PRACTICE MAKES PERFECT

ANDREA GONSALVES
2015 Alumni Photo Contest

The annual Alumni Photo Contest is open to all Western University alumni. Cash prizes are available in a variety of categories.

 Categories:  
- People/Portraits – candid or formal photos of people – from trips, members of your family, friends, alumni  
- Nature/Landscapes – mountain ranges, lakes, riverbeds, snow melting from trees, flowers, etc.  
- Animals/Wildlife – could be pets, wild birds, bears (don’t get too close!), swans, fish, squirrels, etc.  
- Micro/Macro – close up and super close ups; things we wouldn’t normally notice with the naked eye. Something on closer inspection that would make an interesting composition.

 Rules:  
- Limit one entry per person per category.  
- Entries must include photographer’s full name, degree and year, address, telephone number and a brief explanation of the photograph, how it was taken and in which category it is being entered.  
- Photos of people must be accompanied by a statement that those depicted have given permission for the photograph to be published. People in the photos must be identified.  
- Entries not meeting these requirements or formatted improperly will not be judged. Entries mailed will not be returned. Contest open only to ALUMNI of Western University who are not employees and/or officers of the University.

 Deadline for entries: July 3, 2015

- Winners will be announced online at alumnigazette.ca and in the Fall 2015 issue of the Alumni Gazette.

 Submissions:  
- Preference is for photos to be submitted via e-mail to wag.editor@uwo.ca (maximum file size 5MB). Photos can also be submitted to Alumni Photo Contest, Communications & Public Affairs, Western University, Suite 363, Westminster Hall, London, Ontario, Canada, N6A 3K7

 Prizes:  
- First prize in each category – $200 each  
- One runner-up prize in each category – $100 each

 Judges:  
- Dallas Curow, BA’06 (MIT), freelance marketing associate, McGill University; photographer  
- Paul Mayne, Western News reporter/photographer  
- Jim Rankin, BSc ’88 (Biology), Toronto Star photographer  
- Terry Rice, BFA’98, MA’00, Director, Marketing & Creative Services, Western

 For more information, please e-mail: wag.editor@uwo.ca

 To see previous winning entries, visit: http://bit.ly/alumni-photocontest

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@alumnigazette.ca

SPRING 2015 EDITION
For decades, even generations, there have been unofficial alumni mentorships in place for young alumni. Western alumni habitually hire graduates from their home faculties. Geography/Urban Planning is a good example of a small-but-loyal school where alumni regularly reach back and recruit recent grads. Ivey’s written the book on networking.

The old adage is it’s who you know that will get you in the door but what you know that will keep you there. It’s that ‘what you know’ that you hope you come armed with as a new grad.

It’s not hard for young grads to have dreams of grandeur when many high-tech digital ‘pioneers’ who strike it rich are under 30 but under 21, in some cases. The playing field has changed. But the ‘what you know’ still has a place. It’s the building block for your career.

The Student Success Centre is taking a two-prong approach with their hirewesternu campaign for student employment and a two-prong approach with their hirewesternu will increase the number of co-op, internship employers recruiting from Western and simplify the employer’s experience.

The system also gives alumni the option to link to their LinkedIn profile, so current students find their way. It’s that ‘what you know’ that you hope to find better, cleaner energy.

One way might be for CANDU reactors to sprout up west of the Bruce region of Canada, and even into the United States. I’m sure you can think of other carbon-free sources of energy for Canada and the world than that most dreadful source of all, the tar sands. I challenge you to do so, and to write about it in future issues of the Alumni Gazette.
POLOZ: A STABLE FUTURE REQUIRES A RETHINK OF CENTRAL BANKING

Central banking needs to be rejuvenated—and reinvented—if the country is to chart a stable financial future. Stephen Poloz, Governor of Bank of Canada, delivered his inaugural address at Ivey Business School in February. (Photo by Paul Mayne)

Poloz said monetary targets will help keep banks out of trouble, but they won’t suffice once trouble arises. Low inflation, while a needed target in recovering economies, must remain a goal. But risks of low inflation and long- and short-term consequences of inflation rates and current policies need to stay in mind, he explained.

“We are not out of the woods yet,” Poloz said, but we must focus on what central banking should look like once we arrive at a stable place. In an attempt to reinvent central banking, policymakers should learn from history—if they don’t wish to repeat it. Lessons from the Great Recession include not only the risks associated with low inflation, but also those that come with imbalances.

NEW BACHELOR OF EDUCATION PROGRAM LAUNCHED

Western’s Faculty of Education recently launched its new two-year Bachelor of Education program, a reimagined degree designed to address current needs in education and prepare graduates to become educational leaders on a global scale.

The new program provides teacher candidates with a combination of on-campus education and practical field experience, as well as the opportunity to customize their learning to suit their own individual interests.

“We’ve designed a program that will enable students to specialize in one of seven identified areas of need in education,” said Amit Chakma, president and vice-chancellor. “As we grow and play a larger role on the international stage, we are confident of our global position as a key contributor to the economy to continue to strengthen.”

The university had not conducted an economic impact study since 1990s.

KPMG-led study credited the university with contributing $1.62 billion to Canada’s GDP through spending on operations and research, $1.15 billion to Ontario’s GDP – $210 million of that in London – due to capital investments.

Locally, the university injected $293 million in student living expenses to the economy, as well as $46 million as a result of an estimated 190,000 visitor-nights to Western. As a result of their education at Western ($1.15 billion of that felt in London), alumni living in London improved their earnings by $4.95 billion as a result of their education at Western ($1.15 billion among alumni living in London). The estimated direct, indirect and induced impacts of this additional income are $7.43 billion among alumni living in London.

The study found that in London, the university had not conducted an economic impact study since the late 1990s.

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For more information, visit: www.edu.uwo.ca/programs/preservice-education.
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WHEN THE WALRUS TALKS, THE PEOPLE LISTEN

The Walrus Talks Creativity brought nine of Canada’s most creative minds, including five Western alumni, to share thought-provoking ideas exploring creativity in all its forms to Western on March 12. (Photos by Adela Talbot)

That’s what we signed up for when our Charter of Rights and Freedoms was signed. We signed up for what we call ‘fundamental freedoms.’ Freedom of expression, freedom of religion, freedom of thought, freedom of belief, freedom of peaceful assembly and freedom of association. It’s the freedom to say I’m going to do whatever I want, so long as it doesn’t hurt anybody else. This is Canada afterall.”

CAMERON BAILEY, BA’87, Toronto International Film Festival

I think we can agree that all art is storytelling. And low culture is storytelling. Low culture can exist without high culture. But can high culture exist without low culture? Or does low culture drive high culture? If high culture is the summit of creativity, is low culture the birthplace of creativity?

ELAINE LUI, BA’96, blogger and author

Why is it dangerous or pointless to educate hearts and souls as well as minds and bodies? Why this distrust of deep, often disruptive thought against educating imaginations and curiosity, empathy, curiosity, engagement, translation, creativity. Things that come from picking up books, pens, brushes, violins, cameras, instead of guns.”

JUGGUN KAZIM, BA’02, actor, model, television host

I would say a scene in a novel doesn’t have to be about something intrinsically exciting. It’s just the writer has to make it sound exciting. And I think the writer needs to be feeling excited themselves. If you’re not feeling thrilled, why on earth would your readers?

EMMA DONOGHUE, LLD’13, author
Wayne and Scott’s impressive combined resume includes work on such blockbusters as Transformers and Monsters vs. Aliens.

BIG SCREEN BROTHERS

BY JANIS WALLACE, BMUS’75, BED’76

Hollywood has plenty of examples of successful brothers – Joel and Ethan Coen, Beau and Jeff Bridges, heck, there’s even four Baldwin brothers. Now, Western can add two of its own to that list – Wayne and Scott Lemmer.

“When we were kids, there was no indication we would both end up in film,” Scott said. “Working in the entertainment industry was always sort of a fantasy with no tangible path of getting there. It was certainly something I thought would happen to us so quickly.”

However, that is exactly where they landed.

Today, Scott, BA’01 (Visual Arts), is an animator who has worked for Dreamworks, Disney and Pixar. Wayne, BMusA’02, is a sound editor and re-recording mixer at 20th Century Fox. His latest film was Wes Anderson’s The Grand Budapest Hotel.

Wayne and Scott’s impressive combined resume includes work on such blockbusters as Transformers and Monsters vs. Aliens.

“I think there was little doubt about what I wanted to study in university,” Wayne said. “Music was my biggest passion.”

At Western, Scott enrolled in Computer Science, but switched to Technology (OIART) and focused on sound for film. “It just grabbed me. It engulfed my life. It was an exciting new venue to the studio and create a musical soundscape. I spent long nights go out into the world and record non-musical elements, take them back to the studio with his wife and toddler twins.

