

Alumni Gazette

Summer 2009

Western's Alumni Magazine since 1939



A world of opportunity

Dr. Amit Chakma
Western's 10th President

Is there a future for print?

Homecoming 2009

Alumni Gazette turns 70!

Western

SCHOOL OF GRADUATE AND POSTDOCTORAL STUDIES



“Supportive faculty and advanced academic resources make Western a perfect choice for graduate school. The skills and confidence I gained helped launch my career in the other London.”

Hayley Andrew,
BA'05, MA'06
History

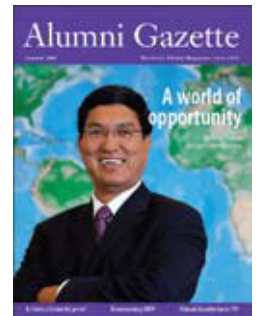
Exhibition Project Coordinator,
Queen's Gallery
(Buckingham Palace)

Few places are more historic than Buckingham Palace, and for Hayley Andrew, an MA in History from Western helped place her in the heart of it. An Exhibition Project Coordinator for the Royal Collection Trust at the Queen's Gallery at Buckingham Palace, she comes face to face with works by the likes of Leonardo da Vinci and Michelangelo on a daily basis and wouldn't want it any other way.

To see where a Western graduate degree can take you, visit: GRAD.UWO.CA



On the cover:
Western's 10th
President, Dr.
Amit Chakma.
(Photo by Shawn
Simpson).



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Former premier, celebrated singer among honorees



A season of change

Changes are in the air at Western - starting at the top and including your alumni magazine.

Western officially welcomed Dr. Amit Chakma as its tenth president and vice-chancellor on July 1. In this issue we introduce you to Dr. Chakma, who comes to us from the role of Vice- President (Academic) and Provost at the University of Waterloo. Alumnus Larry Cornies talks with the new president about his focus and vision as he enters his first term. One of his commitments is to “a Western that is more global.”

It is an exciting time for Western as it strives to brighten its light on the world stage (maybe with a greener light bulb).

This is both a year of change, and anniversaries: Western's mascot J.W. turns 25, the Faculty of Law turns 50,

and both the Alumni Association and Homecoming celebrate their 60th anniversaries in 2009.

This year also marks 70 years of publication for the Alumni Gazette. Although the mission of delivering news of the university and stories of fellow alumni will not change, the way we deliver the message will change going forward. The magazine and newspaper industry in North America is in the midst of pivotal change and alumna Jenni Dunning offers a snapshot of the state of the print industry on page 10.

A move to electronic delivery of the Alumni Gazette has already begun with readers signing up to receive the magazine by e-mail. Our test launch of the e-Gazette started with the spring 2009 issue.

In the inaugural issue of the publication in February 1939, there was a 'voluntary subscription' rate to help defray costs. One dollar could get you a yearly subscription. In the 1940s, each issue cost \$100 to produce for the entire alumni body and postage was only one cent. In the mid-1960s, the Alumni Gazette began to look like a 'real' magazine and started, for the first time since its inception, to receive a budget from the university. Up until then it had relied solely on alumni donations to operate.

The university graduates thousands of new alumni to the world each year. The number of Western alumni

in 1971 was 33,000. Today that total is close to 240,000. The print run for the magazine is approximately 160,000 each issue (that takes into account alumni spouses in the same household, deceased alumni, graduates who don't have current addresses on file and those who do not wish to receive mailings from Western). To do our part for the environment we are considerably reducing the annual print run and mailing of the Alumni Gazette from this point on. As well, with this issue we are printing on paper produced in a more environmentally sustainable manner.

You can read more about our changes in my “Letter to Our Readers” on the facing page and in our house ad on page 9 that explains how to sign up for the electronic version of the magazine.

Thank you for your loyalty and support to the Alumni Gazette over the past seven decades. We will continue to share the compelling stories of our graduates in the years ahead.

Have a safe, warm and happy summer.

David Scott
dscott24@uwo.ca

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Letter to our readers

Alumni Gazette delivery goes digital

They say it's all in the delivery. At the Western Alumni Gazette we're taking a new and greener approach to the delivery of our publication. Beginning with the fall 2009 edition, two of the three regularly published issues each year will be delivered largely electronically. Currently we print and mail almost half a million copies of the magazine annually (160,000 copies, three times a year). The new, more environmentally friendly approach to distribution has already been requested by many of our alumni, and has become standard practice for many publications.

Please note that you will continue to receive a print version each year of the summer issue in the mail, featuring Homecoming previews and other alumni stories.

Receiving the digital version of the Gazette is easy. If you sign up at: www.westernconnect.ca/gazetteonline, you will receive a notification and link to the next edition of the Gazette. The new format will allow you to browse, flip pages, and zoom in on articles, as well as obtain additional information from stories, events and our advertisers by clicking on links. The magazine is also available to read online at: www.alumnigazette.ca

If your email address has changed recently or you want to be sure you receive your electronic fall edition of the Gazette in your inbox, visit: www.westernconnect.ca/gazetteonline and sign up.

Keep an eye out this fall for a fresh, new look to the Gazette and a stronger magazine website. We'll soon begin posting more frequent updates between issues and add features not available in the print copy. Our website, www.alumnigazette.ca, will undergo a complete redesign in the coming year.

As the Western Alumni Gazette celebrates its 70th anniversary this year, we are changing with the times. We hope you agree it is the right thing to do.

As always, if you have questions or comments, we would like to hear from you at:

dscott24@uwo.ca or wag.editor@uwo.ca

Thank you for your interest and support,

David Scott
Editor, Alumni Publications

www.westernconnect.ca/gazetteonline

Faculty known as 'Althouse' to some grads

(Re: Changing the world through education, Spring '09)

With reference to Pat McLaughlin's article about "Changing the world through education," as a Faculty of Ed rep on the university senate in 1974, we were unsuccessful in having the BEd degree conferred retroactively so there are still some of us old Dip. Ed. alumni around that also refer to Western's Faculty of Education affectionately as Althouse.

Bob Malins, DipEd'74

Readers find tribute over-indulgent

(Re: Paul Davenport tribute, Spring '09)

First let it be known that my wife and I both enjoy very much receiving the Alumni Gazette with its mix of old and new news. We also want to acknowledge the wonderful work done by Paul Davenport over these past many

years. He leaves a rich heritage and has been a real role model.

However we found the recent 10-page tribute a bit too much to say the least. We are sure a book with numerous illustrations of his varied accomplishments and photo-ops is in the offing and will make enjoyable reading. But we know there are numerous other 'alumni' and university-related stories to be told that had to be put aside because more than a quarter of this edition was devoted to Davenport's career. This is just over-indulgence in our view.

Mind you The Herald at King's University College is even guiltier of the same over-indulgence in its recent tribute to (retiring principal) Gerry Killan with yet an even greater proportion of their magazine focusing on him.

Walt, BA'62 (King's) and Diana Cherwaty

Cross-country bike ride for childhood cancer

My name is Chris Greig and I graduated this June with a HBSc in Actuarial Sciences. On June 1, I started a two-month journey across Canada on a bike to raise money for the battle against childhood cancer at the Hospital for Sick Children in Toronto.

I have created a charity out of my event called 'BikeforMike,' in memory of a friend who passed away from cancer nearly five years ago (the summer before I started university). Now that I have graduated, I have decided to do something in his name. My goal is to raise \$50,000 for the hospital and in just five short months I have already raised more than \$23,000.

For more information, please visit www.bikeformike.ca. This website houses all information about what I am doing and also serves to collect tax-deductible donations, made directly to the hospital.

Chris Greig, BSc'09

Do you want your thesis online?

Western Libraries has recently created an online repository, Scholarship@Western (<http://ir.lib.uwo.ca/>), to collect, preserve and showcase various scholarly materials generated or sponsored by The University of Western Ontario community. Scholarship@Western aims to advance scholarship and disseminate knowledge by providing free public access to the academic excellence at Western.

Over the years, Western's graduate students have authored numerous outstanding master's theses and PhD dissertations on a wide range of topics, most of which are only currently available to external borrowers through

interlibrary loan. In order to enhance the visibility and accessibility of these theses and dissertations, Western Libraries plans to digitize and release them for online access through Scholarship@Western. All theses and dissertations originally submitted as printed documents to the School of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies (formerly the Faculty of Graduate Studies) will be released for online access only after a period of four years from date of submission.

Recognizing that some alumni may not wish to have the results of their graduate research available in this manner, Western Libraries will honour

Western Libraries

any request to withhold a thesis or dissertation from free online access. Any alumni who wishes to have their thesis or dissertation withheld should contact Western Libraries by sending an email to libadmin@uwo.ca or by writing to Administrative Services, Western Libraries, The University of Western Ontario, London, ON, Canada, N6A 3K7. In order to ensure the correct document is excluded from Scholarship@Western, please include the author's full name at the time the thesis or dissertation was completed, the title of the thesis or dissertation, and the year of graduation.

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:

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CCPS director Elgin Austen

Western police reaches Canadian first

Almost four years in the making, Western's Campus Community Police Service (CCPS) has become the first Canadian force to receive international accreditation.

Following a review from the International Association of Campus Law Enforcement Administrators (IACLEA) - examining all aspects of the campus police's policy and procedures, management, operations and support services - CCPS was recognized in June at the IACLEA conference in Quebec City.

"Standards are the foundation of policing," says CCPS director Elgin Austen. "International accreditation ensures a high quality of work and that campus policing expectations are met. Being first in Canada acknowledges the quality of our personnel and Western's leadership."

While 17 U.S. colleges and universities have IACLEA accreditation, Western is the first in Canada, with the University of Windsor working toward accreditation.

Layoffs hit Western

Western has laid off 55 staff members following unanimous approval of the 2009-10 operating and capital budgets by the Board of Governors on April 30.

The job losses include 25 members of the group represented by the Professional and Managerial Association (PMA) and 30 members of the University of Western Ontario Staff Association (UWOSA).

The university has also eliminated 28 positions that are currently vacant. Another 31 individuals elected to take the voluntary retirement incentive program.

"The total manpower adjustment

in terms of full-time jobs at the university tallies to 114," says Gitta Kulczycki, Vice-President (Resources & Operations). There are about 2,440 full-time staff members at Western.

Jane O'Brien, Associate Vice-President (Human Resources), says her focus is supporting those who received notices.

She says the university and her group will ensure availability of a variety of services including career counselling and career workshops. Financial counselling and other supports were made available.

Kulczycki says PMA members will have priority for other job placements; however they do not have "bumping rights." UWOSA's collective agreement allows employees to bump positions according to seniority.

Fred Longstaffe, Provost & Vice President (Academic), says about 10 faculty members elected to take the phased retirement option.

"Of course the deans will continue on the faculty and staff side to keep a very close eye on any new hiring and we will still continue to approve any new hiring on a mission-critical basis," he says.



Donor Joseph Rotman

Western donations top \$57 million

Despite difficult economic times, Western's alumni and friends donated close to \$57.5 million during the 2008-09 fiscal year - just shy of the \$60-million goal.

While official year-end figures are not finalized, Associate Vice-President (Development), Grant Stirling, says

preliminary results show an impressive level of support from donors, faculty, staff, students and volunteers.

"During this unprecedented economic downturn, Western continues to benefit from the generosity of our dedicated alumni and from the visionary commitment of corporations and foundations who know that an investment in Western will make a difference," he says.

Gifts of all sizes, from annual donors to major donors, are critical to Western and its future, he says. www.givingtowestern.uwo.ca



Ted Garrard

Garrard to lead SickKids Foundation

After raising more than \$600 million during his 13 years at The University of Western Ontario, Vice-President (External) Ted Garrard is set to pursue a new challenge as president and CEO of Toronto's SickKids Foundation.

Garrard has overseen fundraising, alumni relations and communications since 1996. He begins his new job on July 6.

"The decision to leave Western was not an easy one," says Garrard. "I have learned so much and developed so many wonderful relationships. I am deeply proud of all we have accomplished in External."

One reason he feels comfortable in leaving is because of the "strong foundation and wonderfully talented staff to carry on the work."

Garrard is excited about the opportunity at SickKids Foundation, which raises over \$100 million a year and has one of the largest endowments in the country, valued at over \$500 million.



Gregor Reid and Mama Joyce at the community kitchen in Mwanza, Tanzania that distributes probiotic yogurt as part of the Western Heads East project.

Danone gift supports probiotic yogurt research

Probiotics research pioneer and Schulich professor, Gregor Reid of Western will hold the first research chair in Human Microbiology and Probiotics at Lawson Health Research Institute thanks to a \$7-million donation from international yogurt maker Danone Group.

The support – the largest private research investment for St. Joseph’s Health Care Foundation – establishes a new research chair in Human Microbiology and Probiotics at Lawson, the research arm of St. Joseph’s Health Care, London.

Reid, a professor at Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry at Western in addition to being a Lawson scientist, has been studying probiotics for more than 25 years and has become a leading advocate for the role of so-called good bacteria in human health.

Bernard Hours, co-chief operating officer of Danone made the announcement as part of the St. Joseph’s Health Care Foundation’s Signature Speaker Series event, held May 22, 2009.

“At Danone, we believe that economic and social progress go hand in hand,” says Hours. “This investment will support groundbreaking research to help people around the world achieve health and a greater quality of life.”

As the inaugural chair, Reid will lead a team of scientists to develop probiotic and prebiotic-based formulations in vitro and in human studies and collaborate with researchers and industry personnel to convert research into product development.

“This support provides Danone, St. Joseph’s and Lawson Health Research Institute with an opportunity to make a

substantial impact on the lives of people around the world,” says Reid.

Whalley, Feagan claim top Western research prize

While internal medicine and international trade may seem on opposite sides of the spectrum, two of the top minds in these fields share the spotlight as winners of the 2009 Hellmuth Prize for Achievement in Research.

The top research honour of The University of Western Ontario is going to Economics professor John Whalley and Robarts Research Institute Director of Clinical Trials Brian Feagan.

Awarded annually, the Hellmuth Prize was established in 1996 to recognize Western’s most distinguished researchers for achievement over a substantial body of work. The prize is named for Bishop Isaac Hellmuth, one of Western’s founders and a pioneer of higher education in Canada.

Whalley, director of the Centre for the Study of International Economic Relations, joined the Department of Economics at Western in 1976 and over 32 years has become internationally known for work in diverse areas of economics.

He is internationally known for work related to computational methods; however, his broad interests have covered areas such as tax, trade, the environment and development policies. Whalley has expanded his area of focus to examine issues related to globalization, the World Trade Organization, strategies for the developing world, global environmental

issues, psychology and economics.

Specifically, he has recently begun to examine China’s role in the global economy and issues pertaining to climate change policy.

The William Davis Professor of International Trade in the Economics Department, Whalley is also a Distinguished Fellow at The Centre for International Governance Innovation in Waterloo where he spends a portion of his time. Whalley is Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada and a Foreign Fellow of the Russian Academy of Sciences.

