON after a lengthy illness. She was the eldest of five children of the late Roy and Margaret (Cole) McNeil of Dutton, ON. She is survived by her late husband Elliott E. Parker, Brockville, ON and three children Sara, Jennifer (Shahram Taghivand) and John (Barbara) and two grandchildren, her sister-in-law, Diana Janieson, as well as many nieces, nephews, great nieces and great nephews. Marion was very active in the Brockville community volunteering for the Maycourt Club, the Brockville & District Historical Society and the Kingston orchid Society. She was well loved by all for her kind and generous nature and will be greatly missed.

 George William Arnott, BA’51 suddenly passed on December 15, 2008 at his beloved cottage at Bruce Beach in his 83rd year. George was born in Windsor, Ontario and was the son of the late Isa and Charlotte Arnott. He is predeceased by his wife of 58 years, Kathleen Arnott (Game) and his sister, Margaret MacLean. Loving father and father-in-law of Elizabeth and Wayne “Boris” Harllof of Guelph, Catherine Arnott and Brian Jones of Ottawa, Tom and Heather Arnott of Hanover and Carol Arnott of Stratford. Dearly loved Papa of Laura Turner (Jack), Emily Harllof and Quinn Dyer. Deeply missed by his sister, Joan Ryan and nephew, John Ryan of Windsor and Birger and Hilda Ekblad of Kincardine, and many other nieces and nephews. George lived a long and wonderful life. He was one of the first graduates in 1951 of the Physical Education program at the University of Western Ontario. After an outstanding university football and basketball career with the Western Mustangs, he went on to play a year of professional football with the Toronto Argonauts. George happily settled into a 33 year career teaching and coaching at Windsor schools, mostly at Kennedy Collegiate Institute. He also found time to coach AKO Junior football. He inspired many young athletes in football, track and field and basketball during these years. In 1983, George was inducted into the University of Western Ontario Sports Hall of Fame. He and Kathleen retired in 1985 and spent many happy years with family and friends at their cottage on Lake Huron.
Campbell Blake Taylor, BA’51, passed away peacefully on November 27, 2008 with his family by his side after a tough battle with cancer. Beloved husband of Mary, loving father of Scott (Christine), Peter, Ann Lillepold (Marty) and Robert. Step-father of Bryan Fetterly (Cathy), Dawn Hutt (Brian), Mark Fetterly (Andrea). Treasured grandfather of Jason Weststrate (Jodi), Kelly, Daniel and Julia Taylor and Katie Lillepold. Special grandfather to Dustin and Dylan Fetterly. Survived by a dear brother Jack (Lois) of Toronto, their children Cam and Ellen and families, several cousins with whom Blake grew up in Galt, Ontario and their families. Immediate family has gathered to celebrate his eighty years of generous, loving life, to follow his example of always remembering to be young at heart and to “be humble in victory, and gracious in defeat.”

Walter Edward Peters, BA’63 passed away on November 1, 2008. Beloved husband of Penny, his wife of 36 years. Cherished by Kathryn McClelland his niece and surrogate daughter. Survived by his dear “Auntie Bea” (Beatrice Karoub) of Michigan, 95 years young. Son of Thomas and Aretta Peters of Thornhill. He leaves behind his fun loving cousins.

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DEADLINE FOR INCLUSION IN THE SPRING 2009 ISSUE IS May 15, 2009

Richard Norman Boyd, MD’68, FRCS, passed away March 29, 2008 at age 63. Rick took his last breath held lovingly by his family and close friends Dr. Frank DeMarco and Dr. Tom Elsdon. Rick deeply loved, and was loved by, his wife of nearly 40 years, Jane (Johnston), and cherished his sons David Richard and Andrew Macartney. Rick adored his beautiful ‘daughters’ Kristen (Skinner) and Lindsay (Gray). He was pre-deceased by his loving parents Dr. Norman and Barbara Boyd, and father-in-law Robert ‘Mac’ Johnston. He will be profoundly missed by his mother-in-law Olive Johnston. Left to mourn are his sisters Judy Manning, Mary Hopkins (Ed Davey) and Heather Munro (Bob), his aunt Dorothy Searle, brother and sister-inlaws Dick and Jane Johnston, cousins, nieces and nephews, and a legion of friends. He was predeceased by his loyal Bichon Frises, Bijoux and Beaumont. Dr. Boyd graduated from the University Of Western Ontario Medical School in 1968. He obtained his Specialist Fellowship in Urology from the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons in 1976, and has since then practiced Urological Surgery in Windsor. He previously served as Chief of Surgery, and was currently Head of Urology, at the Windsor Regional Hospital. He was one of the founders of the prostate cancer Brachytherapy programme at the Windsor Regional Cancer Centre. In recent years he has also served the community as a Provincial Coroner for Essex County. Rick was a member of the Alpha Kappa Kappa medical fraternity. An athlete, Rick ran 27 marathons around the world with a personal best of 2:48 in Chicago. He curled in the Ontario Medical Association tournaments and was an avid golfer and scholar of golf history. He was a member of the Donald Ross Society.