As an animator, Scott tracks motion on screen. “You want to replicate the performance that honours the actors. That is a tough thing,” he said. “It’s like ‘digital puppeteering.’ It’s similar to old 2D, frame-by-frame poses and refining the action. You see the character come to life. It’s surprisingly rewarding, this feeling of completion when you see what you’ve created.”

In the early years of his career, Scott said it was a bit of a novelty. “At first it was cool to see the names (of actors) but after a few times it’s more about the shot. You’re working on making it look good. The animation has to look good, be appealing and move well, and show the acting, meaning and intent of the shot.”

Wayne attended the Ontario Institute of Audio Recording Technology (OIART) and focused on sound for film. “It just grabbed me. It engulfed my life. It was an exciting new venture for me to create and perform art.”

As a sound editor, Wayne watches the rough cut of the film, making notes on the story and what will need to be recorded. Like his student assignment, he then goes out in the world and records sounds to manipulate in the studio. “Guns and cars are a good example of things that exist in the world,” he explained. “However, giant robots and T-Rex’s don’t. That’s where you can really have fun creating something new and interesting.”

When he switches to re-recording mixer role, he finalizes the soundtrack. “I think it’s best explained as ‘performance art.’ That’s when the dialogue, music and effects all come together on the stage. This is where careful choices are required to make a film. They all should support the film and help tell its story. There is so much technology, detail and complexity in what we do. Sound is one of many crafts required to make a film. They all should have one goal, and that is to emotionally support the film and help tell its story. A film comes to life when you add sound.”

Wayne and Scott’s impressive combined resume includes work on such blockbusters as Transformers and Monsters vs. Aliens.

“One thing I’ll never forget about my first job, before I was working with sound, was the introduction to technique and history and it was super interesting. I took a class in 3D software with a friend and enjoyed it. So, I focused on

that during my last year.”

After Western, Scott studied at the Vancouver Film School. His first job took him to Dallas. A series of studios and films followed. He’s been with Dreamworks for more than two years, and lives five minutes from the studio with his wife and toddler twins.

The final year of university was transformative for Wayne, who, until then, thought he would be a performer.

“I took a course in composing digital music,” he said. “I was assigned to go out into the world and record non-musical elements, take them back to the studio and create a musical soundscape. I spent long nights struggling to make something cool and musical. But I loved every second – time just seemed to slip by effortlessly. I think after that I knew I was hooked on working in the studio.”

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Andrea Gonsalves, LLB ’05, and her husband, Adam Haines, BESc ’04, BSc ’04, relax with their two children in their Toronto home. It’s a busy life with a young family, work commitments and house renovations.

(Photograph by Nation Wong)

Courting success

ANDREA GONSALVES ACHIEVES WORK–LIFE EQUILIBRIUM

BY RON JOHNSON
When Andrea Gonsalves was in Grade 6, her teacher suggested that, although she wasn’t the best debater in the classroom (she was too passionate, too aggressive), success as a lawyer was a good bet. She wasn’t convinced. As she tells it, she wasn’t even sure she wanted to be a lawyer until well, she was actually working as a lawyer. But now that she is — called to the bar in 2006 — she’s worked hard to establish herself as a prominent advocate. This in addition to raising a young family with two children under the age of five. Oh, and she’s working part-time towards her master’s degree. Although unsure of her path, her elementary school teacher proved wise. She’s had a successful and varied career practising administrative law, professional regulation, civil, commercial and criminal litigation. Her efforts at becoming one of the top young lawyers in the country were recognized in 2014, when she was honoured with the Precedent Setter Award, for her first 10 years in law.

Gonsalves grew up in Scarborough, Ont., and attended Mary Ward Catholic Secondary School where she took a couple of law courses and a smattering of history to satiate her growing interest in social justice issues. Her passion as a student was for the study of serial killers and those who were wrongly convicted — this being a time in Canada when cases of this nature such as Guy Paul Morin and Donald Marshall, Jr. were front-and-centre in Canadian society.

“Justice issues were always kind of my thing,” says Gonsalves, over coffee in a café on the ground floor of the TD Tower in downtown Toronto, home to the law firm Stockwoods, where she has worked for her eight-year career, including partner for the past year. “I remember being particularly interested in how someone gets wrongly convicted. How does that happen?”

So, when she headed west down Hwy. 401 to Western to pursue her undergraduate degree, Gonsalves focused her studies on criminology, with a justice bent. The theoretical was her thing — how and why it happened. After two years, she applied and was admitted to Western Law, graduating in 2005 after being awarded the gold medal.

“All along, I thought, criminal criminal criminal, go that route,” she says. “I went to law school thinking it would help me study criminology down the road. Then, I went to law school and it helped me study criminology down the road. Then, I went to law school and it helped me study criminology down the road. Then, I went to law school and it helped me study criminology down the road. Then, I went to law school and it helped me study criminology down the road.

After two stints clerking for judges at the Ontario Court of Appeal and the Supreme Court, it was decision time for Gonsalves. She applied to work at Stockwoods, and nowhere else, not even grad school.

“My thinking was that, ultimately I would go back into academia, but I wanted a little break to see what practice was like,” she explains. “I applied to Stockwoods not really knowing how long I’d want to do that for, but then, again, I fell in love with it. Eight years later, I’m still here.”

Once at Stockwoods, Gonsalves landed in the middle of a case between the Province of Ontario and the Chippewas of Rama First Nation regarding the sharing of profits from Casino Rama, and since then she has demonstrated a willingness to tackle tough issues whether on her feet in court or as an intervenor in cases such as the one regarding safe drug injection sites in Vancouver, B.C., or working on behalf of Canadians seeking compensation from the federal government after being tortured in Syria.

Gonsalves has worked two cases on behalf of the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation involving the reality TV show Dragon’s Den. She continues to pursue her interest in those wrongly convicted by working pro bono with The Innocence Project at Osgoode Hall.

And, while pursuing her master’s degree, she also started teaching administrative law at Osgoode Hall Law School, where she is now an adjunct professor.

“All of which makes her a unique and powerful lawyer. "The expression steel fist in a velvet glove comes to mind,” said Paul Le May, managing partner at Stockwoods, when asked to describe Gonsalves. “Andrea comes to court prepared, organized and ready to help the judge find in her client’s favour. She is unfailingly pleasant and courteous, even if the lawyer opposite is not. However, she will fearlessly put forward arguments with an intellectual vigour that makes them most compelling.”

As her law career grew, so did her family. She met her husband, Adam Hanes, B.Eng. ’04 (Engineering), when she was working on her first case, so, according to Gonsalves, he knew what he was getting into. The couple have two young children.

“I like to say, I gave him full notice,” she says, with reference to her career drive.

Gonsalves does not like the word balance. For her, the many moving parts of her life are all pieces of her own, very unique puzzle. Adding to one does not necessarily diminish the other.

“Kids are pretty adaptable,” she says. “My son is old enough to understand what it means for mommy to go to work. It’s important to me that they understand that my career, as a mom and as a woman, is important and achievable. It’s just as legitimate for a mom and a woman to have a career like this.”

Success to her is not about racking up wins, or balancing her work and home life. Amongst her greatest victories thus far, she counts cases that never come close to going to court or making the front page of a newspaper. That might say more about Gonsalves than any awards, or professional recognition she has received thus far. And that’s quite a bit. A well-written letter was enough to win the day for one particular client, who phoned Gonsalves in tears, thanking her.

“It wasn’t high profile or anything, but those are the ones where you say, ‘ya that’s pretty awesome. I can help people,’” she says. “There are so many other aspects of the job that are difficult, so when you get even those little success stories, I really cherish those.”
In March, tens of thousands gathered in Leicester, England, to celebrate King Richard III. Among them was Michael Ibsen. Richard III's 17th-generation nephew. The quiet, reserved Western University graduate (BMus’79) was mobbed by tourists as well as dignitaries. He signed hundreds of autographs and shook countless hands.

Not only does Ibsen, 58, have a rare genetic link to the last English king slain in battle, but this past winter, the London, Ont.-born cabinetmaker handcrafted the wooden coffin holding King Richard’s bones in his tiny 275-sq.-foot workshop in north London. “To see him lowered into the wooden coffin holding King Richard’s bones in his all-female line extending to Joy Ibsen, in the hope of obtaining a fresh DNA sample to see if it would match those of the bones. Maternal or mitochondrial DNA (mtDNA) is shared by siblings but is only passed down by females. That means any female descendants of Anne’s would match the mtDNA of Margaret, who died childless.