Feagan, a professor in the Departments of Medicine and Epidemiology & Biostatistics at the Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry, is board-certified in internal medicine and a Fellow of the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada. He is a gastroenterologist at London Health Sciences Centre and Director of Robarts Clinical Trials at Robarts Research Institute.

Holding membership in the Canadian Association of Gastroenterology, the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario, and the Crohn’s and Colitis Foundation of Canada, Feagan’s research efforts focus on the design and implementation of randomized controlled trials of therapy for inflammatory bowel disease.

A principal investigator on numerous multi-centre trials evaluating new treatments for these diseases, Feagan has recently begun to investigate the application of cluster randomization in the evaluation of health policies.



Western President Paul Davenport, Hellmuth recipient Brian Feagan, and Ted Hewitt, VP of Research and International Relations.

It's our birthday and we have a present for YOU!



The Western Alumni Gazette magazine is celebrating 70 years of serving alumni with a giant leap into a new era in publishing. Beginning in November, a magazine redesigned from front to back to meet the needs of today's more mobile readership will be delivered electronically to your email inbox.

It's as easy as 1-2-3.

Go to www.westernconnect.ca/gazetteonline and enter your email and contact information. While there, sign up for other exciting services and re-connect with the university that delivers the best student experience in Canada. Who says? The Globe and Mail does – seven years and counting.

Click on the email alert we will deliver when the next issue is 'hot off the press.'

Now enjoy the best in alumni news and information. Click on links for more services. Print out features to read later. Forward the magazine to family and friends – without paying postage. And no need to save copies because we do the storing for you – just return to our website for back issues. www.alumnigazette.ca

As a bonus

Every year we will mail a print copy of the Summer issue of Alumni Gazette to your mailbox. For the thousands of alumni who return to campus every fall, the Alumni Gazette provides an essential carry-along guide to important Homecoming events.

For the first time, every print copy of the magazine will use paper from trees grown and harvested in a sustainable manner.

Want to go completely digital?

You can do that when you sign up at:
westernconnect.ca/gazetteonline

Don't miss an issue. Sign up today for the new Western Alumni Gazette at www.westernconnect.ca/gazetteonline

DOES THE PRINT INDUSTRY HAVE A FUTURE?

By Jenni Dunning, MA'08

You can hold the future of Canadian newspapers in your hand.

It's the size and weight of a large paperback book, with a memory that stores about 200 titles.

Kindle, an E-book created by Amazon that can mimic pages of novels, textbooks and newspapers, is one of the latest technologies that's challenging the print industry in North America.

Though a young technology – first released in the U.S. in 2007 – it's part of a larger trend pushing more print publications online to contend with the interests of younger readers.

And now, as the struggling economy has forced some long-time publications to close, many newspaper traditionalists are left wondering what the future of print will look like in just a few years.

"The newspapers themselves, the print product, might not survive," said Mary Doyle, a print journalism instructor at The University of Western Ontario.

Many more of today's readers are getting news online, she said, so newspapers as a system of delivery might eventually die – but not the content.

"The newsroom . . . can survive by looking beyond just the print product and they're doing that already. I'm confident there is a future for all the excellent journalism that print reporters and editors do," she said.

"(We should) not mourn for the newspaper the way it was, but think of



the journalism instead and how that can be delivered in a more effective way.”

Many newspapers, from the London Free Press to the Globe and Mail, have amped up their websites with videos, photo galleries, blogs and breaking news stories.

So far this year, about 10 per cent more unique visitors are also viewing newspaper websites compared to the same period last year, according to a recent Newspaper Association of America study. It's the highest figure of its kind since the association began tracking the trend in 2004.

But whether or not newspapers develop successful websites, the poor economy is putting pressure on many Canadian publishers and threatening their products' survival.

Across North America, newspapers have been falling under the credit crunch. Denver's Rocky Mountain News stopped printing days shy of its 150th anniversary and more than 30 U.S. dailies have sought bankruptcy protection.

In Canada, job cuts have affected Torstar, Canwest, Sun Media, CTV-globemedia, Transcontinental and independents like the Chronicle Herald in Halifax. Torstar also reported a fourth-quarter loss of \$211.2 million compared to a \$47.2 million profit last year.

Many newspapers have also had to cut back on the number of days they publish, including the London Free Press, which slashed its Sunday edition. The National Post will also stop its Monday paper for the summer.

“Part of the problem is that advertisers might not understand yet the wonder and value of the Internet or websites. Certainly our readers do.”

“The economy sure didn't do journalists any favours,” Doyle said. “I think it's a double whammy. All newsrooms were struggling to deal with the

new online reality. Then the economy tanked – it just made everything so much harder.”

In 2006, the print industry was making a modest and stable profit, according to Statistics Canada. Much of that money came from advertising. For example, in 2005 the industry earned more than two-thirds of its operating revenues from ads.

Today, it's a challenge for newspapers to make their websites more attractive to advertisers so they don't lose precious dollars, said Paul Berton, Editor-in-Chief of the London Free Press.

“Part of the problem is that advertisers might not understand yet the wonder and value of the Internet or websites. Certainly our readers do,” he said. “Maybe it's just advertisers catching up to younger readers.”

About 200,000 people read the London Free Press daily – the same number of unique visitors who view the paper's website every day, Berton said.

Though the online component has become more important to readership, he said he's not worried about the Free Press's future.

“We have more readers than we've ever had in our history,” he said. “The (print) industry may never make as much money. It doesn't mean people aren't looking for information; it means they're looking for it in different ways.”

To Berton, that involves creating a more robust and dynamic website and experimenting with different methods of news delivery, such as Twitter, a free social messaging forum. And that's how newspapers can survive, he said.

“In the end, the best thing for newspapers to do is to deliver interesting stories and give readers facts to help them get through their days.”

The Canadian print industry has struggled in past economic downturns, especially during the early 1990s, according to Statistics Canada. Ad revenues decreased by 12 per cent between 1991 and 1994, and the industry took until 1997 to regain stable revenues, despite a rebounding economy in 1993.

Though today's recession hasn't wiped out the Canadian newspaper industry, hundreds of layoffs and cutbacks are looming ahead of new

journalism graduates.

The Guelph Mercury, Hamilton Spectator and Waterloo Region Record dailies cut 64 jobs in February, while printing firm Transcontinental Inc. cut 1,500 positions. Sun Media announced in December it was cutting 10 per cent of its workforce.

Keeping up with the job market and the changing reader interests is important to Western's journalism program, said Doyle.


“I think it's a double whammy. All newsrooms were struggling to deal with the new online reality. Then the economy tanked – it just made everything so much harder.”

Students are taught print, radio, TV and online reporting, and now instructors are considering adding multimedia assignments to help prepare students for what's now expected of novice journalists, Doyle said.

“You have to know how to tell stories in more than just text,” she said. “Adding a video component, taking pictures, adding (audio), being able to post things online. Any or all of those things make the grads we turn out more valuable in this current climate.”

The future of journalism will be exciting to see unfold, but it would be upsetting to see newspapers die, Doyle said, adding she has been reading the London Free Press and the Globe and Mail since age 12.

But with technologies like Kindle sparking more of the public's interest in the print industry, people will learn to adapt to whatever changes come, she said.

“Newspaper traditionalists would adapt; people always adapt. I would be more worried if the actual content died.” 

Alumni Gazette turns 70



Ran on donations until 1965

The Alumni Gazette turns 70 this year. We hope, like good wine and our readers, we're getting better with age.

In 1939, the editor of the fledgling Alumni Gazette was not about to make any promises he couldn't keep. Under the masthead of the very first issue (February 1939), was the disclaimer: "Published occasionally for the alumni and friends of the university."

The lead article pronounced: "This is the first number of a bulletin which will be issued from time to time, at least quarterly, to acquaint you with developments in the University and to bring you news of interest concerning its graduates." Readers were invited to send in \$1 to help defray costs of publication and distribution.

By 1941, the Gazette was a going concern, publishing a 12-page bulletin monthly throughout the '40s. Alumni director Dr. J.W. Crane never missed a chance in its pages to plug "Life Memberships in the Alumni Association," available at a cost of \$50. Paid-up alumni earned the distinction of being able to add the initials LMAA after their name. A like privilege was accorded to non-graduates who could, on payment of \$50, sport the initials AMAA (associate member of the alumni association).

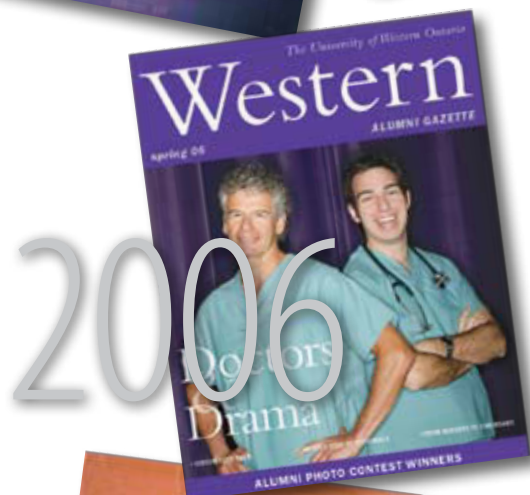
The Gazette covered current events at Western: academic, cultural and athletic, but the primary emphasis was the social news – who was married to whom, what grads settled where, and how their various post-graduation endeavours were succeeding. News of Western alumni serving overseas was also covered. Each issue of the Gazette cost \$100

to produce. Postage was 1 cent (**It now costs in 2009 approximately \$60,000 to print per issue – that's before postage and doesn't include labour costs).

In the 1950s, a switch was made to a larger format – first a tabloid, then the traditional 8.5" X 11" size. More photographs were used, along with a smattering of colour, purple of course! The news centred on new buildings being built, new departments and faculties being formed. Social items were confined to the "Through the Years" column, which ran for the first time in 1949. The Gazette was usually 12 pages in length. (It's averaged 48 pages, cover-to-cover, from 2004 to 2009).

Administrative changes at Western in the mid-1960s helped launch the Gazette on its path to becoming a full-fledged magazine. The department of information services and university publications was formed in 1965 with journalism grad Campbell McDonald, '49, as director. This meant that the magazine was no longer solely dependent upon alumni donations – the university began to be financially responsible for the Gazette. The next year, McDonald was also given responsibility for the alumni affairs department, as director, and it was established as a bona fide department of the university.

McDonald, as the Gazette's editor, made some immediate



improvements to the magazine's appearance, most notably adding a cover for the first time. The magazine was bigger than ever before, at 16 pages, and photographs were plentiful and large.

The Gazette's editorial content took on a whole new slant in the late 1960s. For the first time, full-length feature articles, written by various contributing authors, were included. Among these were: an eye witness account of the Russian invasion of Czechoslovakia in 1968; a special report on chemical and biological warfare in Canadian national defense; and an interview with successful writer and Western grad, Alice Munro.

In 1969, the Gazette won an American Alumni Council Award (now the Council for Advancement and Support of Education). In 1971, the Gazette won another award, this time from the International Council of Industrial Editors (now the International Association of Business Communicators - IABC). Also in 1971, the Gazette underwent another radical facelift – this time to become smaller in size – down to 8" X 8". Newsprint was used on the inside pages. The change was deftly explained by McDonald to be fiscally motivated, due to the rapidly expanding size of the alumni body. There were 33,000 alumni in 1971, compared to 16,000 ten years previously (and over 100,000 in 1989!)


The small format lasted two years. In 1973, the Gazette was back to the standard 8.5" X 11" size, with a glossy cover and newsprint inside. There were one or two redesigns between 1973 and 1987, but the overall character and content remained largely unchanged during this time. Newsprint was replaced by coated

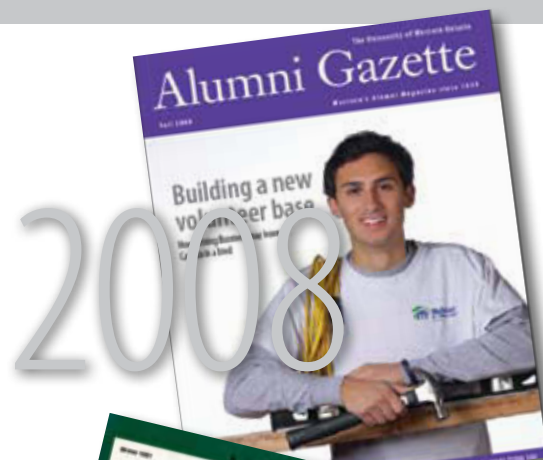
stock in the summer edition of 1975.

In 1987, the Gazette was scrutinized by a firm of alumni magazine editorial/design consultants associated with CASE (the Council for Advancement and Support of Education). The result is the current Alumni Gazette with its thicker, glossier cover, beefed-up stock on the inside pages, a brand new typeface, and streamlined editorial content, including a new feature – the Alumni Almanac, containing news of alumni association events and programs.

Also in 1987, in an editorial reminiscent of the 1939 plea for graduates to send in \$1 to help defray publication costs, a voluntary subscription appeal was introduced. The drive generated much needed revenues both in 1987 and 1988. It was noted in the 50th anniversary issue in 1989 that the "battle for the hard-won advertising dollar is ongoing." Voluntary subscription donations have been a regular feature for the past 20 years.

Twenty years ahead, in 2009, we're dealing with the same issue. The cost of serving a rapidly growing alumni base continues to outstrip revenue growth. Today we still strive to bring interesting news of the university and its graduates to share with our alumni readership. The Alumni Gazette recently captured an Award of Excellence from the IABC for our Summer 2008 issue on the Olympics and Western's many connections.

Even though format and delivery will likely continue to evolve in the years ahead, the mission remains the same – to celebrate Western and its alumni through news and stories. Thank you for helping to make the Alumni Gazette a success throughout its 70 years! 