Donald Lewis Tees, BSc’75

Former Mustangs football great Joe Krol, BA’78, died Dec. 16, 2008, in hospital in Toronto. He was 89, and had been hospitalized after a fall in his apartment. The six-time Grey Cup champion spent most of his career with the Toronto Argonauts where he was a standout running back, winning the Lou Marsh Trophy as Canada’s top athlete in 1946. He was inducted in 2004 into the Football Wall of Champions by Western Mustangs Football and the Champions Club at Western. Nicknamed “King,” Krol was a versatile player for the Argos handling quarterback and kicking duties at various times in his career in addition to starring at tailback. Krol and teammate Royal Copeland were known as the “Gold Dust Twins” as they helped create the Argos dynasty in the mid 1940s. He was part of Grey Cup champion teams in Toronto in 1945-47, 1950 and 1952. The Hamilton native began his career with his hometown Wildcats winning his first Grey Cup with that organization in 1943. The 1946 Grey Cup win over the Winnipeg Blue Bombers was King Krol’s crowning achievement. He threw for three touchdowns and caught another one in a 28-6 victory. He also successfully executed an onside kick. Krol’s No. 55 is one of only four the Argos have retired in the 135-year history of the organization. Krol also had a brief spell in the National Football League, suiting up as a punter for two games for the Detroit Lions in 1945.

Marlene Stewart Fallon, Honors BA’94, MA’96
Passed away on November 10, 2008 in Burlington, Ontario, age 55.
No more new ideas from Canadians

By Paul Wells, BA’89

One of my job’s odder benefits is that every now and then I find myself asking people from around the world what they think of Canadians. Usually the question gets a polite response: we’re gentle, we’re helpful. Sometimes the answer is less complimentary but no more surprising: we’re boring, we could stand to get out more and see the world. But there’s another observation that does come up surprisingly often: Canadians don’t stick to much. We are always coming up with new ideas, because we have forgotten our old ideas. It’s a surprisingly recurring theme, and it means that when a Canadian shows up somewhere with a brand-new plan to solve some vexing problem, a lot of other people around the table start to worry. They worry that in a few years the plan and the problem will still be around and the Canadian won’t, because the Canadian will have fallen in love all over again with some other problem.

Sorry to be the one to tell you this.

My morning paper features a splashy feature about the political attempt to find “fresh solutions” to the agony of Vancouver’s drug- and poverty-ridden Downtown East Side. Tucked away in the corner of one page is a little article about the Vancouver Accord, which bound the governments of Vancouver, British Columbia and Canada to an elaborate set of solutions for the neighbourhood. The problem with the Vancouver Accord is that it was signed in 2000, and after a few years the governments that signed it gave way to new governments looking for “fresh solutions,” and the solutions in the Vancouver Accord – stale because they required sustained effort over several years – “just fell by the wayside,” in the words of one of the accord’s signatories. What impressed too many politicians about “fresh solutions” was not that whether they were solutions, but that they were fresh.

In 2005 Robert Greenhill, a former president of Bombardier International, did a little research paper for the Foreign Affairs department in Ottawa in which he asked foreign-policy players from around the world – including the editor of the Economist and Henry Kissinger – what they thought of Canada’s contribution to foreign policy. “What I have seen in Canada,” one of them told him, “is that you have a new priority every year. You are not serious.”

Greenhill’s nameless foreign observer was talking about foreign aid, but I’ve heard the same sentiment expressed in other areas. Tony Pawson, a British-born molecular biologist who works in Toronto, told me the same thing about Canada’s research effort. “It’s a peculiarly Canadian issue — I can say as an immigrant,” Pawson told me a few years ago. “Canadians always worry about building world-class institutions. My view is that actually, Canadians are pretty good at building world-class institutions. What they’re not good at is sustaining them once they’ve got them — because it takes a different order of commitment.”

And so we come, by a roundabout route it is true, to this year’s federal budget. Its goal was fiscal stimulus, which means spending, and it did that well. In terms of increases to discretionary programs this is the most free-spending budget Canada has seen in way more than a decade. This isn’t the place for me to hand out credit or blame for that; there was a weird little constitutional crisis in December, and Stephen Harper’s response was this budget, and the Liberal opposition voted for the budget, and that’s life. But what’s striking is that amid all the spending there’s still one place where the government found room to cut.

University research.

Let’s be clear here. The total post-secondary-education/science-and-research envelope did rather well in this budget, because not for the first time, the feds were eager to put lots of money into research infrastructure. So, the budget provides $750-million, through the Canada Foundation for Innovation, to build new university labs, and a further $2-billion to refurbish old university labs. There’s $250-million for maintenance for the federal government’s own labs. And there’s $87.5-million for graduate scholarships, so graduate students can sit in all those labs.

But presumably the nation would hope, to the extent it has a preference on such matters, that the grad students and their lead investigators would be able to do something in the new labs. Research, maybe. And yet the budget cut the budgets of the granting councils that pay for continuing research in health, natural sciences and social science by close to $200-million.

That’s like buying a second car and cutting your budget for gas. It’s what you do when you like cars but you don’t actually want to go anywhere. It’s possible to understand why university presidents have not complained about this odd allocation of resources, and in fact few of them have: first, because any money is better than no money, and second, because they probably hope all this new research capacity will have to get used eventually.

But that’s been the hope for a while, and yet money for new infrastructure continues to outstrip money for the research that’s supposed to happen in it. Our whole university research system is turning into a demonstration of the Canadian inability to follow through. Perhaps it’s not too soon to begin fixing that.
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