Unfortunately the mtDNA of Joy Ibsen, who died in 2008, didn’t match the remains in Belgium. Still, Ashdown-Hill had found a contemporary mtDNA link to Anne, Margaret, and their brother, Richard III. Around that time, Philippa Langley, a fellow member of the Richard III Society in Britain, asked Ashdown-Hill the mother of all questions: Where is Richard’s body anyway?

No one knew. According to reports, the king had been hastily buried in the church of the Grey Friars priory after being killed at the Battle of Bosworth in 1485. Though the priory’s buildings were destroyed in the 16th century, new research focused attention on a parking lot in Leicester.

Eight years later, the day before the dig started, Michael Ibsen was in Leicester. While cameras snapped, Ibsen swabbed the inside of his cheek to provide a fresh DNA sample, handing it to Turi King, a Canadian-born geneticist at the University of Leicester. Then Ibsen returned to London, England, where he works. The next day, they found those now-famous bones.

After five months of genetic analysis, King told Ibsen that she had found a three-way match between the bones. Ibsen and another newly discovered mtDNA descendant. That could only mean one thing: the skeleton was Richard III. Then she took Ibsen to see Richard’s bones at the university. “In terms of emotional impact, it really began when standing next to the remains of Richard III, realizing your relationship with him, genealogically and in terms of the mitochondrial DNA, but also in terms of seeing the terrible injuries,” he says. “You can see the blade marks on the skull, the nicks on his face, and think ‘It’s a horrible way to die.’”

It was a singular experience. “This man was a king of England,” he says. “There is a part of him, a tangible physical part of him that is part of me.” People were putting Michael Ibsen’s name forward as a regal coffin builder even before the dig began. “I thought, ‘Absolutely! He’s a carpenter. If we find Richard, we’ll need a coffin,’” Langley says. She immediately rang Ibsen. “I’d be honoured,” she recalls him responding.

It may not have happened if Ibsen had kept to his first passion. Though he enjoyed industrial arts in the other London, the Ontario city where he grew up, he had to choose between that and music. He picked the latter, studying the French horn and cello at Western University. After graduating in 1979, he spent a few years freelancing as a musician in Europe.

Ibsen is grateful to Western for two things. First, for insisting that music students take courses in other disciplines. That requirement “both broadened my horizons at an early adult age and gave me a taste for medieval history,” he says. And on a personal level, he recalls, “I studied with Fergus McWilliams, who encouraged me to look beyond the practice room into the wider world.”

By the mid-1980s, he was in London, England, reconsidering his options. He eventually took a course in joinery, learning to make all the traditional woodworking joints by hand. It rekindled his love for the craft. He’s created cabinets, a staircase and now a coffin for a king. His elegant design is one of straight lines and small angles. “I’m not producing some sort of woodworking masterpiece, because I don’t think it’s about me,” the cabinetmaker explains. “It’s about Richard.” During the winter, he made the coffin out of English oak in his tiny 275-sq.-foot workshop in north London.

Now, after so many centuries of anonymity, Richard III resides at the centre of life in Leicester. No longer under a parking lot, but in a cathedral, inside a wooden coffin made by his 17th-generation nephew, under stone, all marked with his name.

This is a revised and edited version of “The curious case of a parking lot king,” which appeared in the April 13, 2015, edition of Maclean’s and on Macleans.ca.

By Patricia Treble

“THERE IS A PART OF HIM, A TANGIBLE PHYSICAL PART OF HIM THAT IS PART OF ME.”

Left: This path writer, cabinetmaker Michael Ibsen, BMus’79, the 17th-generation nephew of King Richard III, handcrafted the wooden coffin holding King Richard’s bones in tiny 275-sq.-foot workshop in north London, England. (Photo by Chalara Jones)


Richard III’s coffin processes on a gun carriage through Leicester on its way to the cathedral. (Photo by Suzanne Plunkett/Reuters)
Tentree butterfly partnership in Mexico has deep Western roots

For the Emsley brothers, money does grow on trees. But their business model is about much more than that.

“Some companies are focusing on reducing environmental impact, making a supply chain sustainable. But we’re not just focusing on reducing; we’re focusing on making change,” said Derrick Emsley, HBA’12. “We don’t use the terms ‘environmentally friendly’ or ‘eco-conscious.’ We call ourselves ‘eco-progressive.’ We want to change the world.”

Derrick, along with his brother, Kalen Emsley, HBA’11, and business partner David Luba, founded tentree, an apparel brand that plants – just as its name would indicate – ten trees for every item purchased. The company took off roughly three years ago, even garnering support from CBC’s Dragons’ Den roughly three years ago, even garnering support from CBC’s Dragons’ Den along the way. Today, the tentree brand is available in more than 350 retail locations across Canada. It’s also heading south this season, to more than 100 stores in the United States.

“Kalen and I have a background in forestry. In high school, we had a carbon-offsetting project and planted about 150,000 trees outside of Regina at the time of the Kyoto Protocol. We got great experience and understanding of the environmental impact and the economics behind planting trees,” Derrick Emsley explained. “There’s people focusing on reducing, apparel companies sourcing organic cotton, but there’s nobody making an effort to actually change things. We felt there was an opportunity.”

In just three short years, tentree has partnered with numerous environmental groups and non-governmental organizations in developing countries – including Madagascar, Cambodia and Senegal – planting some 5 million trees along the way.

Focusing on reforestation changes lives and builds a better world, Emsley explained. Planting trees revitalizes dry, and soil. It provides a substantial oxygen supply. It gives food, fuel and fodder for livestock. It even provides employment for locals who receive training and take up tree planting when

Derrick Emsley – the ‘chief planter’ – heads to start a new project in another country. “We partner with some really incredible organizations. We like the idea of not focusing our efforts (in one area) all the time. It’s important but there are so many good opportunities you could miss out on, and a lot of really meaningful projects,” Derrick Emsley continued. “You can really tell a compelling story with these smaller projects.”

Enter Pablo Jaramillo-López. For the past five years, Jaramillo-López has been doing research with the Monarch Butterfly Biosphere Reserve, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, in Michoacán, Mexico. The monarch butterfly’s habitat in Mexico, he explained, is being destroyed, posing a threat to the species’ population. The key to preserving the monarch butterflies in Mexico is forest rehabilitation and conservation.

How small the world could be, Jaramillo-López didn’t know. Through the Monarch Butterfly Fund, a body dedicated to fostering the conservation of North American monarch butterflies, their migration and forest habitat in Mexico, he connected with Kalen Emsley. The pair started talking and found a connection beyond desires for reforestation. Both, it turns out, were Western graduates. Before taking up a post in the Center for Ecosystems Research at the National Autonomous University of Mexico, Jaramillo-López was at Western, where he completed his PhD in Biology in 2009. In his first conversation with Kalen Emsley, he said, both immediately felt there was a preordained partnership.

“As soon as we started talking, Kalen said, ‘I can’t believe you’re from Western. Definitely, I’m coming to Mexico.’ And we had such a good time planting trees together,” Jaramillo-López said.

It’s important to understand how North American monarch butterfly populations operate. People tend to think the butterflies live in forests in the United States and Canada, but they live and breed in prairies, looking for milkweed plants and nectarine flowers. In late summer and autumn, the butterflies migrate south to Mexico where they live in forests, which are currently being destroyed. “There’s a lot of land that was forest to begin with and it’s become agricultural, and because of the high costs of production for either corn, or whatever else, the local owners of the land have left it to erode. It’s barren land,” said Jaramillo-López.

“There are a lot of areas like this in the reserve. We can recover those areas and turn them into forest again. That way, we are removing some of the pressure humans keep asserting on old growth forests, where monarch butterflies go.”

The key, he said, is working with locals in reforestation efforts. There are people that own land and live inside the reserve area. Most Government efforts to recover the land with trees have failed because they approached locals as workers, not as partners or owners of the reforestation project, he added.

“It has become a vicious circle of people getting money for planting trees, except they plant the trees where they’re not supposed to be planted; they plant the wrong species, at the wrong time. The pressure humans keep asserting on old growth forests, where monarch butterflies go.”

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“It has become a vicious circle of people getting money for planting trees, except they plant the trees where they’re not supposed to be planted; they plant the wrong species, at the wrong time. People get paid, everybody benefits, except the environment,” he said.

This is why he is thankful for the partnership with Kalen Emsley and tentree. When Emsley arrived, the two worked directly with locals, taking advantage of the rain season, planting 30,000 trees. “We have to protect the ecosystem and let it grow naturally. The forest is recovering and for this, we have to work with people, too, training

Taking flight

BY ADELA TALBOT, BA’08, MA’11

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them to become forest guards,” said Jaramillo-López.