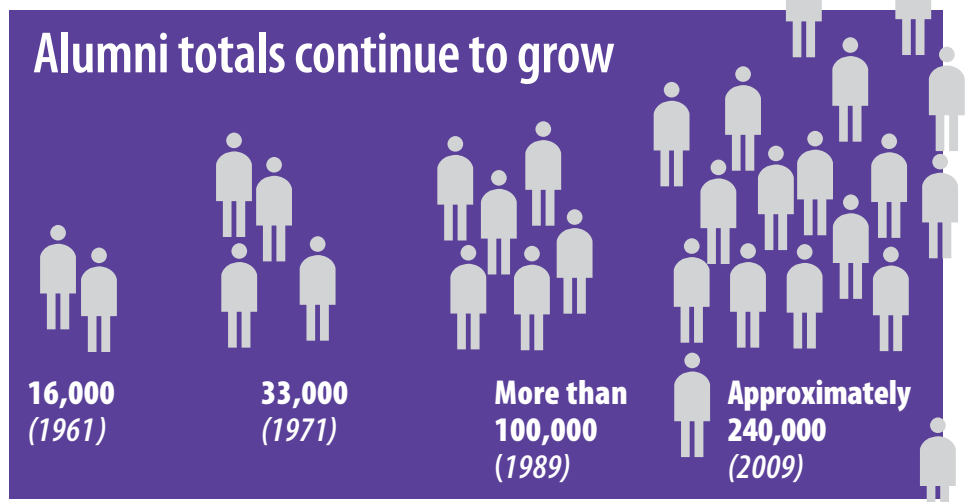
2008

1991

1945

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1972



IT HAPPENED AT WESTERN

MACABRE MEDS

FRESHMEN AT THE WESTERN MEDICAL SCHOOL IN 1907 WENT THROUGH A ROUGH INITIATION PERIOD. THEY WERE EJECTED THROUGH THE SCHOOL WINDOWS, TAKEN TO THE ANATOMY ROOMS AND DUMPED INTO TUBS OF FORMALDEHYDE USED FOR PRESERVING CORPSES— THEN THEY WERE "INTRODUCED" TO THE CADAVERS

©1971 - JOHNSTON



Canadian comic artist Gordon Johnston found inspiration in historical facts

By Jeet Heer

As a cartoonist, Gordon Johnston was a jack-of-all-trades. Never specializing or getting into a rut, he tried his hands at many different genres of cartooning ranging from political humour to a daily adventure strip to a single panel historical information series. He also had ambitions to be an animator. His artistic versatility was a function not only of his personal creativity, it was also a response to the

strained economic conditions that Canadian cartoonists faced in the middle of the last century. Like his contemporaries Doug Wright and Peter Whalley, Johnston had to be flexible in order to survive, constantly

re-tooling himself to in order to fit the niche markets that existed in Canada. His career is emblematic of the state of mid-20th century Canadian cartooning, when artists needed a hard-shell entrepreneurial spirit as well as drawing ability.

Born in 1920 in Tillsonburg, Ontario, Johnston caught the cartooning bug early. In high school, he was reprimanded for ignoring his studies so he could spend more time drawing girls. Hitting adulthood just as the Second World War broke out, he served in the Highland Light Infantry.

His war years must have made England seem like an attractive second home to him. After briefly returning to Canada, he spent the early post-war years in England, initially hoping to work in animation but eventually finding a spot as cartoonists for the East Anglian Daily Times in Ipswich. He created two daily strips for this newspaper, "Ippy Switch" and "Margaret Catchpole," while also serving as their editorial cartoonist. His English sojourn was very much of a piece with the general tendency of Canadian writers and artists of that period, so many of whom found England and Europe to be more hospitable for creative work.

While in England, Johnston met his future wife, Patricia Rogers. They married in May of

1951. The couple had two daughters, Mairead

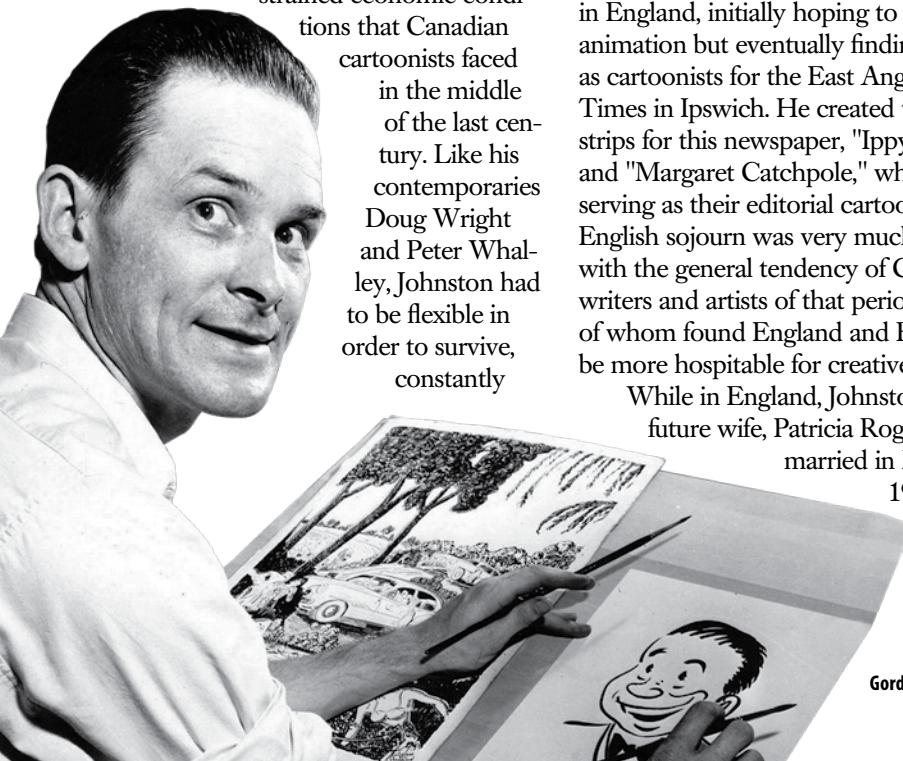
(born in England) and Lucinda (born in Canada).

Johnston returned to Canada in 1952, finding employment as an editorial cartoonist with the Ottawa Citizen, where he stayed until 1956. Subsequently he freelanced as a cartoonist, often appearing in the Ottawa Journal.

With his family firmly based in Canada, Johnston spent the remainder of his career launching cartoon projects of a nationalist bent. During the Diefenbaker years, he worked with newspaper columnist Gerald Waring on a syndicated editorial cartoon feature. In May 1960, during one of the tensest periods of the Cold War, he launched Jeff Buchanon, an adventure strip about a Canadian spy. Drawn with flair and confidence in a modified variation of Alex Raymond's Rip Kirby style, Jeff Buchanon showed real promise. Ferreting out spies, the title character travelled all over Canada, from Cape Breton to Montreal to the Arctic. Johnston's gift for capturing the feel of different geographical locals shone through in this strip.

Unfortunately, it didn't last long enough to make a mark, fading out a little over a year after it first appeared. (The strip can now be located in the back issues of the Montreal Star and Winnipeg Free Press.)

Johnston moved with his family to London, Ontario in 1963 where his wife, Patricia, was employed by the Office of the Registrar at The University of Western Ontario until 1990. He was an

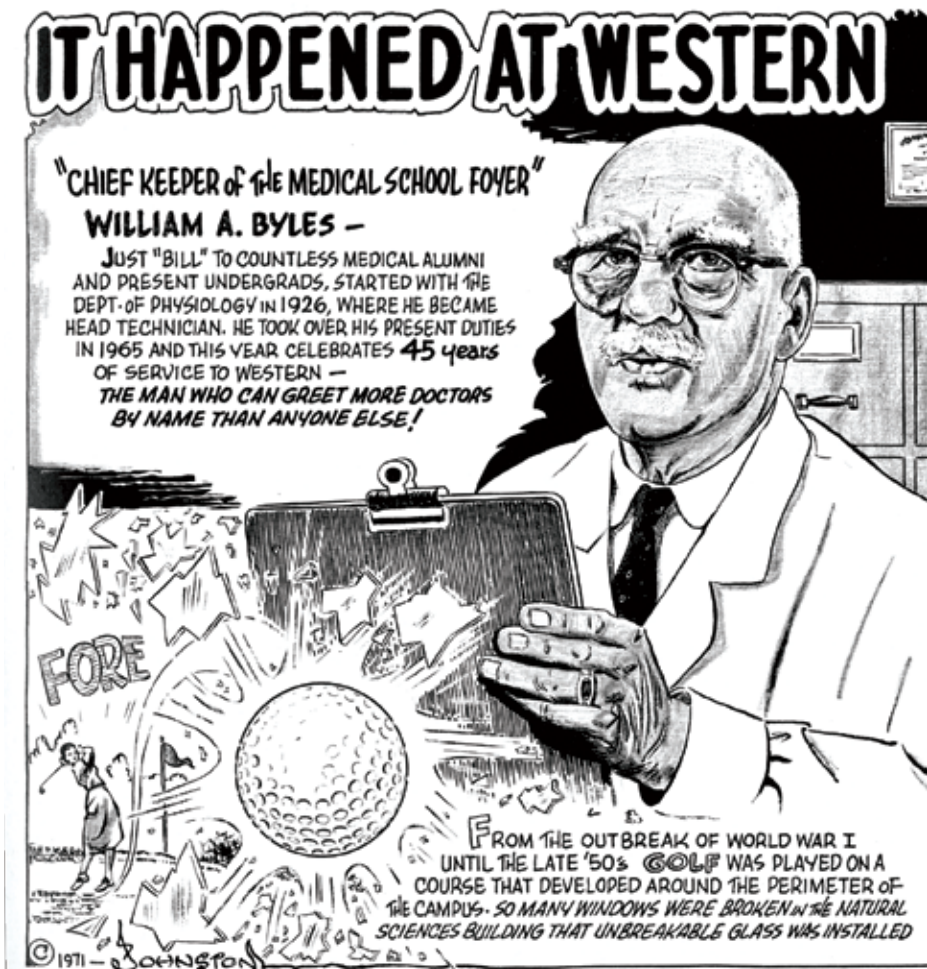


Gordon Johnston, 1958

illustrator and co-developer for Programmed Learning.

In 1967, inspired by the centennial celebrations of that year, Johnston devoted his full-time energies to the creation of his most lasting nationalist comics feature, "It Happened In Canada." Offering short illustrated lessons in Canadian history, the single panel strip fed the growing national appetite for information about Canada's past. Mixing anecdotes about famous Canadians with folklore and "amazing but true" facts, the strip was both entertaining and informative at the same time. As with Jeff Buchanon, the highlight of the strip was Johnston's art: his solid sense of composition made the strip visually interesting, but he was careful to be accurate in showing how people dressed and looked in the past.

In its mixture of human-interest stories with historical lore, the strip anticipated the expansion of popular historical knowledge which characterized Canadian nationalism during the 1970s. At the height of its popularity, It Happened in Canada ran in more than 60 newspapers and was collected in five sep-



arate volumes. The newspapers that ran the strip included the Kitchener-Waterloo Record, The London Free Press, the Winnipeg Free Press, and the Calgary Herald. Taking references from a number of sources, Johnston made extensive use of the historical resources at The University of Western Ontario's D.B. Weldon Library. The success of the series is all the more remarkable considering the fact that for most of its run Johnston did not have a newspaper syndicate backing him up. His daughter Lucinda Johnston remembers that her dad had to always be thrifty, using both sides of any piece of paper. He recruited his daughter to help with the production of the strip: it was their job to make sure that every week the proofs of the strip were sent out to subscribing newspapers.

In the early 1970s, Johnston created the comic "It Happened At Western" – a campus history spinoff of his national comic success. The panels appeared regularly in the Alumni Gazette from 1971 to 1979.

As a cartoonist trying to make a

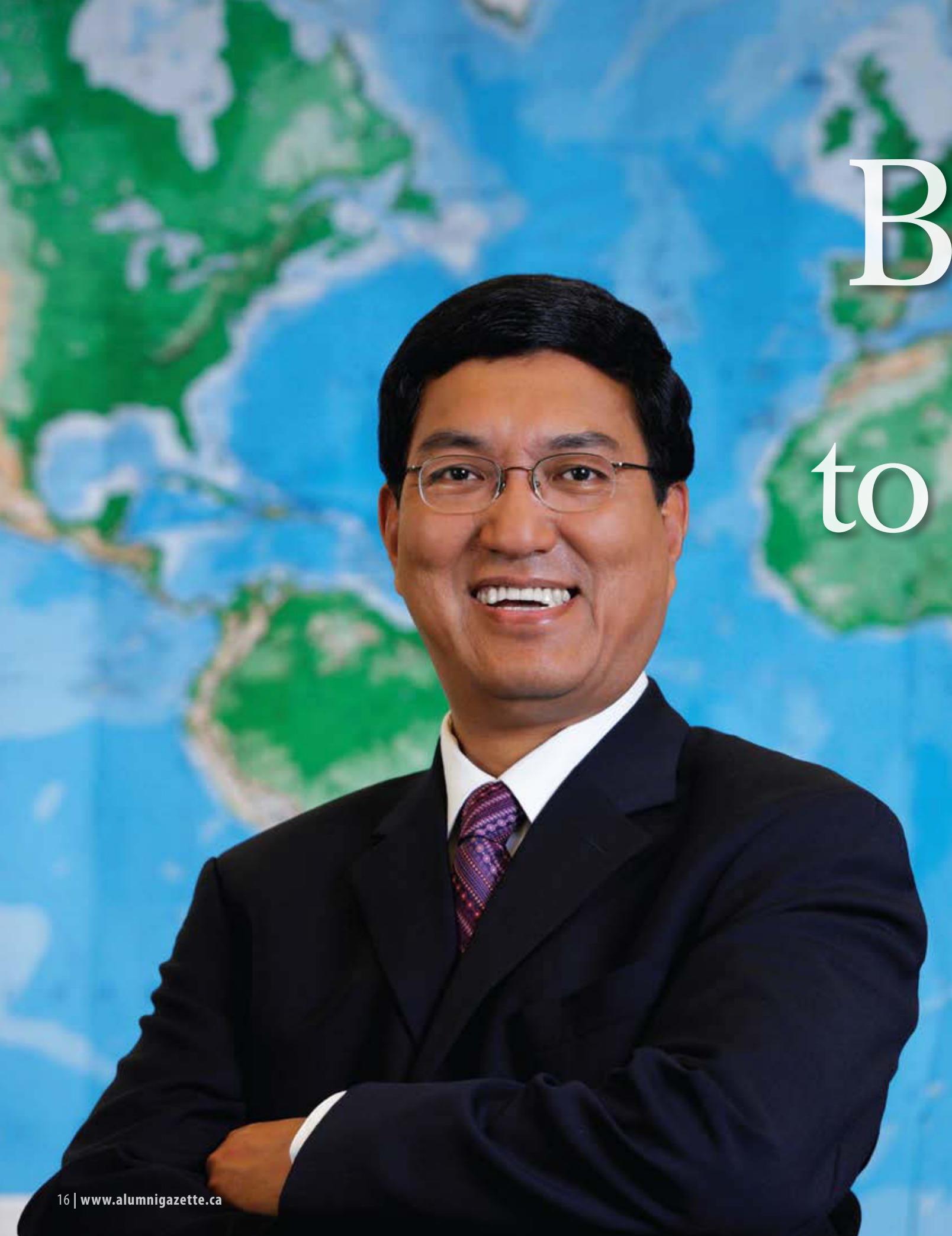
living in mid-century Canada, Gordon Johnston (July 11, 1920 - August 3, 1983) didn't have an easy time of it: he had to constantly struggle to find venues for his work. To a large degree, he was working against a vacuum, since there was little institutional support or critical recognition given to cartoonists in Canada during those years. The fact that he persevered so long, and managed to create some lasting strips along the way, is a testament to his character and commitment. [WV](#)

Sources:

Ralph Thompson, "It Happened...result of research, sheer hard work" *London Free Press*, August 2nd, 1975.

Jeet Heer is a Toronto-based cultural reporter who often writes on comics. His articles have appeared in *The National Post*, *Slate.com*, *The Boston Globe*, *The Walrus*, *the Literary Review of Canada*, *This Magazine*, *Books in Canada* and *Toro*.