Tentree’s accountability and persistent on-site efforts need to be recognized, he said, because it ensures both social and environmental benefits of the company’s model are sustainable.

Over the next few months, Tentree is looking to launch a monarch butterfly collection dedicated to the project in Mexico. Proceeds from shirts sold will go towards tree planting and preservation efforts. Derrick Emsley said.

“It was the perfect crime – until it became the perfect mystery.”

It was really surprising, like something out of a novel. Why would you steal this picture – of all pictures,” laughed Joyce Bruhn de Garavito, professor and chair of Modern Languages and Literatures.

The mystery began last spring, when a package arrived at the University College offices of Modern Languages and Literatures. It had been delivered by hand, while office staff was in a meeting. Nobody saw the package delivered or, perhaps more importantly, the person who delivered it. It was found propped atop the department drop box as it was too thick to slide into the mail slot. The package bore no return address – only the department name written across it in black marker.

“I can’t tell you how surprised I was when I opened it. I was away from my desk when it was dropped off, and when I returned there was a padded envelope that was addressed to our department,” said Sylvia Kontra, a graduate affairs assistant for the department. “I opened it up, and this is what I found inside.”

Tightly packed were two items: A framed sketch of a military man, whose garb hinted at the mid-1800s, along with a neatly handwritten note on ruled paper.

“Portrait pilferer returns to scene decades later”

BY JASON WINDERS, MES’10

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To whom it may concern,

I “lifted” this from the German Dept 30 years ago to decorate my dorm room. Here it is back – framed. Thanks for the use of it.

– A former student

And that’s it,” Kontra said. The sketch and note made the move with the department when it relocated to the Arts & Humanities Building last summer, while University College undergoes renovations.

Kontra plans to hang both items in the front of the office, hopefully to one day spark a hint of recognition in a visitor.

“We would love to talk to them,” she continued. “It would be great to hear their story, hear about how our department was back then and what drew them to this picture.”
As Delaware Hall residence at Western is experiencing its 50th year in existence (same age as the Super Bowl, born in 1966), the Alumni Gazette caught up with a few former staff and residents for their reflections.

Delaware has traditionally housed a learning community of students from the Don Wright Faculty of Music, which led to lively Delaware Coffee Houses and random weeknight jam sessions in the second-floor Formal Lounge. Students and procrastinators alike gathered to listen to a small, but mighty group of talented musicians and to feel part of a community.

“What I remember most about Delaware Hall was the palpable sense of community. It came from many places - from the care and commitment of Residence Advisors and Dons who made sure students were safe and connected. It came from the passion and energy of Sophs who kept the Deli spirit alive long past O-Week. It came from the quiet dedication of front desk, hospitality and caretaking staff who turned the ‘X’ into a home for hundreds of incoming students each year,” said Stephanie Hayne Beatty, Residence Manager, Delaware Hall 2003-04. She is currently the Experiential Learning Team Coordinator at Western’s Student Success Centre.

Delaware Hall was Deborah Coward-Bates’ home for her first year at Western.

“IW specifically was where I lived, and along with our sister wing 1S, we all became very close that year. It was a year that led to amazing friendships, silly memories, incredible experiences, and ultimately a wonderful Western degree, “ said Coward-Bates, BA’96, Dpl’99, BA’99, Dpl’05, Director of Administration at Western’s Office of the Registrar.

“In fact the close friendships I formed at Deli - with five amazing, supportive, talented and interesting women - have lasted for the more than 20 years since we graduated. Whether our friendship solidified due to my first experience with a coed bathroom, or the United Way Bake Sale we coordinated using the Delaware Kitchen, or the Deli Formal Ball, or all the small experiences in between, it is a global friendship that I know will last a lifetime.”

Now Assistant Director, Housing Services at Western, back in the 1990s, Christopher Bumbacco was on staff at Delaware as a Residence Manager.

“I had worked in, and visited residences at other universities but this was the first one that had its own self-contained dining room. The Formal Lounge with grand piano was something I could not believe was a residence amenity. These features, combined with the building layout, where residents walked through their floor lounge on the way to their rooms made it almost impossible for people not to make friends. There was even a staff lounge,” he said.

Both he and Coward-Bates commented that although there were more than 400 people in the building, by the end of a school year, most you knew by face and name. and many were friends.

Share your memories of Delaware online at alumni.westernu.ca/connect/deli. You can also update your information to be invited to the anniversary celebration this fall.

WHAT’S CHANGING AT DELI?

Delaware Hall now boasts the greatest amount of living space when compared to other residence bedrooms on campus. New standard closets have replaced the built-in closets and drawer units, maximizing the space within each room. Floor lounges and study rooms are being fully renovated to provide more space for floor activities while new flooring, paint and other finishes have been completed throughout the building. Gone are the pink tiles in the washrooms and showers! The servery and dining room are also being updated. Finished tiles are being installed to match the more modern standard throughout. The servery will boast a new interactive cooking station, allowing for customized meals, such as stir fry, made right before the resident’s eyes. The renovation is targeting LEED Silver Certification (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design), making Delaware Hall the second LEED residence on campus. Renovations began in the summer of 2014 in preparation for the incoming class this fall.
Robert Bianchin, BA’93 (Economics), never intended to lead a technical and artistic revolution more than a century in the making. “I didn’t grow up with guns,” he said. “Maybe I would go to someone’s farm and shoot an old shotgun. But it wasn’t part of my day-to-day upbringing.”

But a move to the United States, after he met and married “the perfect American woman,” changed this Hamilton, Ont., boy’s outlook. “All my friends asked me, ‘Hey, Rob, what’s the difference between Canada and the United States?’ I would joke and say, ‘It’s pretty much the same, but there are more guns and bumper stickers down here. And then I go and end up in the gun business.’”

Today, Bianchin is founder and president of Pennsylvania-based Cabot Guns, a manufacturer of what many consider a perfected version of an American standard – the M1911 pistol. “When I moved to the United States, everything American had a lot of appeal to me,” Bianchin said. “This is the classic handgun as far as representing Americana. It has such a rich history. I don’t know how many mechanical objects, designed more than 100 years ago, are still the same as far as how they work.

“When you have design that is enduring, it is remarkable.”

Designed by John Moses Browning, the 1911 pistol was popularized during the First World War, and was the standard-issue sidearm for all U.S. Armed Forces from 1911-1986. In total, nearly 3 million 1911 pistols were produced for the military alone during its service life. Although replaced by the Beretta M9 for military use, the 1911 remains popular among collectors and competitive shooters.

Traditionally, the gun has been mass produced with the usual pitfalls of the process – compromised accuracy, tolerance and repeatability. “I thought this is crazy,” Bianchin said. “With the technology we have, and specifically with the technology that was here in Butler County, Penn, I thought we could make a gun like a Swiss watch – perfect.” And that’s what he did.

Collaborating with Penn United Technologies, a leading precision metal manufacturer, Bianchin built a gun to aerospace precision standards. While he can discuss the technical details, what it amounts to is a highly accurate weapon. Perhaps most eye-catching about a Cabot Gun is its gleaming silver mirror-like finish. The look is the result of extensive hand polishing (about 32 hours) by masters of the craft. Each Cabot 1911 takes four months and more than 70 craftsmen to build.

He has also sourced unconventional material for the guns’ grips – amber, mother of pearl, even mammoth horn or meteorite. Bianchin debuted his 1911 at the National Rifle Association (NRA) Gun Show in Pittsburg, Pa., in 2011. Within a few months, he knew he was onto a full-time opportunity.

Today, the company produces a variety of styles, ranging in price from $6,000-$40,000. “I understand the luxury handgun market better than anyone – because I am the only one in it,” he said. “People look at our guns like a piece of art or a collectable. They aren’t just buying a gun; they are buying quality.”

Cabot is expanding into the premium market, where a handful of companies are selling handguns in the $3,000-$5,000 range. That market features a 10-fold increase in customers over the luxury market, however, Bianchin stressed, Cabot will never be a mass market product or brand. As for his friends back home, Bianchin admits to still being a bit of a mystery to them. “I think several of them have been scratching their heads. But it’s nothing I would have expected either,” he said. “Life is funny.”
Western Chancellor Joseph L. Rotman, BA'57, LL'D'09, O.C., a renowned Canadian business mogul and philanthropist, died Jan. 27 in Toronto. He was 80. As a memorial, Western Philosophy professors Henrik Lagerlund and Charles Weijer, the acting director and former director, respectively, of the Rotman Institute of Philosophy, as well as institute member Christopher Smeenk, offer thoughts on the legacy of learning Rotman leaves behind on Western’s campus.

Joseph Rotman’s legacy at Western

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A life examined

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Joseph Rotman often said, philosophy transformed his life. He didn’t intend to study the subject when he came to Western in the late 1950s, but after one course with the chair of the Department of Philosophy, Alister Johnston, Rotman switched his major from Business. Philosophy not only awoke his thirst for further learning, but the values and critical skills he acquired stayed with him for the rest of his life. Indeed, his philosophical education informed everything he did thereafter – from his successful business career to his work as philanthropist and patron of the arts. When Rotman started to think about giving back to Western, it was natural he first turned to Philosophy. But his work as philanthropist and patron of the arts. When Rotman started to think about giving back to Western, it was natural he first turned to Philosophy. But his work as philanthropist and patron of the arts. When Rotman started to think about giving back to Western, it was natural he first turned to Philosophy. But his work as philanthropist and patron of the arts.

As he had done with the Rotman School of Management in Toronto, Rotman’s intention at Western was to build something enduring that would positively impact Canada and the world. True to his philosophy of philanthropy, his gift, first and foremost, was of his own time, skill in working with people and experience in strategic planning.

Western’s Department of Philosophy has long been one of the leading projects in philosophy of science. It was thus fitting that Rotman’s initial donation funded the Rotman Canada Research Chair (CRC) in Philosophy of Science. At the same time that Robert Batterman was hired to fill the Rotman CRC, Charles Weijer was recruited into the CRC in Bioethics.

The timing of their recruitments was coincidence, but it proved to be fateful. Using infrastructure funds that came with their research chairs, professors Batterman and Weijer had an idea to build something new. Philosophy is commonly thought of as a solitary pursuit; teamwork on projects is unusual. But the complexity of the philosophical issues raised by contemporary science demanded then – and continue to demand today – a new approach. Their idea was to emulate key features of a science lab – teamwork, trainees and shared space – in philosophy. In so doing they created the world’s first ‘philosophy laboratory’ – the SEER (Science Epistemology and Ethics Research) Lab, bringing together graduate students, postdoctoral fellows, philosophers and scientists to work collaboratively on issues in contemporary science that impact society at large.

Rotman immediately saw the potential. A passionate Canadian and keen observer of society, Rotman saw a gap in social discourse about science and technology that only philosophy and the humanities, in general, could fill. The boffins of science and technology can tell us what can be done, but we need philosophers or humanists to lead Canadians in discussions about what should be done.

During his first visit to SEER in March 2008, Rotman met with the lab. It was an encounter all present will never forget. Each of us was questioned about our work and how it would make a difference in the world. Rotman was particularly taken by the talent of our trainees, remarking that “these are the best students I have seen in 20 years of working with universities.” It was plain that all present shared a vision of a future in which scientists and humanists work side by side.

By November 2008, a new donation from Rotman created the Rotman Institute of Philosophy, which is dedicated to collaborative research between scientists and humanists, training the leaders of tomorrow and public outreach. While the Rotman Institute is now only six years old, Rotman’s impact on our growth and ambition has been profound. As a donor, he was deeply involved in the institute’s development, but keenly aware and respectful of academic freedom. He helped us recognize the importance of establishing a clear intellectual identity among our peers and the public. This is reflected in our brand, which brilliantly distils Rotman’s interest and leadership in research initiatives on the human brain also inspired a closer collaboration between the Rotman Institute and Western’s Neuroscience Research Institute.

In order to succeed, the institute must transcend disciplinary boundaries and extend its reach across Western’s campus and beyond. He insisted our work make a difference by leading conversations with Canadians about science and its impact on society. Each of these aspects of Rotman’s vision is reflected in the institute’s current strategic plan.

Working with Rotman was a transformative experience for each of us. In a society that can often seem defined by quick success and instant celebrity, Rotman was refreshingly ‘old school’ while remaining intellectually adventurous. He had high standards and demanded a great deal of people working with him. Working with him, at times at least, meant failing to meet his expectations. His energy, intellectual vigor and ambitious goals inspired us to do better. The effect on each of us was to be constantly pushed to innovate, to work harder and to make substantive and novel things happen.

And when an idea was good and a project succeeded, there were no sweeter or more meaningful words than his praise. Rotman’s interest and leadership in research initiatives on the human brain also inspired a closer collaboration between the Rotman Institute and Western’s Neuroscience Research Institute.

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Between

The fourth novel by Angie Abdou, MA’02, is a book about the complexities of class, gender, parenthood, and desire.

Vero and her husband Shane have moved out of the sweet suite above his parents’ garage and found themselves smack in the middle of adulthood – two kids, two cars, two jobs. They are not coping well. In response to their looming domestic breakdown, Vero grapples with her overextended role as a mother and struggles to keep her marriage passionate, while Lili silently bears the burden of a secret she left behind at home.

Between offers readers an intriguing, searing portrait of two women from two different cultures. Angie Abdou comically and tragically tackles the issue of international nannies by providing a window to different cultures. Angie Abdou comically and tragically tackles the issue of international nannies by providing a window to different cultures.

The fourth novel by Angie Abdou, MA’02, is a book about the complexities of class, career, labour, and desire. Angie Abdou is a fiction writer and teacher who has an MA’02 in English from Western and a PhD in English Literature from the University of Calgary. She teaches full-time at the College of the Rockies. abdou.ca

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2. Landscapes of War and Memory, by Sherril Grace, BA’55 (MA’74, PhD’74, McGill)
3. Mourning Has Broken, co-edited by Mara Koen Gelman, MA’95
4. The Loyalist’s Luck, by Elaine Cougler, BA’68
5. Josef’s Liar, by Robert Brodsky, BA’94
6. The Buddy Tales, by Neil Alexander, BA’93, BEd’94
7. Intelligent Leaders, by Wayne Townsend, BEd’77
8. Not Coach K. A story of Malvern Basketball, by Steve Thomas, BA’68
9. The Tecumsehs of the International Association, by Brian (Chip) Martin, BA’74
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16. Marianne: A Woman Ahead of Her Time, by Richard Wink, MSc’70, Cert’70
17. DarkNet, by John R. Little, BSc’77
18. Canada’s Population in a Global Context, by Frank Trowbridge, BA’76, MA’78, PhD’83
19. Personal Encounters, by Laurence Hutchman, BA’72, (PhD’89, U of Montreal)
20. Playing with Matches, by Sun Rosen, MUS’11
21. The Words and Music of Alanis Morissette by Karen Fourrier, MA’94, PhD’02
22. Tsunami Chaos Global Heart, excerpts by Dr. Sherryn Rambihar, MD’05 & Dr. Vanessa Rambihar, BHSc’98
23. Rubé: King of the Hall of Flakes, by R. L. B. Round, BA’74
24. The Life and Times of Transition Girl, by Sonia Hapem, BA’85, Dpt’88
25. The Ultimate Journey, by Matthew Mordzinski, BA’95
26. After the War is Over, by Jennifer Robson, BA’92 (King’s)
27. Hopping Into History, London’s Old East Village by Rambihar, BA’72, LLB’75, (LLM’76), published by David Ben, LLB’87, (LLM’88)
Don’t tell Christine Schreyer that Latin—or any other language, for that matter—is dead. For her, they’re all just resting.

Schreyer, MA’03 (Anthropology), and her life as an assistant professor of anthropology at the University of British Columbia-Okanagan turned to Hollywood in 2011 after she conducted an online survey of people learning Na’vi, a language specifically constructed for the science-fiction film Avatar (2009).

“UBC did a media release about that because I had such a huge response. It was really interesting,” said the linguistic anthropologist, who heard from almost 300 Na’vi speakers, ranging in age from 10 to 80 years old, in 38 different countries.

Around the same time, a production designer for the 2013 Superman movie Man of Steel, Alex McDowell, was on his way to Burnaby, B.C., where the studio had been filming the Smallville sections of the movie. He boarded a plane in Chicago, changed planes in Toronto, where he was handed a copy of The Globe and Mail, and flew on to Vancouver.

“The story on my research was on the cover of The Globe and Mail—on the inside cover page. That’s how it happened, and flew on to Vancouver. The Globe and Mail had a copy of the Smallville sections of the movie. He boarded a plane in Chicago, changed planes in Toronto, where he was handed a copy of The Globe and Mail, and flew on to Vancouver. The Globe and Mail did a media release about that because I had such a huge response. It was really interesting,” said the linguistic anthropologist, who heard from almost 300 Na’vi speakers, ranging in age from 10 to 80 years old, in 38 different countries.

Back on Earth, Schreyer uses her powers to help preserve and protect indigenous languages. She has focused her research on First Nations in Canada and indigenous people of Papua New Guinea.

“All across Canada, there are indigenous languages—all of the indigenous languages in Canada are endangered,” she said. “Some people say Cree and Ojibway and Inuktitut are safe. But I disagree with that. They’re still minority languages. They don’t receive the supports that our languages do.”