Additional information was provided by Gordon Johnston's daughters, Lucinda Johnston and Mairead Johnston-Spooner, and Alumni Gazette editor, David Scott.



B
to

By Larry Cornies, MA'86



ringing Western the world

Turning students into leaders

Not long after being chosen Western's new president last December, Amit Chakma was approached by the university about the location of his new office and its interior appointments, given that the historic Stevenson-Lawson Building – for decades, the ivy-cloaked workplace of University of Western Ontario presidents – was slated for renovation.

Flattered by the “unique privilege of having a say,” Chakma sensed an opportunity to create a workspace that would both symbolize his goals and stand in contrast to the low-light, traditional, dark-wood-panelled bureaus of his predecessors.

“I said there are two offices that are a little bit sheltered – the President's office and the Provost's office. I said, ‘Well, if it doesn't cost too much money and doesn't create too much difficulty . . . I would like you to open it up. I would like this to be open, to be welcoming. [Buildings are] a reflection of our heritage, but I want my office to give the sense that this is a young, vibrant community. . . . I want our students to feel at home.’ ”

Chakma's reno request also happens to be an apt metaphor for the ambitions he harbours for the institution he now leads. That Western, with a lineage longer than the country's, is a revered and prestigious university with top national rankings among both students and academics is beyond question. For the new president, however, those enviable laurels are no longer good enough.

The university's next iteration, he says, must be “a Western that is more global. A Western that is on the go. And a Western that has more activities that will have impact . . . Western has done very well; it's a great institution, but we need to raise our profile.”

In Chakma's view, Western must open itself up to the world, let the light of international scrutiny shine in, enroll the brightest graduate and undergraduate students, attract vibrant faculty with a penchant for effective collaboration across departments and disciplines, and develop an exceptional reputation with the iconic brand of a global leader.

The new president possesses a vision of the university with a far more international complexion. He'd like to triple the number of foreign students on

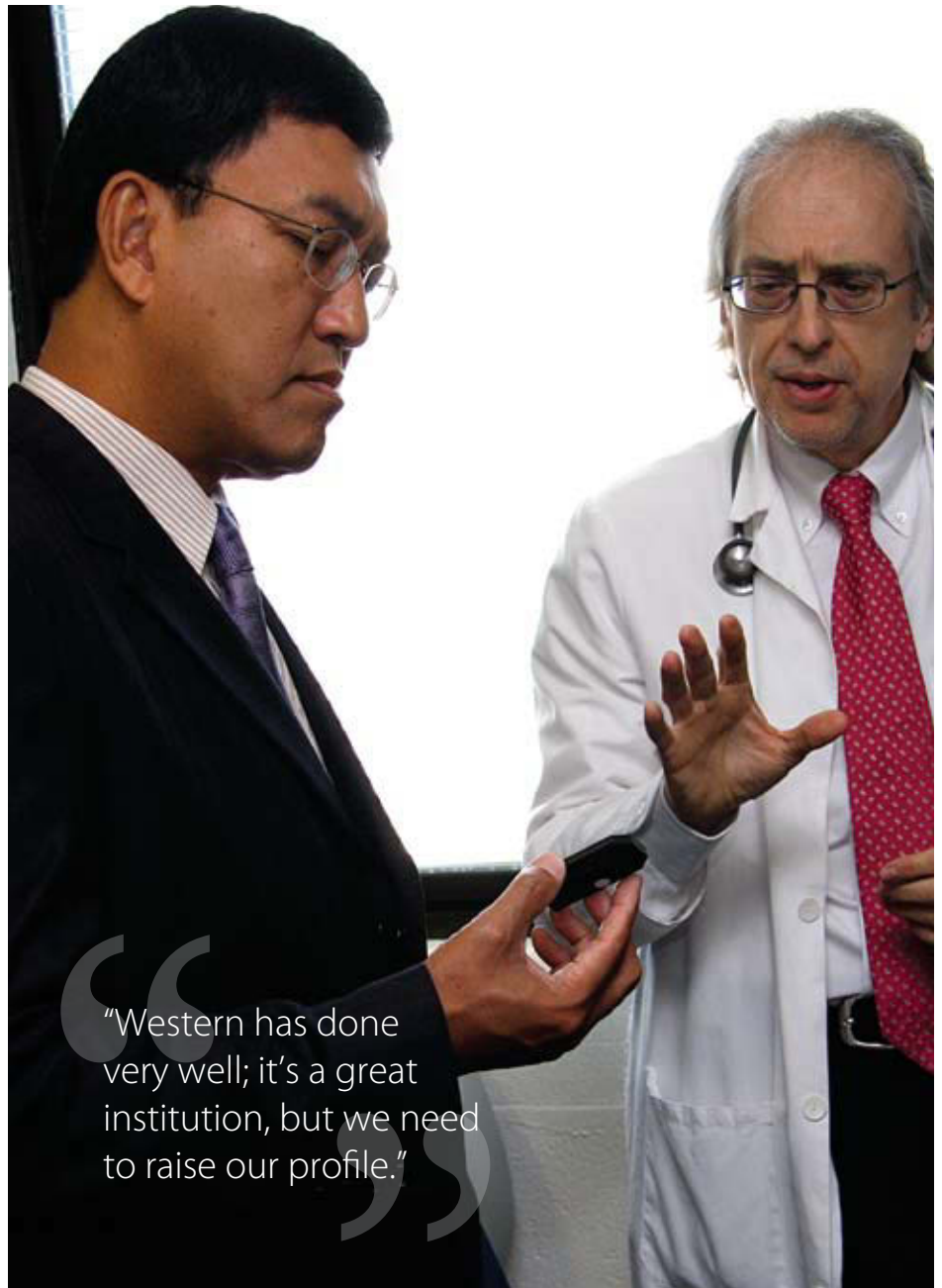
campus, from the current four per cent to something closer to 12 or 15 per cent. But he'd also like to attract a student body for whom passports are as vital as textbooks.

"Internationalization is more than just bringing in students – it's also sending out students," he says. "If we had no limits on resources, and if you gave me only one wish as to what I would do for our students, I would say that I would like to create opportunity for all Western students to be able to spend one term, at a minimum, abroad. What they do there is almost immaterial . . . That experience becomes very important."

His own path from rural Bangladesh to the top job at Western is a jagged one – a kind of Where's Waldo adventure through global hemispheres. Chakma holds degrees from prestigious schools in Algeria, France and Canada. He has guest-lectured or consulted in Britain, Thailand, New Zealand, China and the Philippines. Even his teaching and administrative experience in Canada, for someone 50 years old, is broad: He's held posts at the University of Sherbrooke, University of Calgary, University of Regina and University of Waterloo, where, until last month, he was Vice-President Academic and Provost, as well as a professor of chemical engineering.

International experience, Chakma believes, has a profound and lasting impact on learning and thinking.

"I have become a better person because I have had the privilege of living in different countries and experiencing different cultures. That element of my education – education through



"Western has done very well; it's a great institution, but we need to raise our profile."

Dr. Amit Chakma and biochemist Dr. Robert Hegele of Roberts.

What others say...

*"This is a guy who thinks about what he is going to say and, when he says it, it's a very insightful remark. He's occasionally quiet, but he's one of those guys who gives the impression that still waters run deep. He isn't quiet because he's got nothing to say; he's quiet because he's thinking about the issue at a deep level and wanting to respond in a helpful way . . . This is a guy who is a **big-picture thinker** and can transfer that big-picture capacity to whatever sector or line of work he's working on. Western's got a real winner here; there's just no question."*

Brad Sindair, Executive Director, HealthForceOntario Marketing and Recruitment Agency

*"He's very good at building good relationships and bridging across organizations in order to get something done or make something happen. And he's creative in his thinking, so he's good at saying, "Well, what if we were to . . ." and finding an alternative. He's going to bring a Rolodex and a set of relationships that are going to get a lot of people thinking about UWO. His **ability to bridge** will bring a whole bunch of new relationships that will do nothing but benefit UWO and the City of London."*

Iain Klugman, President, Communitech Inc., Waterloo

*"His thoughtfulness goes beyond the university. He thinks in terms of **bringing together** partnerships . . . not just the community he's going to be responsible for, but also the greater community. So I would say that London will be richer for his coming . . . He truly is a gentleman in the way that he is present with people. He has a style of being humble; he's an unassuming person. There's no pretentiousness about the man. That's not to say he can't be animated, but he does it in a respectful, regarding way."*

Dianne Moser, Board Chair, St. Mary's General Hospital, Kitchener

life experience – has been immensely valuable to me. I have become more open-minded as a result of that experience. How does it help my job? I can see and hear different perspectives better than if I had lived in just one place,” Chakma says.

He is convinced, however, that the real benefits of internationalization extend far beyond the raised personal blinders that accompany even backpack-across-Europe-type adventures. Gaining a critical mass of international experience among students and faculty will boost the entire university and, conceivably, the nation.

“If you want to rise to the corporate leadership level, having that international perspective is helpful, because [students, faculty and alumni] will be doing business all over the world. So that kind of notion gives me the sense that we should provide the opportunity to our students to grasp a sense of global citizenship,” he says.

Chakma believes that, once attained, that grasp of international affairs and its resulting magnetism will be a powerful engine of economic development.

“You will produce graduates who will be contributing in more ways than just getting a job and making a good living. You will produce a proportionally large number of leaders – the best economic thinkers, the best business leaders. And they’ll make this country, this region and the world a better place. They’ll make Canada a leading country. And I can tell you that we’re not doing as good a job in producing those leaders,

in almost any field that you can think of.

“If you talk to the tech companies in Waterloo – if you talk to Open Text or RIM – they’ll tell you the following: They cannot recruit senior talent from Canada. They don’t exist. . . . They don’t exist because Canada’s IT sector in the past consisted of regulated companies. Bell. Rogers. These people who work for Bell or Rogers – they don’t have any experience working internationally.

“If you ask many Canadian service companies or manufacturing companies, if you ask Linamar, an auto parts company, how they are surviving, they’re surviving because their business is global. If they were just relying on the North American market, they would be in big, big trouble. . . . If you ask Magna, it’s that global diversity that’s there. If you ask service companies [such as] SNC Lavalin, an engineering company, 70 per cent, 80 per cent of their business comes from outside of this country.”

And it’s not only the potential for lifting Canada’s economy that makes internationalization so attractive, Chakma says. There are social reasons, too. Helping highly qualified immigrants to Canada upgrade their skills will help them become more engaged in society as citizens. Offering new programs in public service geared to civil servants, perhaps through Western’s modest Toronto beachhead (Ivey - ING Leadership Centre, Toronto), would make a contribution to public administration and leadership skill development.

“I, for one, believe that public service, and the quality of individuals in

the public service, is very important for countries like ours Over the last two decades or so our top students have not joined the public service. We need to change that. That’s why we were thinking of a master’s program in public service at Waterloo, and I am here to take that idea to Western, because Western has way more to bring to the table to do that. Just imagine Western educating the future deputy ministers for the country, for the province.

“I want my office to give the sense that this is a young, vibrant community. . . . I want our students to feel at home.”

“Even at a [international] political level . . . you would not find too many significant Canadian achievements beyond Lester Pearson. We need to educate leaders who will fill all those gaps,” he says.

Canada’s most obvious and immediate opportunity is sitting on our doorstep, Chakma says, and the election of Barack Obama as U.S. president may represent a new opportunity to engage our closest neighbour in new ways, perhaps by bolstering Western’s Centre for American Studies.

*“Amit was a very strong and visionary voice on the board. He has a very collaborative style, gets things done and sees the bigger picture about the role of universities as an engine of economic development for the community they’re located in, but also the whole transition, locally and nationally, to a knowledge-based economy. He was always looking for opportunities to try to use the engine of the university to **help promote local economic development** I’m sure Western will find him to be a collaborative and visionary leader.”*

John Doherty, Board Chair, Canada’s Technology Triangle Inc., Waterloo

*“I found Amit to be very warm, open and friendly and certainly very passionate about the university — the possibilities of what can be done, the fact that the possibilities are only limited by one’s imagination At the [Waterloo North Hydro] board, Amit probably brought more to the table with his **reinforcement of strategy**. I think Amit represented more of the community interests and strategic interests of the two universities and the college in the area, but at the same time was quite easily able to separate those and talk about the interests of the business. I think that’s what I saw as his strength.”*

Rene W. Gatien, President and CEO, Waterloo North Hydro Inc.

*“Amit is a person who has big ideas and dreams. I expect he will bring that orientation to Western He is an extremely personable and approachable person. He works hard, but is very pleasant — it’s fun to work together with him. He brings **lots of energy** and **lots of humour**, but is also a guy who gets things done and wants the people he works with to get things done. [At the University of Regina,] I was certainly looking to put together a team of people with a shared set of values about the academic and how you treat people — the need to treat people humanely and affirm their contributions — and I think he’s very good at that.”*

David T. Barnard, President, University of Manitoba, Winnipeg



“Canada is a great country. The world needs to learn more from Canada. We need to be a global player and our universities need to play an important role in that. . . .”

“We Canadians tend to feel that we understand the U.S. far better than they understand us. Maybe. But I would argue that we may think we understand them, but we don’t. If we did, we would be able to have more of an impact.

“So while others . . . are dealing with Brazil, dealing with India, somebody has to look after our core affairs. I tend to believe that we don’t really understand the U.S.-Canada relationship – or we don’t pay enough attention to it.

“What [Obama] has done is he has brought that sense of optimism, a sense of hope, idealism, doing the right thing. “Obama didn’t come out of nowhere. He represents a generation. That particular generation voted him in. That generation is actually more socially aware. That generation is more environmentally sensitive. And in many ways that generation will play an important role in fixing some of the problems that our genera-

tion has contributed to. [It’s] a generation that wants to do something good for the whole, instead of just looking after their own needs. We need that in Canada.”

Chakma’s notion of commitment to the greater good is one learned from his father, whose own dreams of becoming a medical doctor among his hill tribe were truncated by the Second World War. Devoted teachers had helped him reach Grade 10 and, when it came time to take exams in a nearby city, friends and relatives offered to pay travel expenses and other fees.

Soon after Amit was born, his father visited a Hindu priest to inquire about his young son’s future. Two predictions resulted, inscribed on a document still in Chakma’s possession.

One was that the young boy would do very well, and that he would make a career of either politics or education. Given the political instability and

economic hardships of Bangladesh at the time, Amit’s father resolutely steered him away from the country’s political ferment and down the path of schooling, at one point urging his son to continue his studies abroad, even if it meant forgoing a final visit home, a final reunion.

Asked what his father might think, had he lived long enough to see his son installed as Western’s President on Oct. 23, Chakma responded: “He would say to me, ‘I’m glad that you are living in a peaceful country,’ because life back home was not peaceful. He would be very happy. We come from a tribal community and he did his best to try to help me, because he’d received help in his own life. . . . He would be happy that I’m playing an important role in influencing the future of a large number of young people.”