When completing her master’s degree at Western, Schreyer worked with Cree speakers in Ontario. She recently started working with Secwepemc or Shuswap speakers near where she lives, in the Okanagan.

Outside of Canada, she helped create a written language for a community in Papua New Guinea, one that previously had no alphabet. The language of Kala is spoken in six villages located along the shoreline of the Huon Gulf in Morobe Province, Papua New Guinea. Within these six villages, there are four distinct dialects of Kala. In 2006, due to concern about language shift in their communities, Kala-speaking community members developed the Kala Language Committee to help use the language more in elementary schools, as well as develop an alphabet and dictionary.

Schreyer’s colleague from UBC Okanagan, John Wagner, had done his PhD research in two of the communities that have Kala speakers. They were comfortable enough with him that he was able to bring Schreyer in to help with Kala language preservation.

There are 862 languages in Papua New Guinea. Often, the communities speaking those languages are small. In some cases, some communities only have 500 speaking their language.

Amongst the six villages, there are 2,500 speakers of various dialects of Kala. The key to language preservation is getting it instituted into the education system. That action offers more prestige for speakers of the language, and allows the language to carry on through books and writing systems that are developed and practised.

“The story on my research was on the cover of The Globe and Mail—on the inside cover page. That’s how it happened, and flew on to Vancouver. The Globe and Mail did a media release about that because I had such a huge response. It was really interesting,” said the linguistic anthropologist, who heard from almost 300 Na’vi speakers, ranging in age from 10 to 80 years old, in 38 different countries.

Papua New Guinea has a policy that kids can go to school for the first three years of education in their mother tongue, in their indigenous language. Schreyer said, “But often there’s not enough of those resources yet. That’s why we were working with those speakers.”

Schreyer isn’t a fan of the term ‘dead’ or ‘extinct’ when it comes to languages. She feels it strongly implies no hope of reviving it and there are examples in the recent past of a language being declared ‘dead’ when it was very much alive.

“I wouldn’t call Latin dead. I know people who speak Latin and are trying to bring it back,” she said. “What that term means (extinct or dead) can get fuzzy. Throughout the history of humans, we’ve lost languages. New languages have come. There definitely are other ones that are not used as much. Sometimes people call them ‘sleeping’ languages, so later on they can awaken them.”

One of Schreyer’s greatest joys is seeing her students appreciate the complexity inherent in any language.

“I love when students realize how much more is going on with their communication than they think there is or how complex language is,” she said. “One of the things I get them to do is make languages in their first year of classes. By the end, I ask them, ‘What have you learned through making this language?’ Invariably, the answer is that ‘Language is so much more complicated than I thought.’”
1) PICK SOMETHING YOU LOVE.

Bruce said that Abraham Maslow’s hierarchy of needs is a good basis for determining whether the world really needs your idea. When you find a need that exists, try to cover as many levels of the hierarchy as you can. Your first job is to convince me that there is a need. If you can convince someone there’s this need that they never knew existed and then here’s an idea that can fill it, it’s a double whammy,” said Bruce.

6. COLLABORATE RATHER THAN PROTECT.

An entrepreneur asked Bruce what he would do if his competition came to him with a pitch to collaborate. “I believe we live in a time where there’s no such thing as an original idea,” he responded.

It’s important to understand that if you have a great idea, someone else probably has had it too. “Don’t waste time on protecting what you have that no one else has, or you think no one else has,” said Bruce. “If collaborating with a competitor allows you to get there faster, I’m all over it. You’re going to find out what they’re doing anyway, so you may as well do it now. Protectionism is the exact wrong way to go about building a business.”

7. UNDERSTAND THE 51% TO 49% RULE.

Being an entrepreneur is a full-time, grind-it-out kind of lifestyle, explained Bruce. He believes in the 49/51 rule. According to Bruce, things aren’t going to go your way about 49% of the time, but they will go your way 51% of the time. How you tolerate the 49% of the time when things aren’t going well is a good test of whether you’ll be a good entrepreneur.

This article was made available by MaRS Discovery District. The original appeared online at www.marsdd.com.
About the Spirit of Western Award
The Spirit of Western Award recognizes a Western alumnus or alumnna and their exceptional efforts to support the University community and to expand the influence of the University's alumni network.

Previous recipients include:

- 2014 - Women's Athletic Alumni (WAA) and W Club volunteers
- 2013 - Foundation Volunteer of the Year
- 2012 - Hong Kong Branch
- 2011 - Toronto Branch
- 2010 - Elgin County Branch

Sat, Jun 13, 2015
Notice of Alumni Association AGM
Location: UCC Concrete Beach
12:00 p.m. Annual General Meeting of The Alumni Association of The University of Western Ontario
12:30 p.m. Spirit of Western Award presentation followed by lunch

Event highlights include:
- Presentation of Western Alumni’s 8th Annual Spirit of Western Award
- An opportunity to meet your Alumni Association Board of Directors and learn about what is new at Western
- Barbecue lunch and live music

Everyone is welcome. Complimentary parking will be available. To register, visit: westernconnect.ca/aaagm

Looking to reconnect?
The new Western Alumni Online Directory makes networking and reconnecting easy.
You can now search an online database of more than 140,000 Western alumni all around the world.

It’s a great way to:
- find alumni living in your city
- make connections with alumni working in your field
- reconnect with classmates
- offer to become a mentor

You can also view your profile and update your information. It’s an easy way to network and reconnect with fellow alumni and stay in touch with Western.

Visit: westernconnect.ca/directory
Have questions? Email us at alumni-directory@uwo.ca

Juggun Kazim, BA’02 (MIT), her husband Faisal Naqvi, and friends at a Toronto alumni event March 10, “An Evening with Juggun Kazim.” (Photo provided)

ALUMNI EVENTS

Connect with old friends and make some new ones at Western alumni events happening in locations around the world. Many of our events are family-friendly and offer a great opportunity to enjoy the summer months with the company of fellow alumni. Our full events listing can be found at: alumni.uwo.ca/connect/events

FEATURED EVENTS

MAY 23 – Alumni Day at The Stratford Festival - The Sound of Music and The Diary of Anne Frank (Stratford, ON)
MAY 26 – Munro’s Places of the Heart – Toronto Lecture Series (Toronto, ON)
MAY 26 – Doug Gibson’s Stories about Storytellers (Toronto, ON)
MAY 30 – Rick McGhee heads West (Calgary, AB)
JUNE 6 – Rick McGhee at the Steam Whistle (Toronto, ON)
JUNE 10 – Elgin County Branch 75th Anniversary Dinner (St. Thomas, ON)
JUNE 13 – Alumni Association AGM (London, ON)
JUNE 18 – Ottawa Spring Social (Ottawa, ON)
JUNE 20 – Western Alumni Toronto Branch Golf Tournament (Brampton, ON)
JUNE 21 – Alumni Day at African Lion Safari (Hamilton, ON)
JULY 20 – Toronto Branch Golf Tournament (Brampton, ON)
AUGUST 15 – New York Yankees at Toronto Blue Jays (Toronto, ON)
SEPTEMBER 25-27 – Homecoming

Have questions? Email us at alumni-directory@uwo.ca

About the Spirit of Western Award
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Previous recipients include:

- 2014 - Women’s Athletic Alumni (WAA) and W Club volunteers
- 2013 - Foundation Volunteer of the Year
- 2012 - Hong Kong Branch
- 2011 - Toronto Branch
- 2010 - Elgin County Branch
- 2009 - Senior Alumni Committee
- 2008 - London Branch
- 2007 - Elgin County Branch 75th Anniversary
- 2006 - Alumni Day at African Lion Safari
- 2005 - Toronto Alumni Day
- 2004 - Women’s Athletic Alumni (WAA) and W Club volunteers

Everyone is welcome. Complimentary parking will be available. To register, visit: westernconnect.ca/aaagm

Looking to reconnect?
The new Western Alumni Online Directory makes networking and reconnecting easy.
You can now search an online database of more than 140,000 Western alumni all around the world.

It’s a great way to:
- find alumni living in your city
- make connections with alumni working in your field
- reconnect with classmates
- offer to become a mentor

You can also view your profile and update your information. It’s an easy way to network and reconnect with fellow alumni and stay in touch with Western.