Serious and somewhat reserved by nature, Western’s new boss speaks five languages – his native Chakma, French,

“We are all about students. If we continue to keep that in mind, we cannot go wrong.”



Western's new president meets student researchers on a recent tour of Robarts.

English, Bengali, Hindi – and hopes to some day learn Spanish. He immerses himself in the stories of civilizations, whether through travel or by reading books such as Peter Watson's *Ideas: A History of Thought and Invention, From Fire to Freud*. Drums, especially the Indian tabla, as well as one- and two-stringed instruments, fascinate him. He plays baseball and is transported by the poetry of John Keats and William Butler Yeats. He revels in good conversation and clever banter with friends, and according to those who know him well, can give a playful jab as good as he gets.

But he acknowledges it will take some time for him and his new university to get to know each other.

That's entirely natural, says Glenn Harris, a partner in *Leading By Design*, a Vancouver-based consultancy that assists postsecondary administrators, and himself a former Vice-President, Administration, at Western who was hired away by one Paul Davenport in the early 1990s to become Vice-President, Finance and Administration, at the University of Alberta.

“There are incredibly high expectations when new presidents take office. These jobs are extraordinarily difficult. There are a large number of constituencies to be served, and their needs and expectations are not always compatible with each other,” says Harris.

“The best presidents are really self-aware. They play to their own strengths and they draw people around them who have complementary strengths.”

One of the biggest challenges for achievers such as Chakma, Harris says, is that of staying focused.

“To say that a president needs to maintain work-life balance is a bit unrealistic. It's an all-encompassing job. But the ability to focus on the things that you think are really important to the success of your term – that's a formidable task.”

It's also vitally important, says Harris, for any new president to get a good reading on how the new institution is different from the previous one. And that takes finely tuned sensory abilities – and a little time.


Chakma's office in the relatively

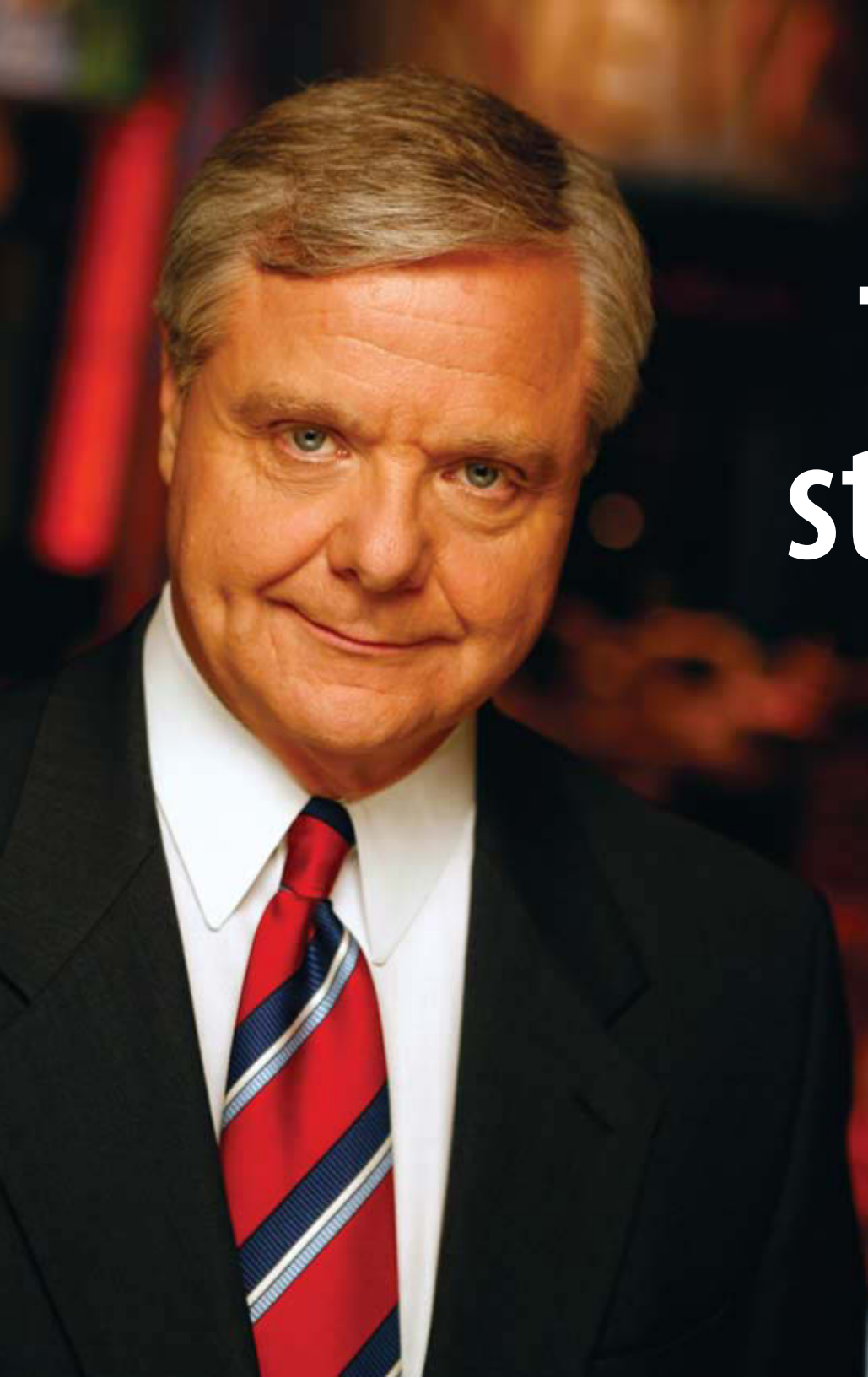
modern Needles Hall at the University of Waterloo was bright and simple. In it were almost no clues, artifacts or souvenirs of the cultures he'd traversed en route to the corridors of academic power.

Instead, on the walls hung pictures of students – those with whom he worked, studied and discovered.

“We are all about students. If we continue to keep that in mind, we cannot go wrong. It's not about my research.

“Sometimes our professors tend to think the other way – that it's my research. And that's not a bad thing, because they feel passionately about it. But sometimes I have to remind them that, yes, it's your research but it's also your students. So I'm keeping my eyes on the ball, which is students, both undergraduate and graduate,” Chakma says.

“Canada is a great country. The world needs to learn more from Canada. We need to be a global player and our universities need to play an important role in that. . . . Universities are actually bridges that connect our past to our future. I see it in that light.” 



Tell the story, no matter the vehicle

Hurst navigates CTV through challenging times

By Sheldon Gordon

As President of CTV News, Robert Hurst, BA'72, Dip'73, has earned TV

Guide's salute as "the most powerful person in Canadian television news." Eight years into the job, he presides over a news and current affairs fiefdom that includes the nightly CTV News, W-FIVE, Question Period, the cable channels CTV Newsnet and Report on Business Television, and he has shared responsibility for

local news at all CTV stations.

This would be a challenging mandate in good times; it's even more so now that advertising revenues have fallen, forcing each of the country's three English networks to retrench. CTV, for its part, cut 105 positions at its Toronto hub last November, and

scrapped the local evening and weekend newscasts at its Ottawa station in March. Moreover, the damage is not just cyclical; advertisers are migrating to cable specialty channels and the Internet.

“Conventional [network] TV is out of whack with the dynamics of the industry,” Hurst admits. Yet he remains confident about the future of newsgathering. “The practice of reporting won’t go away,” he insists. “Our community’s appetite for news is increasing. The only thing that’s unknown is the delivery device – whether that’s going to be a Dick Tracy wristwatch, the box in your rec room or something else.”

Hurst believes the fundamental craft of journalism – to “find stories, to ask questions, to write and produce” – will be strongly in demand. As he told a class of broadcasting students in 2007: “The best thing you can do is go to a foreign land, find something interesting and write it on a postcard home. If you can do that, you’re already on your way. It’s important to tell stories that matter to your area and your audience.”

That is exactly what Hurst has been doing in a 36-year career with CTV that has included the trifecta of foreign reporting – postings to bureaus in Moscow, Beijing and Washington – as well as stints in Edmonton, Halifax and Ottawa.

Hurst laid the groundwork for this peripatetic career during five years at Western, where he followed a B.A. in political science with a Journalism diploma. “The Journalism School had some terrific teachers who were mentors to many people,” he recalls. His own mentor was television professor Ron Laplante, a former CBC newsman. Hurst also honed his writing skills at the student newspaper, *The Gazette*.

Hurst gained a foothold in television in 1973 when he joined CTV as a writer for Canada AM. His first reporting job was covering Toronto City Hall. Then, when Ontarians voted in the 1975 provincial election, he produced the network’s first successful computer-generated, election-night telecast. His bosses took note and, at the tender age of 26, he became News Director at CFTO, the CTV flagship station. “I had been in TV for all of four years, and suddenly I was going to be managing 30-year veterans. I knew it would be a major problem. So I had one-on-one private meetings with

almost everyone on staff. I went to their homes, had beers with them, and asked each of them for their help.”

“The practice of reporting won’t go away... The only thing that’s unknown is the delivery device— whether that’s going to be a Dick Tracy wristwatch, the box in your rec room or something else.”

Three years later, he returned to reporting, taking up six postings in the next 16 years. “Every one of the postings was very different,” says Hurst. “China was very difficult for a journalist. The Communist Party had opened the doors to the West, and then started to shut them because they were concerned about foreign influences. The idea that I could go traveling and talk to Chinese citizens without high-level permission from the Party bosses was well nigh impossible, because the Chinese people were afraid.”

In contrast, when CTV assigned Hurst to Moscow, the Soviet Union was breaking up, and “everything was wide open. If you had been approved by the Russian Foreign Ministry, you were welcome everywhere. You could walk into hospitals and film heart transplant operations without anyone asking you what permissions you had.” Hurst even went to the Crimea and filmed the top-security nuclear submarine base in

Sevastopol. “Nobody had the authority to stop us,” he recalls.

Russia was no paradise, however, especially for his wife and three young children. “There were (Russian) mafia killings all over the place, and on Friday or Saturday night, 90 per cent of the drivers on the road were drunk.” He covered the territorial conflict in the South Caucasus between the former Soviet republics of Armenia and Azerbaijan, surviving an Armenian rocket barrage that killed 50 civilians.

Hurst’s time in Washington, D.C. overlapped the end of the Ronald Reagan years, and the start of George H. W. Bush’s Administration. “I loved every minute of it,” he says. “Washington is the capital of the world.” Staffing the bureau also meant spot news assignments in Miami (riots), San Francisco (the earthquake) and Central America (civil wars). In Haiti, he and his crew had to hide on the floor of a van to escape the Tonton Macoute paramilitaries, who were shooting at election observers from abroad.

Such aggressive reporting has earned Hurst numerous awards. He has been recognized for his probe of the Mulroney Government’s tainted tuna scandal as well as for his foreign forays. He won a Gold Medal at the 1983 New York Film Festival for his documentary *China Today*, about life after Mao Zedong. This year, RNTDA, the Association of Electronic Journalists, honoured him with its highest accolade, for distinguished service to the broadcast news industry.

Hurst is appreciative, but he’s not inflated by the kudos. “Winning awards is nice,” he says, “but it’s not important.” Instead, he prefers to ask his news team: “What stories have you broken and are you having fun?”

Clearly, Robert Hurst is. 



HOME COMING

Remember when...

By Heather Travis, BA'05

The drum roll sounds, a sea of purple and white sweatshirts and face paint floods towards you, the stop clock counts down and above it all the voice of your first-year roommate breaks through the crowd. You take a deep breath and familiar feelings rush back to you, it's Homecoming.

The University of Western Ontario is celebrating Homecoming 2009 on October 1-4 with a weekend of special events marking the 60th anniversary of Homecoming itself, but also noting the Alumni Association's 60th anniversary and the 25th birthday of mascot JW. This will also be Western President Amit Chakma's first introduction to Canada's largest Homecoming event.

Regardless of age or location, 10,000 to 15,000 of alumni and friends are expected to visit campus for the annual celebration. The four-day event offers the perfect excuse to reunite with old friends and make new ones, to relive your best memories, to reflect on the evolving face



of Western's landscape and to celebrate in style your purple pride.

"Homecoming is the ideal opportunity to come 'back home' and experience the 'Purple and Proud' energy and enthusiasm first-hand. Whether it is the football game, a class reunion dinner, or just coffee with a small group of fellow alumni, Homecoming offers something for everyone," says Alumni Association president Carol-Lynn Chambers, BSc'82, MPA'01.

Part of the magic of walking around campus – perhaps for the first time in months or years – is being reminded of the youthful optimism that was shared amongst your classmates. The world was your oyster and four years seemed like an eternity.

For some, Western served as the backdrop for a budding romance and the collegial walls became a source of academic inspiration. Intense lectures and stimulating professors sharpened minds and forced you to make new friends out of lab partners.

For others, moving to London was the first time away from the family nest. As students you learned how to cook a meal in the microwave (or on a hot plate) when the residences' cafeterias were closed or developed new study habits in quiet corners of Western Libraries.

From the first time you took a seat in a lecture hall to the day you walked across the stage in Alumni Hall during convocation, the moments you spent at Western symbolize a rite of passage into adulthood for every Mustang. Even mature students saw themselves grow through their

university experiences.

The friendships and fond memories of life on campus, and its evergreen attraction make Western's Homecoming "truly worth coming home for," says Chambers.

"Just the appeal of 'coming back home' is enough for some. For others, it is the exciting range of events and activities that are designed for broad appeal. Year over year these events become bigger and better."

With more than 240,000 Western graduates worldwide, the Alumni Association has a lot to celebrate for its 60th anniversary. Many anniversary events are planned throughout the weekend to recognize the growing number of Mustangs who are making their mark on businesses and communities in about 130 countries.

In a letter to alumni, Homecoming 2009 chair Anne Baxter promises this year's Homecoming will be memorable.

"We've planned an exciting weekend and we've taken care of the details – all we need is you," she says.

The tradition of Homecoming is highlighted by the football game, this year held Saturday, Oct. 3 at TD Waterhouse Stadium with the Mustangs hitting the gridiron against the McMaster Marauders. Gather your classmates, flags and banners to cheer on the defending Yates Cup champions.

As an organized annual alumni event, Homecoming is an important North American tradition that's believed to have taken root in the U.S. in the years just before the First World War. The successful model is largely unchanged from those early days; it calls for a football game, a parade, a marching

band, a banquet and class reunions.

Still, a few traditions have fallen by the wayside: pep rallies and Homecoming kings and queens are few and far between these days. But a few new wrinkles have been added, perhaps the most popular being tailgating. See you in the parking lot!

To join in on these or other popular events at this year's Homecoming including those held at affiliated colleges, visit:

www.westernhomecoming.uwo.ca for a complete list. We hope to see you there!





Fifth generation of family starting at Western

By David Scott

In September 2009, Erin Radford of Oakville will start classes at Western – the same school her mother, grandfather, great-grandmother and great-great-grandmother attended and graduated from.

Erin represents the fifth generation of her family to attend Western. Her great-great-grandmother Jessie (Murdoch) Gilmore graduated in 1900, the second woman to graduate from The University of Western Ontario after Mary L. Cowan in 1898. Jessie's arts diploma in 1900 was made of real sheepskin and inscribed in Latin. She also wore a gown to school in Western's early days to attend lectures "adding warmth and dignity to the classroom" as she told the London Free Press in a 1955 article. That gown has been worn to convocation ceremonies by members of her family ever since.

Jessie (Murdoch) Gilmore in 1900, on the day she graduated. The gown she is wearing has been worn by many relatives since on their graduation. Her graduation pin is on her left shoulder.

And it's planned that Erin will don the same gown at her graduation.

Her Western influence began at a young age. "Growing up I always imagined myself attending Western, I started wearing my mother's graduate ring in Grade 7," said Erin.

Although she does have a unique family history at Western Erin said she wasn't ever "forced, or pressured to make the decision to attend." But visiting schools in Ontario and then coming to Western's campus during Homecoming seemed to clinch it.

"Western was the only campus that gave me the feeling in my stomach, that just felt right."

The experience of Western's Homecoming left a lasting impression. "The first time I ever visited Western was for Homecoming. I think it's an awesome time to visit the school as a prospective student because the spirit is crazy, seeing purple everywhere and university students and alumni filling the football stadium is pretty thrilling."

Jessie Gilmore, who received an honorary degree (LLD) in 1948 from Western, established the foundation for her family's ideals and value of education early, says Erin. "My great-great-grandmother went to university at a time when women typically stayed home to tend to the house. Jessie



Kathleen (Gilmore) MacDonald graduated in 1930 with a BA and followed her mother Jessie in the teaching profession.

"The first time I ever visited Western was for Homecoming. I think it's an awesome time to visit the school as a prospective student because the spirit is crazy, seeing purple everywhere and university students and alumni filling the football stadium is pretty thrilling."

Gilmore saw her opportunity for an education and took it, she inspires me to do my best academically in school."

To say her family was happy with her choice of university is a bit of an understatement.

"My grandfather was ecstatic, he helped me with my AEO application, proofreading things, he knew that my heart was with Western. When I called my mom she freaked out over the phone and absolutely attacked me with kisses when she got home from work. My dad was thrilled as well; he supported me attending Western from the beginning."

Family influences weren't the only contributing factors in choosing Western. A great student atmosphere and a wide range of extracurricular activities were important considerations. "I have always been involved in student council and other extracurriculars, I wanted to attend a school that accepted me, not only based on my academics but also my school involvement."

Although her Western education hasn't yet started, when asked about career goals, Erin had a few in mind. "After graduation I hope to gain experience working for a company and then maybe own my own business; I am not sure in what field, maybe marketing. But I know that in the future I would like to be my own boss. I might continue my

education and receive my MBA, I think that would be pretty cool."

A potential MBA for Erin is a long way removed from Jessie Murdoch's first day at Western in the autumn of 1896 when she took a streetcar to the corner of Dundas and Richmond streets and asked for directions to the University. But neither the conductor nor the policeman on duty could tell her where it was. "Never heard of such a place, ma'am," was the answer.

Luckily for her descendants, Jessie made her way to Huron College and started the family legacy at Western that continues to this day.



Three generations of MacDonald family at Western: John A. MacDonald, BA'56 (Arts), Heather (MacDonald) Radford, BA'80 (PhysEd), and Erin Radford, starting in September.

Well worn gown

Jessie Gilmore's graduation gown has been worn by Dr. Mac Gilmore, Meds'27, Kathleen (Gilmore) MacDonald, BA'30, Margaret (Gilmore) Blom, BSc'32, Mary Elizabeth Gilmore, BA'55, John A. MacDonald, BA'56, Heather (MacDonald) Radford, BA'80. (And hopefully by Erin Radford in the not so distant future....)



The Westeinde Clan – (Back row) Colleen Westeinde, Jeff Westeinde, Johan Westeinde, Jacquie Westeinde, Kirsten Westeinde, Julie Westeinde, Marieke Bakker-Westeinde, Mykal Bakker-Westeinde, Bart Bakker, Susan Finlay, Kyla Westeinde, Jonathan Westeinde. Front row: Nicole Westeinde, Shirley Westeinde, John Westeinde, Savannah Westeinde, Paige Westeinde. (Photo courtesy Westeinde family)

Creating strong family ties with Western

By Karmen Dowling, BA'96

John Westeinde, BESC'62, and family have pledged \$25,000 to support construction of Western's first Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED)-certified facility, to be known as the Claudette MacKay-Lassonde Pavilion in the Faculty of Engineering. This adds to \$25,000 donated two years ago to create the Westeinde Family Continuing Award in Environmental Engineering.

The Westeinde family's ties to Western run deep and wide.

In addition to John receiving a Western degree, his wife Shirley graduated with a Diploma in Public Health Nursing in 1963. Each of their three children are graduates: Jeffrey, BESC'89 (Civil Engineering); Julie, BESC'89 (Chemical/Biochemical Engineering); and Jonathan, BA'92 (Economics).

Jeffrey's wife also received a degree in Civil Engineering in 1991. Other family members who are Western graduates include: Nicholas Westeinde (John's brother), Marlise Westeinde (John's niece) and several members of Shirley's family: Wayne McLeish, Doug McLeish, Don Prowse, Ryan McLeish and Paul McLeish.

"The Westeinde family has a strong association with Western," says Jeffrey Westeinde, who is Chief Executive Officer of Quantum Murray LP in Ottawa.

"All of the Westeindes and McLeishs who attended university over

"It's a pleasure to see how the campus and the engineering program continues to develop and grow to produce great young graduates."

Jeffrey Westeinde, BESC'89 – celebrating his 20th class reunion at Homecoming 2009

the past two generations have received at least one degree from Western. My family has always been very dedicated to giving back to our communities. As a family we have been blessed with much good fortune and recognize the duty this places on us to be pro-active in ensuring a stronger community for everyone. My mother and father have instilled this in all of their kids."

Jeffrey will be returning to campus this fall to celebrate his 20th year since graduation. "My time at Western was fantastic and I really enjoy any chance I have to reminisce about my days as an engineering student. It's also a pleasure to see how the campus and the program continues to develop and grow to produce great young graduates."

In recognition of the Westeinde family's new gift, the Women in Engineering Office on the first floor of the Claudette MacKay-Lassonde Pavilion will be named The Westeinde Family Women in Engineering Office. Jeffrey says naming the office is fitting given both his sister and wife are Western Engineers and, with the rest of the family, are dedicated to ensuring women feel welcome in the engineering profession.

The Faculty of Engineering has been committed to welcoming and supporting more female students and faculty over the years. In fact, the number of female students at Western has increased in the last few years. In 2008-09, Western Engineering had 240 female undergraduate students, which was a four per cent increase from last year, and made up about 20 per cent of the student base.

The Claudette MacKay-Lassonde Pavilion at Western is a \$22-million, four-storey, 45,000-square-foot facility to house laboratories for environmental engineering research and space for student engagement and learning through hands-on design opportunities. This building is expected to be completed this summer. Being a LEED certified building means it has a high rating for environmental sustainability.

For more information about the Claudette MacKay-Lassonde Pavilion, contact Virginia Daugharty, Western Engineering, at vdaughar@eng.uwo.ca or 519-661-4209.

JW celebrates 25th birthday!

Homecoming hero & Mustangs mascot



By Scott Russell, BA'80, BEd'81, MA'85
(originally published in 1985)

At University of Western Ontario football games he gallops around the field to the delight of fans, big and small – old and young. People want to hug him – dance with him – have their picture taken with him.

He's J.W., The University of Western Ontario's new mascot.

Clad in a purple and white costume, with pointy ears and a long snout, J.W. will do just about anything to get a laugh from Western fans. He has a permanent smile on his face as he waves his hands madly.

But who and what is the real J.W.? As a horse, the one thing J.W. won't do is talk.

Western's Sports Information Director, Jamie Bone, thinks part of J.W.'s success results from his secret identity.

"People don't assume or think there's a guy inside the costume. That's why he's been so successful," says Bone.

Few people other than Bone and

J.W.'s creator, a UWO biophysics graduate student, David-Lee Tracey (*who is 'Trace' – the coach of the champion Western Mustangs Cheerleaders), know who J.W. really is. The person, while inside the costume, won't talk. Outside of it he will.

Of his secret identity J.W. says, "I don't know if J.W. could live without that mystique and secret. If people started to identify J.W. with somebody else he would be marred. There would be an outside bias coming through."

Part of Tracey's plan was to make it easy for the character to express itself.

"We wanted the character to be known only as J.W. It helps the person in the costume develop an alter ego," he says.

The idea for the J.W. character came in April of 1984 when the University Students' Council and the Intercollegiate Athletics Office sponsored a contest to design a mascot for the university.

Tracey, 25, took the \$100 first prize when he submitted 50 intricate drawings to the selection committee. Head

cheerleader at the university for four years, Tracey says he collected tidbits from Sports Illustrated in the hope that someday he could design a mascot for Western.

The initials J.W. were chosen as a name partly because of J.W. Little, the late benefactor of the university whose name was given to the football stadium on campus.

For Scott Russell's complete article on J.W., please visit: www.alumnigazette.ca



Homecoming 2009 Events

Thursday, October 1 Homecoming Kickoff & Alumni Association AGM

7:00 – 9:00 p.m.

TD Waterhouse Stadium

Join us as we celebrate the 60th Anniversary of Western's Alumni Association and present our 2nd Annual Spirit of Western Award. Appetizers, mingling, entertainment and more! Everyone is invited.

Friday, October 2

35th Annual Alumni Awards Dinner

5:30 p.m. Reception with complimentary hors d'oeuvres

6:30 p.m. Dinner

The Great Hall, Somerville House

To reserve a table, please call:

519.661.2199 ext. 85739

or e-mail: westernhomecoming@uwo.ca.

Six Degrees Homecoming

9:00 p.m.

The London Tap House

545.5 Richmond Street

A young alumni event for the classes of 1999 – 2009.

Saturday, October 3

Homecoming Hospitality and Registration Centres

11:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

*University Community Centre (UCC) Atrium
& Western Student Recreation Centre*

This year we will be in two locations on campus to greet you and welcome you home for Homecoming central. Now you can choose to check out our new recreational facility or go to the core of campus for all your Homecoming needs. Visit one or both locations to register and enjoy refreshments, exhibits and a free gift.

2:00 – 4:00 pm

TD Waterhouse stadium

Look for Alumni Western staff and volunteers inside the gates at TD Waterhouse Stadium – free gifts while they last.

Homecoming Parade

10:00 a.m.

Along Richmond Street

Homecoming Football Game

2:00 p.m.

Western Mustangs vs. McMaster Marauders

For tickets, contact the Mustang Ticket Office at 519-661-4077 or visit:

<http://westernmustangstickets.universitytickets.com>

Golden Anniversary Dinner

6:00 p.m. Reception

7:00 p.m. Dinner

The Great Hall, Somerville House

Join your classmates from 1959 and earlier for an elegant evening, featuring a three-course meal, musical entertainment and a visit from Dr. Amit Chakma, President & Vice-Chancellor. Seating will be arranged by reunion year.

Sunday, October 4

Homecoming Golf Tournament and Breakfast at FireRock

9:00 a.m. – 11 a.m. – Breakfast

11:00 a.m. – Shotgun start

10345 Oxbow Drive, Komoka

Dust off your driver and join us for the 2nd Annual Homecoming Golf Tournament.

For those who don't want to play but want to enjoy the view and good company, a breakfast-only option is available.



Visit www.westernhomecoming.uwo.ca for
a complete listing of events and program information.

Who's On

MUSIC

EDIBLE WORD PARADE



Darrelle London, BA'07, released her debut CD, *Edible Word Parade*. Darrelle's first single, "Understand," is receiving airplay on CBC Radio2 and campus radio across Canada. *Edible Word Parade*

is a collection of nine catchy, piano-driven tunes, delivered with surprising strength and confidence. In her songs, Darrelle approaches the complexity of relationships with humour and honesty. Darrelle is currently touring eastern Canada to promote the release. She will return to London, Ontario, to perform in Victoria Park on July 31 and August 1 in London's 20th Annual Ribfest. *Edible Word Parade* is available through HMV, on iTunes, or at www.darrellelondon.com.

PRESS

A LIFE OF CARING



A Life of Caring by **Marilyn (Leckie) Marsh, DipNurs'58**, (now Associate Professor for the School of Nursing at Memorial University of Newfoundland), Marilyn Beaton and Jeanette Walsh is a collection of oral histories from Newfoundland

nurses practicing during the 1920s & 1930s. "A vivid and dynamic book . . . Many of the interviews touch on the same elements – the long hours, the rigid hierarchies of the hospitals, the lack of drugs and equipment, the social and physical isolation – but each story has something unique, some details or turns of events that surprises and intrigues." - Robin McGrath, The Telegram. "They did what they did because they loved it and found it exciting and interesting. They held lives in their hands but they coped with the stress and responsibility without making a fuss."

www.breakwaterbooks.com

TURTLE ON A FENCE POST



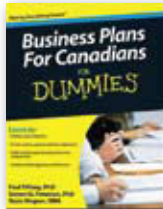
Every parent hopes they have adequately prepared their children for life after high school. But what if you, as a parent, won't be nearby to provide guidance when they move out? What simple graduation gift is there to help

these grads who will be adults in body, but not in life experience? **Jane and Jim Pratt, MBA'87**, have created the answer to these concerns. They've written *Turtle on a Fence Post: 365 Days of Life Lessons, Wisdom Graduates Need to Make It in the Real World*, released by Agio Publishing in Victoria. The couple has been together for over 30 years. She's a former Miss Teen Canada runner-up who has been president

of a number of volunteer organizations while raising three children as a stay-at-home mom. He's a former pro basketball player and Bay Street executive, now a successful entrepreneur whose company has been named one of Canada's best-managed companies. Both are accomplished public speakers and passionate about their topic: helping young people live successful and rewarding lives after high school.

www.turtleonafencepost.ca

BUSINESS PLANS FOR CANADIANS FOR DUMMIES



Starting a new business can often seem like an arduous and overwhelming undertaking. Many entrepreneurs have the dream and the ambition to run a business, but lack a clear plan on how to achieve their goals.