Visit: westernconnect.ca/directory
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Juggun Kazim, BA’02 (MIT), her husband Faisal Naqvi, and friends at a Toronto alumni event March 10, “An Evening with Juggun Kazim.” (Photo provided)

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AWARDS AND HONOURS

Eight alumni were named 2014 Rising Star Award winners from L教育 including Domenico Maglione, LL.B’00, Lamos LEF, David Johnson, BA’97, LL.B’00, Finken-Mathieu Southam (LL.B. Toronto), Shaun Graham, BA’11, LL.M’12, RBC Law Group, Toronto; Brenda C. Swartz, BA’98, OMPA Administration Corp., Toronto; Eva Bellissimo, BASC’98, LL’01, Cassinis-Brock & Blake, Toronto; Alysha Valentine, BA’10, LL.B’01, Oxford Properties Group Inc., Toronto; Mclaren, LL.B’03, Thorston LLP, Toronto, and Shaver Irving, LL.B’01, Osler Hoskin & Harcourt LLC, Toronto. Thirteen alumni from Stikeman Elliott were recognized among the 2015 Best Lawyers in Canada, presented by the Best Lawyers in Canada legal directories, including, from left, Amandine Uenoit, LL.B’01, Rodenburger, BSC’72, Ronald Durand, M.B.A’73, LL.B’76, David R. Byrne, BA’74, David O. Wekese, LL.B’82, Dana S. Porter, BA’82, Lorna Cuthbert, LL.B’90, Mathew J. Bax, BA’93, BEd’95, and Richard and Liesbet Jansen, BA’93. Several alumni were named recipients of the 2014 Prime Minister’s Award in Distinguished University Professorships among Western’s latest honorees of Medicine & Dentistry; and Schulich School MSc’75, DDS’77, Ivey Business School; Mary Crossan BA’81, MBA’85, PhD’91, and Alysha Valenti, BA’00, LLB’03, London Honours List. Eight alumni were named Distinguished University Professorships among Western’s latest honorees of Medicine & Dentistry; and Schulich School MSc’75, DDS’77, Ivey Business School; Mary Crossan BA’81, MBA’85, PhD’91, and Alysha Valenti, BA’00, LLB’03, London Honours List. Eight alumni were named Distinguished University Professorships among Western’s latest honorees of Medicine & Dentistry; and Schulich School MSc’75, DDS’77, Ivey Business School; Mary Crossan BA’81, MBA’85, PhD’91, and Alysha Valenti, BA’00, LLB’03, London Honours List.

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Gazetteer

In November 2021, Suzanne Tyzen, BA'86, MBA'96, launched HighEdPoints. ca, a program that allows students to convert loyalty points (specifically from Aeroplan Miles) into payments for higher education. For the 50 institutions in the program, Tyzen is most proud to count Western as a contributor and affiliate as participating institutions.

Kevin, BA’87, and Betty, BA’84, (Chelseas) Dixon welcomed daughter Kristen Dorey, BES’14, to the Western Alumni family. They are equally proud of their son, Liam, a second-year MPT student in the Faculty of Information & Media Studies.

William Furlong, MBA’87, was appointed commissioner of the Ontario Securities Commission.

Dale MacMaster, MBA’87, was appointed chief investment officer at Alberta Investment Management Corp.

Charles Olver, BSc’87, was appointed to the legislature Gold Board of Directors.

Paul Pew, BAF’87, was appointed lead lawyer for Shaw Communications Inc., in Calgary.

Founded by Christiana Saars, BA’87, and her husband, the Connession Point has just been named the Inc. 500 fastest-growing private companies in the United States.

Daniel Alt, BA’88, was appointed vice-president (finance) at the University of Guelph.

Roger Beck, BA’88, was appointed chief investment officer for NovaBac Technologies Inc., in Calgary.

Colin Foster, MBA’88, was appointed president/CEO of the Israel-based Bio Blast Pharma Inc.
owned by Mark Brown, MBA’95, and Mark-Ellen Willard, BA’88, J.D. M.I.C. Creative Inc. was named a London Chamber of Commerce Business of the Year Award finalist in January.

Stephen Leecce, BA’84. FIFA media relations director was appointed as an interim chief of staff for Minister of Veterans Affairs Julian Fantino.

Michael Brattman, BA’89, executive director of Ernst and Ernst Insurance in Waterloo, was appointed president of the Insurance Brokers Association of Ontario.

David Gibbs, MBA’89, was appointed to the Board of Governors of The Institute of Chemical Engineers.

Linda Hasenfratz, BSc’89, MBA’97, was named Canada’s Ernst & Young Entrepreneur of the Year.

Jeffrey MacDonald, BSc’89, was appointed as interim CEO of EcoSynth in Burlington.

All Schoenbergh, MBA’89, was appointed Canadian vice-president at Go Daddy.

1990s

Donald Johnson, MBA’90, was appointed to the MSA International Advisory Board.

Brenda Mulroy, BA’90, was promoted to assistant manager of Strategic Services at York Regional Police.

Jill Schoenbergh, MBA’90, was appointed Canadian vice-president at Go Daddy.

Robert Anderson, BA’93, Opt’92, MA’94 (King’s, Sociology), was appointed to five-year term as Western’s Dean of Faculty of Social Science.

Scott Antonia, BA’90 (King’s), was appointed CEO of the RMI Real Estate Investment Trust in Toronto.

Ahmad Chamseddine, BSc’91, MEng’93, was appointed vice-president/CEO of the Pivot3 Inc. in Austin, Texas.

Danielle Dimitrov, BA’93, was appointed president/CEO of Onva Metals Corp., headquartered in Toronto.

Para-cyclist Shelley Gautier, BA’91, was nominated for the 2015 Laureus Sportsperson of the Year with a Disability Award.

Douglas Melville, JD’91, MBA’93, was appointed as an underwriter for the Channel Islands Financial Services.

Lisa Sweetman, BA’93, was appointed president of the Air-Boss of America Corp., in Newmarket, Ont.

Lance Cessar, BA’92, LLB’02, is celebrating the first anniversary of his labour and employment law practice, Cessar Work Counsel. Previously, Cresser practiced with a management labour and employment law firm as well as an in-house employment counsel to BlackBerry.

Kathryn Denton, PhD’92, was appointed as the eighth president of Douglas College in New Westminster, B.C.

Joseph Lyn, BA’87, was appointed director of real estate investments at Ontario Power Generation in Toronto.

John Gillberry, MBA’93, president, CEO of Bayfield Capital Group, has been appointed an independent director for GuestLogix.

Elvin Jagar, LLB’93, was appointed Ambassador of Canada to Mongolia.

Kimberly Milsten, BA’93, past president/CEO of the Simi Valley Hospital, was appointed CEO of the Ventura County Medical Center, California.

Mark Morabito, JD’93, has been appointed to the Board of Directors of the Roughton Exploration Ltd., Vancouver.

Gastroenterologist Romu Pancarcione, MD’89, recently joined Qu Biologics, in Vancouver, as a member of its Inflammatory Bowel Disease (IBD) advisory team.

Janet De Silva, MBA’94, was appointed president/CEO of the Toronto Region Board of Trade. For 14 years, she served as CEO of Sun Life Financial’s joint venture in Hong Kong and Mainland China. Following that, De Silva co-founded Retail China Limited, a company that operated retail stores and managed franchises for international retail brands in China. For the past three-and-a-half years, she has been dean of the Ivey Business School Hong Kong campus and Mainland China operation.

Arthur Lau, MBA’94, has an expanded role in Pinridge Investments Ltd. as co-head of Emerging Markets Fixed Income and head of Asia Fixed Income.

Jennifer Wu, BHSc’07, is the newest associate lawyer at Wilman Edmonds LLP, where she practices civil litigation primarily in the areas of plaintiff personal injury, commercial litigation, employment litigation and estate litigation. Last December, Wu won her first solo trial in a matter involving a mortgage contract dispute.

Dr. Jeffrey M. Turnbull, MD’90, is the medical director of Ottawa’s Inner City Health Project, was named a member of the Order of Ontario.

Ammar Al Joudi, MBA’91, has been appointed president of Agnico Eagle Mines Ltd., headquartered in Toronto.

Celebrate your life’s milestones.

We want to join in the celebration.

Share your updates about your new job or business, wedding, new home or baby, and Western Alumni will send you a gift with our congratulations!

To visit alumni.westernu.ca/milestones to send us your news and to learn more about our Milestones Program.

Offered in partnership with:

Susanne Knapp, BSc’88, was appointed executive director of the London Symphony Orchestra and president of London’s Symphony Orchestra Foundation.

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Discover the World

Western Alumni’s 2015-16 Discover the World program offers travel opportunities for Western alumni and their friends and family, faculty, staff and friends of the University.

Join like-minded travelers on one of our journeys, enhanced by knowledgeable lecturers and tour directors, offering an exceptional cultural and educational experience.

To view all upcoming trips, visit alumni.westernu.ca/travel.