Business Plans For Canadians For

Dummies, by authors **Nada Wagner, MBA'00**; Paul Tiffany, PhD; and Steven D. Peterson, PhD, guides your business in the right direction whether you're part of a large corporation or working out of your home office. This practical and informative book takes readers through every step of business planning, including creating the perfect mission statement, pinpointing the needs of your customers, simplifying your finances, staying on top of trends and fostering a winning atmosphere for your staff. Using examples from real Canadian businesses such as Research In Motion, WestJet, Rogers Communication, and many more, small-business expert Nada Wagner explains how Canadian companies achieve success – and why some of them failed. With sample plans and checklists, helpful tips and directions to valuable resources, *Business Plans For Canadians For Dummies* offers information anyone starting a business in this country should know.

www.nextwavemarketing.ca

THE RETURN OF THE FEARSOME CRITTERS



Do you know the difference between a Hugag and a Hodag? The favourite foods of the Snoligoster and the Slide-Rock Bolter? The

special weakness of the Cactus Cat? *The Return of the Fearsome Critters* by **Warren James, MLIS'84**, is a celebration in picture and verse of the awful and awesome creatures that in olden times hid out in the vast lumber woods of North America. Each of the twenty critters lurking within this volume is described scientifically, commemorated in suitably terrific (or terrible!) verse and graphically depicted by New Brunswick illustrator Susan Hopkins McQuarrie. Warren works as a librarian in Regina and first became acquainted with the "critters" during storytelling visits to local schools. *The Return of the Fearsome Critters* is published by Your Nickel's Worth Publishing of Regina, SK. So, if you go down to the woods today . . . you might get a real surprise!

www.yournickelsworth.com/fearsome.html

GUIDE TO CANADIAN VEGETABLE GARDENING



Douglas Green, BA'71 (Hon PhysEd), has recently released his eighth gardening book, the *Guide to Canadian Vegetable Gardening*. Douglas Green lives, gardens and writes from an island in the 1000 Islands Region of Lake Ontario.

Doug has been in the nursery and greenhouse business most of his working life including running his own specialty nursery for more than 20 years. An award-winning author, radio show host, and serious gardener he can be found sailing his mahogany Folkboat out on the lake or driving his old Triumph sports car on the back roads if he's not in his garden. More about his gardening tips can be found at: www.simplegiftsfam.com *Guide to Canadian Vegetable Gardening* can be found at: www.amazon.ca

READING THE WATER



Water is the theme of the latest book of poetry, *Reading the Water*, by **Laurence Hutchman, BA'72**.

The opening poems, written at The Great Mother Conference in Camp Kieve, associate water with art and creativity. Others use a stream as

a metaphor for the mind, make family associations and explore the less peaceful aspects of water. Hutchman, a key figure in Maritime poetry, expands our delight in knowing the world and loving life. His insightful poems record a life well lived in both humour and seriousness. He allows language to sing with the force of his own deep music. Laurence Hutchman has taught at Concordia University, the University of Alberta and The University of Western Ontario. At present he is a professor at the Université de Moncton in Edmundston, New Brunswick.

www.flipkart.com

KOLKATA DREAMS



Kolkata Dreams by **K. Gandhar**

Chakravarty, BA'02, is a work of travel poetry that will transport you across the sea to northeastern India.

The poems explore the idealization of Mother India against the realities of its westernization from the perspective of a Canadian-born Indo-North

American discovering his heritage for the first time. When reading and reciting this poetry (you may be forced to voice these poems aloud), you will find that laughter often chokes itself on tears while the book yo-yos between meditation and contemplation. The experimental use of a first-person/third-person singular-detached narrator encapsulates the feeling of disembodiment often felt by the voyager, especially in this case, as the poet simultaneously belongs to yet remains apart from the cultures he explores. In short, *Kolkata Dreams* is a must-read for anyone interested in the balance between tradition and modernity, particularly in the context of globalization and twenty-first century India.

www.8thhousepublishing.com/kolkata-dreams.html

Two Western alumni have held the national spotlight recently as recipients of the Order of Canada, presented by Governor General Michaëlle Jean. Each

excels in the world of performing arts: one in singing, one in theatre. Each had a different path from Western but both paths led to success and the ultimate

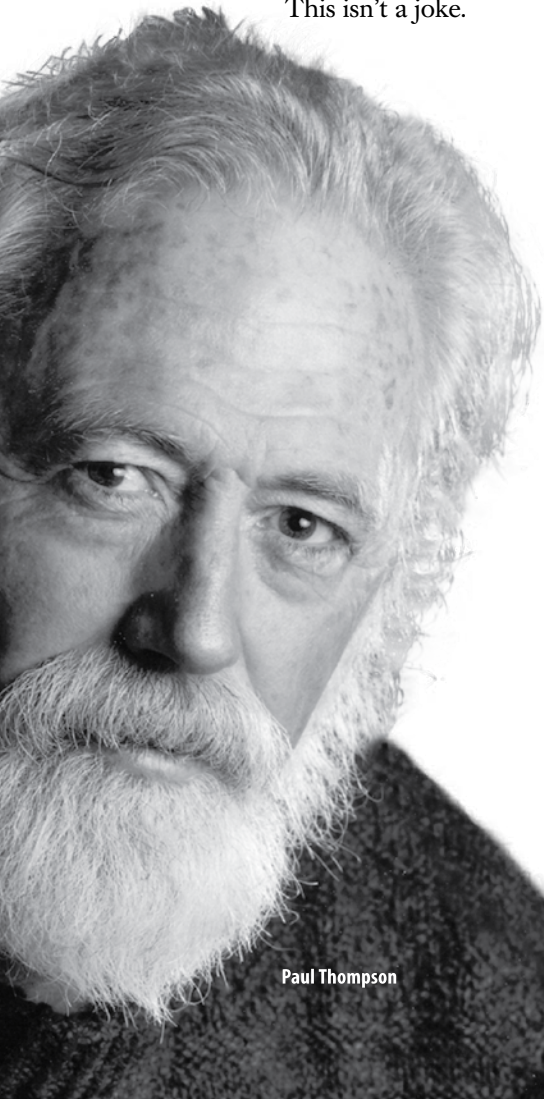
recognition and achievement for an artist in Canada. Alumnus Ron Johnston, BA'96, tells the stories of Paul Thompson, BA'63, and Adrienne Pieczonka, BMus'85.

Pioneer in Canadian theatre recognized with Order of Canada

By Ron Johnston, BA'96

A guy walks into a bar in Iqaluit where he meets a man insulting patrons in three languages who sells candy to neighbourhood kids in a curious fashion and keeps a gorgeous parrot in a five-foot golden cage imported from Mexico.

This isn't a joke.



Paul Thompson

This is another day in the life of theatrical adventurer Paul Thompson, BA'63 (Honours English, Huron), a legend in Canadian theatre, a Western alumnus and recent recipient of the Order of Canada.

Thompson's view of this man changed when he started talking about his bird. When Thompson found out the bird was from Brazil and its typical lifespan was close to 100 years, he was inspired for a new play.

"This bird, or one like it, could have seen the whole changing of the north with the arrival of white people," says Thompson. And he was off to Brazil on another chapter in his collective creation canon. A world away from his uncle's farm in the small town of Listowel and the experiences of his childhood that would shape much of his most notable theatrical productions.

Born in Charlottetown, P.E.I., Thompson grew up in Guelph and Listowel before moving to London to attend The University of Western Ontario, receiving an Honours BA in English and French. It was also here at Western that Thompson caught the theatre bug, and changed his life from varsity athlete to varsity aesthete.

Before the stage beckoned, it was wrestling singlets and midnight runs down the residence halls to make weight for the weekend meets.

"I lived in residence at Huron, and the social life of a wrestler was not interesting. You had to make weight, so every Friday night I was running the corridors," says Thompson. "So I

joined Purple Patches (a theatre group) to balance my social life and meet girls."

London was a creative hub during the early '60s with visual artists such as the late Greg Curnoe, Murray Favro and Jack Chambers garnering acclaim, and mavericks such as Thompson along with Keith Turnbull, Martin Kinch, Bill Webster and David Fox doing the same for theatre.

"London was the ideal size for someone like me," says Thompson, who graduated in 1963 and headed to Sorbonne University in Paris, France on a government scholarship.

Thompson spent the following two years soaking up an array of theatrical experiences from classic to experimental and political, taking in 30 plays a month. In addition, he travelled throughout Europe included stays in Prague and East Berlin. But it was the work of Roger Planchon, a director from Lyon, who exposed Thompson to the theatre of the Left, and his methods of engagement that had a lasting impact.

"I got caught completely up in it," says Thompson, who ended up apprenticing as a stagiaire de la mise en scene (trainee of the setting in scene) with Planchon's company after completing an MA at the University of Toronto. "It was hugely exciting."

Following his return to Ontario, Thompson put his directorial talents to work in Sault Ste. Marie then Stratford, before moving to Toronto in 1969 to take the reins at the experimental Theatre Passe Muraille—an upstart, visionary theatre founded in the basement of Rochdale College by Jim Garrard, but one with serious organizational shortcomings. The move would alter the Canadian theatre landscape, and mark the turning point in Thompson's career.

Thompson's first hit was the *Doukhobors* in 1971. And he started a move towards more Canadian ideas and stories and a collective technique where he relied upon more improvisation, and a more open flow of ideas between

continued on page 34

Pieczonka is living the singer's dream

By Ron Johnston, BA'96

It is fitting that Soprano Adrienne Pieczonka, BMus'85, was at another fabled Canadian institution when she got the call informing her that she was being awarded the Order of Canada, recognizing "her contributions as one of the top opera singers of her generation and as an artistic ambassador for Canada."

"I was having a rough morning and I was at Tim Hortons with my daughter," Pieczonka recounts, on the phone from her home in the Annex neighbourhood of Toronto where she's resided with her partner and daughter since moving back from Europe to Canada in 2005.

"I was pretty speechless when I got the call, it is an absolute highlight," says Pieczonka. "It is so reaffirming, I thought 'yay' Canada celebrates me. In turn I celebrate Canada. It is a reciprocal appreciation thing... and I try to give that back to the musical community."

Pieczonka, a Western alumna who graduated from the music program in 1985, is one of the most sought after sopranos in Europe and North America. She was recently awarded the National Lyric Prize for Best Female Opera Singer of 2008 at the Teatro Campoamor in Oviedo (one of Spain's most prestigious arts awards) for her performance in the title role of Ariadne auf Naxos in October, 2008. She made a name for herself singing in Europe for 15 years and in Vienna she was named as a *kammersangerin** in 2007, another in a slew of awards recognizing Pieczonka as one of the finest opera singers of her generation. *(Originally bestowed by the royal courts, the title "*Kammersänger(in)*", or chamber singer, is awarded to distinguished singers who have made a significant contribution to the arts in Austria).

"I was really a ham as a kid; I loved any kind of performing and opera had it all. It marries the acting and the music," Pieczonka explains. "And there is nothing

like performing in front of an audience, anything can happen. It's always different and always larger than life."

Not one to rest on her laurels, Pieczonka was at work this winter travelling the globe with her booming voice for performances in Munich, Vienna and, most recently, the Metropolitan Opera in New York starring in *Die Walküre* alongside the legendary Placido Domingo and James Levine.

"It was a singer's dream," says Pieczonka.

She headed to San Francisco in June to set up shop for a six-week stint as Tosca under the direction of Lotfi Mansouri an old Canadian Opera Company legend from her early opera days in Toronto.

"To be honest, I feel like I've scaled some heights, and if I had to stop singing tomorrow I'd be totally satisfied with my career."

"He was there at my debut," says Pieczonka. "It was a 1988 production of *Lady Macbeth of Mzensk*, a very dramatic, visceral, hard-to-stomach opera. He must still think of me as a young kid almost, it's nice that's come full circle."

Pieczonka, a Brampton native, studied a variety of instruments in her childhood before concentrating on voice when she was 12. She attended her first opera at 14. After high school she studied music at The University of Western Ontario, stomped the boards in a memorable Gilbert and Sullivan Society production of *Pirates of Penzance*, joined the Faculty of Music Singers,

famously making the rather bold year-book proclamation that she would indeed be an "international opera singer."

"London was different," says Pieczonka. "The residence, the whole experience, I really enjoyed it, made friends for life."

From Western, Pieczonka attended the University of Toronto opera school before her debut in the chorus of the Canadian Opera Company. It was then that Pieczonka made good on her yearbook prediction and booked a one-way ticket to pursue her European dream.

"For the first couple months I was absolutely swamped," Pieczonka explains. "I felt like I was never going to get a handle on the language. I was quite bereft really, but my understanding grew, quickly."

After entering a number of singing competitions in France and Holland, where she won, Pieczonka was approached by a number of interested parties and signed a two-year contract with Vienna Folk Opav.

"I was just thinking, this is madness," says Pieczonka. "But I signed on the dotted line, and moved to Vienna." And the

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director, actor and even audience. Thompson pioneered the development of the collective creation process in which actors, a director and (occasionally) a writer develop a script through field research and acting improvisations.

Then *The Farm Show* happened.

The production saw Thompson and a team of actors travel to the Clinton area in southwestern Ontario to immerse themselves in the rural, farming district.

After six weeks, the troupe put on a show in an area barn, basically adopting the stories, accents and lives of their audience. It was electric.

"It became a sort of benchmark for originality," says Thompson. "It put the people front and centre."

The success of *The Farm Show* started a lengthy tradition of collective creations at *Passe Muraille* including such acclaimed Thompson productions as *1837: The Farmer's Revolt*, a play about William Lyon Mackenzie's Rebellion; *Them Donnellys* and the racy *I Love You, Baby Blue*.

"We formed a group of talented actors, a large number like me, who were not fitting into the traditional British and American theatre models," Thompson explains. "There was new energy, and this theatre was about self expression.... We discovered or invented an audience. It was a very heady experience."

Thompson began travelling across the country and internationally with productions, or creating shows on the spot with a team of actors. Along the way



Paul Thompson with Governor General Michaëlle Jean, who awarded the prominent playwright and director the Order of Canada on Dec. 12 in Ottawa, recognizing a lifetime of achievement and dedication to his field.

"I lived in residence at Huron, and the social life of a wrestler was not interesting. You had to make weight, so every Friday night I was running the corridors," says Thompson. "So I joined Purple Patches (a theatre group) to balance my social life and meet girls."

he worked with some of the finest talent in the country including the likes of Eric Peterson, Graham Greene, Mary Walsh, Timothy Findlay, Rick Salutin and Linda Griffiths. He turned over the reins at *Passe Muraille* in 1982, was the Director General of the National Theatre School from 1987 to 1991 where he trained another generation including Kristen Thomson (*I, Claudia*) before returning to his southwestern Ontario roots in 1994 at the Blyth Festival where he produced a number of collectives throughout the decade (*Barndance*, *Live!*, *Booze Days* in a *Dry County*, *Death of a Hired Man*, *The Outdoor Donnellys*, and *Hippie*). He continues to be involved in an array of theatre projects and committees in Toronto.

His work has influenced countless performers and institutions throughout the country, and his collective vision has uncovered a slew of award-winning plays. His productions were characterized by their Canadian subject matter and the exploration and creation of Canadian myths.

Along the way, he met his wife and actress Anne Anglin at the Stratford Festival, and has two daughters. He lives in the Beaches neighbourhood of Toronto, when he isn't travelling 40 hours by bus in rural Brazil to find a really good story that might make its way onto a stage in the middle of nowhere. (And you get a feeling he wouldn't want it any other way) W

continued from page 33

age of Pieczonka, the international opera singer, was underway.