Contact Susan Henderson to be added to our mailing list.
Tel: 519-663-2111 or 1.800.258.6896 ext. 85871
Email: discovertheworld@uwo.ca
Kevin Yuang, RM05’12, started a new job as an analytics partner and stakeholder engagement lead for Magnet Today.

2000s

Ritu Bhasin, LLB’00, founder of the Bhavni Consulting Inc., received the City of Toronto’s 2014 William P. Hubbard Award for Race Relations.

W. Peter Callen, MBA’00, was appointed chief privacy advisor for Volatilityin Seattle.

Craig McGillivray, MBA’00, was appointed business director at Breakthrough Entertainment in Toronto.

2015 Western University Award in the Humanities and Arts, where we have recognized a new concert series that has brought 10 concerts to venues, including The D.B. Weldon Library and Stevenson-Lawson building.”

Jonathan Wielcholtz, BA’00, was appointed co-founder of the Sportpenn Canadian Equity Fund and Sportpenn Canadian Equity Class.

Tae Mee Park, BA’01, was appointed president/portfolio manager of the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation.

She was up from No. 39 in 2013.

She was appointed consultant to Egon Zehnder.

Sharon Wei, BM00’00, has been her new job at Western for more than one year. After 14 years in the United States, she returned to Canada to teach as an assistant professor of virology. “It’s been wonderful to meet the next generation of musicians and I’ve been especially excited about a new partnership with the School of Advanced Studies in the Humanities and Arts, where we have programmed a new concert series that has brought 10 concerts to venues, including The D.B. Weldon Library and Stevenson-Lawson building.”

Jonathan Wielcholtz, BA’00, was appointed co-founder of the Sportpenn Canadian Equity Fund and Sportpenn Canadian Equity Class.

Elena Alice, on Aug. 4, at 1:43 a.m. weighing 8 lbs. 11 oz.

Kevin Yuang, RM05’12, started a new job as an analytics partner and stakeholder engagement lead for Magnet Today.

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Our Global Commitment Beyond The Gates

As a student, Western encouraged you to combine your studies with community service learning. Now, as an alumnus, you can continue this tradition through Western Alumni Services.

Volunteer alongside other Western alumni in your area to support a local community organization. Whether it’s a tree planting, a building project or reading to elementary school children at the local library. Western Alumni Services is a perfect way to show that Western alumni are committed to improving society – one community project at a time.

For more information about Western Alumni Services and how Western can support your project, visit alumni.westernu.ca/services

In Memoriam

Donald Frederick Demaray, BA’62, on December 25, 2014, in London, Ont.

Dr. Melvyn Charles Usselman, BA’54, on November 5, 2014, in Victoria, B.C.

Brian Edward Summerfield, BA’06 (Economics), just completed his doctorate in Economics from the University of Guelph and is working at Aberdeen University in Scotland on a doctorate in Economics from the University of Calgary.

Fraser Edward Summerfield, BA’06, was awarded both the Lorne Award for Excellence in the Social Sciences and the President’s Award for academic excellence.

He is a project manager in New York, New York.

He was appointed as a Research Engineer at Cella Harper & Sinto LLP in New York.

They cannot wait to decorate their first home together in London.

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IN MEMORIAM

Margaret Evans, BA’34, on December 18, 2014, in Windsor, Ont.

Joan Emily Thompson, BA’77, on December 30, 2014, in Stratford, Ont.

Malcolm Howard Wilson, BA’76 (Hon.), on December 11, 2014, in Stratford, Ont.


Sylvia Ann Farrell, BA’69 (Huron), on December 23, 2014, in Hamilton, Ont.

Mervyn Harold Lakin, MD’56, on December 5, 2014, in London, Ont.

Michelle Kervanka, BA’11, got married, bought their first house and started a new job, all in a span of three months last fall.

Michelle Karwasky, BEng’11, who met while attending Western, have purchased their first home together in London.

They cannot wait to decorate their house with a few Western memories.

Dr. Tedi Nicholas Roman, BA’54, on January 1, 2015, in London, Ont.

Mary Margaret McInroy, DplNur’56, on September 1, 2014, in Phoenix, AZ.

Mary Margaret McIntyre, DPnur’56, on January 1, 2015, in London, Ont.

Donald Frederick Demaray, BA’62, on December 25, 2014, in London, Ont.

Dr. Tedi Nicholas Roman, BA’54, on January 1, 2015, in London, Ont.

Mary Margaret McInroy, DplNur’56, on September 1, 2014, in Phoenix, AZ.

Mervyn Harold Lakin, MD’56, on December 5, 2014, in London, Ont.

Sylvia Ann Farrell, BA’69 (Huron), on December 23, 2014, in Hamilton, Ont.

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sign of broader changes in journalism, and
because it brought the memories flooding
back.

The Gazette. I see from no less an
authority than Wikipedia, was launched in
1906 as a handwritten literary journal called
In Cap and Gown. Newsprint, and type-set
copy, followed in 1908; the name changed
in 1910 and it wasn’t until 1948 that the
paper moved from weekly to twice-weekly
publication. It stayed weekly until 1991.
Most of my gang had graduated by then,
but we all knew the guy who doubles its
publication schedule, an impish lad named
Scott Feschuk, BA’91, now my colleague at
Maclean’s.

It wasn’t ego or an uncharacteristic
burst of ambition that made Scott turn The
Gazette into what was rather grandiosely
called “Canada’s only daily student
newspaper.” It was desperation, and we
were already feeling the desperation in the
late 1980s. We were putting out so many
pages in a week we could barely stay on top
of the workload. (In our spare time, some of
us were showing up to classes and
doing coursework.) Two medium-
term trends had led to this situation.
First, since at least 1984, The
Gazette had lost heavily-on editorial
quality as a guiding philosophy for the
paper. It was an odd choice in
campus journalism, and most of
the credit is usually put at the door
of Kevin Donovan, BA’84, who
graduated before I got to Western
and is today a star investigative
reporter at the Toronto Star. Most
dads preferred nonstop jokes
about drinking and screwing, or
hard-left politics, or both. We welcomed
both, but also tried to cover student
government, university governance
and City Hall. As a result, The Gazette
was something students actually liked
to pick up and read. They interacted
enthusiastically with what we wrote. There
were lots of letters to the editor, at a time
when you actually needed paper to write
one.

As a direct result, in a pre-Internet era,
every business in London wanted an ad
in The Gazette. Every restaurant, every
store, every place that might attract some
student business was buying ads. So the
editors in my era — Graeme Hamilton,
BA’86; David Kilgour, BA’87; Scott Colby,
BA’88; all still journalists today — were
increasingly buried in ads. At a reasonable
ad-to-copy ratio, that meant that especially
in the autumn, we were putting out monster
papers, 48 pages, 60 pages, sometimes
more on Tuesday and Friday. I think it was
Kilgour who finally decided we couldn’t
keep up. He instituted “special advertising
sections” to sequester some of the lower-
priority ads in the back of the paper, and we
capped the real paper at, I think, 48 pages.
That was still nearly 100 pages of copy we
had to fill every week in the fall.

Hence the decision to go “daily,” that
is, four times a week. Almost all of us old
hands disagreed with the decision, but the
logic of it was actually impeccable. And for
24 years, with inevitable ups and downs in
quality, the daily Gazette has continued to
keep the Western community informed and
entertained.

WE WERE PUTTING
OUT MONSTER PAPERS.
48 PAGES, 60 PAGES,
SOMETIMES MORE ON
TUESDAY AND FRIDAY.

The logic of the new change, everyone
on my email list decided before the Toronto
contingent shifted to choosing a venue
for a pub night, is equally strong. Between
1984 and today, the Internet happened,
with two effects. First, the newspaper
advertising market collapsed, at Western
as everywhere else. Second, print as a
medium for delivering the written word lost
its monopoly. In recent years the paper has
been eight pages, which means the staff
is putting roughly out one-third less copy
in a week than we used to over two days.
Meanwhile the world’s not moving any
faster, and the best way to address that
gap is to move much of the staff’s effort
to online content, delivered as the news
turns.

Already since February, with the
counterplay over Amit Chakma’s salary and
the disqualification of a USC presidential
slate, Gazette staffers have had a bonanza
of real news to cover. I find myself checking
their website for updates much more often
than I used to. And being better rewarded
with fresh new copy. The Gazette keeps up
with the times. It always has.
Adrianne Pieczonka (BMus’85, DMus’12) is one of the most successful sopranos on the international opera scene. An award-winning artist critically acclaimed for her iridescent voice, Adrianne has graced stages throughout Europe, Asia and North America. And her voice first soared at Western.

Extraordinary voices start here.

Help develop the next generation of extraordinary leaders.

extraordinary.westernu.ca