In recent years, Pieczonka has performed more in North America, including a starring role at the opening of the Four Seasons Centre for the Performing Arts in 2008. The culmination of the late Richard Bradshaw's work as artistic director at the Canadian Opera Company, the evening, which included an off-site curtain call at nearby Nathan Phillip's Square where a huge crowd had gathered to watch the opera on a giant TV, was one of the most memorable of Pieczonka's career.

"We wanted to do something for the fans who were out there supporting us, so we walked down the street. I had this huge ball gown with a train, and high heels and they made a bit of a platform for us and we waved to the crowd," says Pieczonka. "That was for Richard. It was his vision and a fulfillment of what he set out to do. It was a thrill to be there. I was so proud."

Pieczonka has also finished recording her second album featuring 16 Puccini arias for the ORFEO label. Already on the racks in Europe the album will be out in Canadian record stores this September. And she's already excited about performing one of her favourite roles, *Tosca*, in her hometown of Toronto in two years. With such a stellar career, it is hard to imagine it started with a bold scribble in a Western yearbook more than two decades ago.

"To be honest, I feel like I've scaled some heights, and if I had to stop singing tomorrow I'd be totally satisfied with my career," says Pieczonka. W



Adrienne Pieczonka with Governor General Michaëlle Jean. Adrienne was made an Officer of the Order of Canada in recognition of a lifetime of outstanding achievement, dedication to the community and service to the nation.

Singing praises of new opera academy



Rachel Wood of London demonstrates her vocal range and theatrical abilities during a masterclass in von Kuster Hall with Steven Blier, a faculty member of the Juilliard School in New York, as part of the Canadian Operatic Arts Academy program.

By Heather Travis, BA'05

Two months before a wedding, most couples are putting the final touches on their big day. But Julie Grieve and Jeremy Ludwig are instead fine-tuning their voices and stage performance at the Canadian Operatic Arts Academy (COAA) at The University of Western Ontario.

The pair completed undergraduate degrees at Western and will be married in July. Together, they honed operatic skills, along with 29 other participants, in the elite program held May 4-23.

"It's important for singers to be performing through the summer," says Grieve, adding the opportunity to study with the biggest names in the business had a strong appeal.

"It's shorter than a lot of programs and you can fit a lot in," adds Ludwig. "It's a chance to really study a lot of scenes really intensely."

More than 100 singers from across Canada and a few from the United States auditioned for COAA, which is in its first year. For an intensive three weeks, students ranging in age from 22-34 years old, participated in masterclasses with acclaimed singers and coaches, took classes in movement, dance and stage combat, and engage in dramatic workshops and

sessions with leading presenters of opera from across North America.

"They are going to be so busy that at some point they will stop thinking," says COAA musical director Mark Payne, who is also the head opera coach at Western. "Where opera is now, singers are often expected to be more than singers."

The students practiced and performed 16 ensemble scenes covering the breadth of the operatic repertoire. Public performances were held on May 23-24.

"The program is about being ready to take in a lot of information ... and learning to teach yourself," says Western music performance studies professor and COAA program director Sophie Roland-Wieczorek.

Unlike traditional casting, participants were selected based on vocal skills and ability to be creative and flexible.

"We went and listened for the best package," says Roland-Wieczorek. "I like the idea of choosing the students and then choosing the scenes."

Jennifer Krabbe of London says she would have travelled anywhere to participate in such an opera program and study with such a prestigious group of faculty members.

"It's a lot of fun and long days, but I

think that environment will be good for learning," she says.

Similarly, Andrea Cerswell of the Toronto area was attracted to the intensive program that allows her to "delve into every detail rather than glaze the surface" of opera scenes.

Among noted guest faculty members is Steven Blier, a faculty member of the Juilliard School in New York. His goal is to help students "figure out the heart of the song" to enhance their performance.

"Acting out a song is good for some pieces, but not for many," he says. "You need to take us to the heart of the experience."

Increasing demands of operatic singers requires them to do more than just sing, they must have stage presence. This is where director Timothy Nelson, founder of the American Opera Theater, comes in.

"What makes this program so special is that most programs don't adequately prepare singers in thinking theatrically," he says, adding his focus will be on helping the students develop their characters. "A lot of opera singers are stronger actors than people in the straight theatre world."

To learn about COAA, visit: www.music.uwo.ca/coaa.html.

The Don Wright Faculty of Music
Visit: www.music.uwo.ca



Increased medical spaces address doctor shortages

Schulich Medical students at Windsor Campus.

By Heather Travis, BA'05

Twelve more medical school hopefuls will receive acceptance letters from the Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry at The University of Western Ontario, reinforcing a commitment made earlier this year by the provincial government.

As promised in the provincial budget, Minister of Health and Long-Term Care David Caplan announced Western will receive funding for an additional 24 first-year spaces at Schulich's London and Windsor campuses over the next two years. Caplan emphasized the government's commitment during a visit to Schulich on May 21.

"The investment we are making in you is actually an investment in us," says Caplan, adding the increased number of medical students will help address the provincial physician shortage.

This year, six new spaces will be created at the London campus and four new spaces will be added in 2010-11. At

Schulich's satellite campus in Windsor, six spaces have opened up for 2009-10 and eight in 2010-11.

Although the majority of acceptance letters were mailed in mid-May, a new set of letters will be sent to the top 12 students on the waiting list to make up the 2009-10 complement.

Western will also receive \$4.2 million to complete the third floor of the University of Windsor's Medical Education Building.

"Many people talk about the deficit of doctors in this province," says Khalil Ramal, MPP for London-Fanshawe. "What this announcement means is more access to health care."

When Schulich Dean Carol Herbert took on the leadership position in 1999, the medical school had 96 first-year students. With the added government support, there will be 171 students beginning in 2010.

"That is almost a doubling in growth," she says.

As well, the number of students

graduating from the program and choosing to study family medicine is on the rise. At May's convocation, nearly half of the graduating class has chosen to pursue a career as a family doctor.

"We hope that by giving them (students) an excellent experience in London and in Windsor that we will keep a number of these individuals after their training and they will open up a practice in our region," says Herbert.

Including those at Western, the provincial government is creating 100 new medical school spaces over the next three years at McMaster University, the University of Toronto, Northern Ontario School of Medicine and the University of Ottawa.

To support the medical schools' growth, the provincial government is providing \$35 million during this time for construction, expansion of classrooms, buying training equipment and library resources, and improving video conferencing and webcasting between sites.

Canada's brightest young leaders wear purple

Five University of Western Ontario alumni are among this year's Top 40 Under 40

Founded by executive search firm Caldwell Partners International Inc. and presented in the Globe and Mail newspaper, Top 40 Under 40 honours top

achievers in business, professions, academia and public service for leadership, vision, impact and community involvement.

Four of the five graduated from the

Ivey School of Business and the fifth from the Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry. A May 5 awards ceremony was held to mark their contributions.

The Western winners include:



Brian Chafe



Michael Copeland



John Corley



Steven Koles



Michael Taylor

Brian Chafe, MBA '04
Chafe is Chief Operating Officer of Provincial Aerospace Ltd., an international aerospace firm headquartered in St. John's, Newfoundland.

Michael Copeland, MBA '99, LLB '93
Copeland is Chief Operating Officer for the Canadian Football League where he is responsible for football operations, finances and administrative and legal functions.

John Corley, Ivey Executive Program '01
Corley is Vice President and General Manager of Canadian Operations, Xerox Canada. He oversees direct sales for Xerox's Canadian operations and previously led the firm's marketing strategy for North America.

Steven Koles, Ivey Marketing Management Program '97
Koles was involved with the turnaround of CSI Wireless, a Calgary-based GPS products manufacturer, and re-branded the company as Hemisphere GPS Inc., where he is Chief Executive Officer.

Dr. Michael Taylor, MD '94
A Pediatric Neurosurgeon and Scientist at The Hospital for Sick Children, Taylor has made significant contributions to pediatric neurosurgery and brain tumour research.


Since the founding of the awards in 1995, Western has consistently had a notable representation. Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry also congratulates Taylor, who has made significant contributions to pediatric neurosurgery and brain tumour research. Previous honourees include Patrick Spence, HBA '98, Vice President of Research in Motion Ltd.; Christine Magee, HBA '82, President and CEO of Sleep Country Canada and Tim Hockey, MBA '97, Group Head of Canadian Banking and President and

CEO of TD Canada Trust.

For its part, the Richard Ivey School of Business has produced the majority of the university's recipients, with 38 degree alumni and 10 Executive Development graduates – more honourees than any other Canadian business school.

"We are extremely proud that Ivey graduates consistently dominate this distinctive list. It speaks to the high calibre of our programs and students and demonstrates our strength in developing great leaders," says Carol Stephenson, Dean of

the Richard Ivey School of Business. "The varied experience of these individuals, and our past recipients, shows that Ivey graduates are successful in all walks of life and make valuable contributions to society.

"It's particularly rewarding to know these young leaders are honoured not just for their business success, but for their vision, innovation and community involvement and contributions. At Ivey, we teach that success is more than climbing the corporate ladder, it's also about contributing to society." 

Mustang athletes shone in 2008-09

By Paul Mayne

- Nine Ontario championships
- Six coaches of the year
- More than 100 OUA all-star student-athletes.
- Twenty-two all-Canadian student-athletes


The 2008-2009 Western Mustangs season was one of the most successful in years. Of the 38 teams, 36 finished in fifth place or better in Ontario university sport.

With provincial titles in badminton, men's and women's curling, men's hockey; women's swimming; football; women's golf; and men's and women's squash, the Mustangs also added six silver and 10 bronze to the medal mix. Health Sciences Dean Jim Weese, who has been associated with university sport for over 30 years, says he hasn't witnessed a better year.

"A very special year indeed," he says, noting Mustang student-athletes also earned 13 major awards and six rookie of the year nods. "This year was a special one given the accomplishments of our teams. Full credit to our student-athletes for their talent and commitment. As well, we have great coaches who provide enriching experiences for our student-athletes."

This year's runs included a great showing by the men's basketball team in the national championship, a Vanier Cup appearance by the men's football team, and the surprising power of the men's hockey team to reach the finals, among others.

"The year was awesome and with that number of competitive teams we are very proud," says Chuck Mathies, interim director of Sports and Recreation Services.

"Great student-athletes are involved with our program and coaches are by far some of the best in the province if not the country and have lots to say of their teams and success." 

Advertisement

Identity Theft - Don't let someone else have the time of your life!

The term "identity theft" shows up almost daily in the media. All Canadians should be concerned about the security of information such as social insurance, credit cards and bank account numbers including mortgage and loan data. The RCMP reports that the use of stolen personal information for financial gain is the fastest growing crime in the world. One in six Canadians are victimized annually with annual losses to individuals and businesses estimated at more than \$2.5 billion.

Media reports are just the tip of the iceberg

In January 2007, TJMaxx disclosed that as many as two million Canadian credit cards may have been accessed by computer hackers. Less than 24 hours later, the CIBC revealed that a computer file containing account information for 470,000 customers had been lost in transit. Shortly after, a Toronto resident found hundreds of Rogers order forms with confidential information in a coffee shop parking lot. These stories made the headlines – but they are just the tip of the iceberg.

How does identity theft happen?

The most recent spin is mortgage fraud, where thieves use personal information to sell a home without the homeowner's knowledge! Here is an example of what can, and does, happen:

Let's take an average couple (John and Mary Chang) who own a nice 2,400 sq. ft. home in Oshawa. Enter the identity thieves (Steve and Sarah) who obtain (buy) the Chang's relevant information from identity thieves. They use the falsified identification documents to impersonate the Changs to a legitimate lawyer. So far, two true identities have been stolen, the Chang's.

Joining the scam is Louise, Steve and Sarah's accomplice, who takes the name and identity of another innocent victim (Rachel Brodeur) who lives in Calgary. It's the accomplice's job (Louise) to act as the new purchaser of the property that the impersonating couple is selling. Once the transaction is approved by a lender (having done all due diligence including conducting a credit bureau check), the mortgage funds are conveniently directed by the lawyer into a "friend's" bank account, rather than into the account of the fictitious purchaser or vendor; allowing the fraudsters to escape without being tracked and disappearing with the mortgage money.

The brazen nature of these criminals is evident when you hear duped lawyers admitting that all the "scammers" acted normal and like a "real couple" throughout the transaction. Furthermore, when they have drivers' licenses and social insurance numbers that check out, you can imagine how difficult it is to prove you have evidence that a crime is being, or has been, committed.

Identity thieves target victims from all age groups and segments of society – but senior citizens and people with good credit ratings are particularly vulnerable. Victims can suffer financial losses and more: ruined reputations and credit ratings can take months or even years to restore.

Unfortunately, identity thieves are often one step ahead of even the most secure systems and our best efforts to protect ourselves can seem futile.

Your best protection

While the general public may not be able to stop thieves from accessing our information, you can stop them from using it.

The University of Western Ontario's Identity Theft Protection Program powered by idAlerts can help you do just that with:

Daily monitoring of the TransUnion Credit Bureau for any change activities related to your life including change of address, financial inquiries, credit applications, name changes, credit rating fluctuations, etc.;

Same day alert notifications of the above changes via phone, text message, or email;

Up to \$25,000.00 insurance for identity restoration expenses including lost time from work and legal fees; and, personal resources that help you through the identity and credit recovery process. You will never have to deal with such a situation alone!

To register or find out more, please go to www.idalerts.ca/uwo; or call 905-815-1551



Identity thieves target your success.

As a graduate of Canada's most prestigious institution, you are a prime target for identity thieves

This special offer for University of Western Ontario Alumni only, provides you with a complete protection solution by:

- Putting you in control of your information through daily monitoring of your credit bureau file of all available activities associated with your financial life including credit applications, name changes, address changes, etc.;
- Further protecting you with ample insurance coverage to cover costs associated with restoring your identity should an "identity fraud" occur; and,
- Providing access to professional resources that will hold your hand through the identity restoration process

Just like having security for our homes, insurance for travel, and coverage for our automobiles; we must now protect our valuable information from being used by identity thieves.

Register now.

Call 1-888-815-0815 or visit www.idalerts.ca/uwo

id Alerts TM Canada Inc.



id Alerts	TIPS	TIPS Elite
• Daily Credit Bureau monitoring and alert notification of all 13 change elements: <i>address, financial, credit applications, name change, credit rating fluctuations, etc.</i>	✓	✓
• Number of alert channels: <i>phone, mail, sms, or email</i>	Choice of 1	Choice of 2
• Credit bureau reports: <i>view, verify, understand, and manage your current credit status;</i>	Initial	Initial and semi-annual
• Insurance for identity restoration expenses: <i>lost time from work, administration and legal fees;</i>	\$5,000	\$25,000
• Access to professional resources: <i>helping you through the recovery process should fraud happen.</i>	✓	✓
idAlerts Alumni Western Special Price	\$8.95/mo. /\$89 yr.	\$10.95/mo. /\$109 yr.

A special offer for University of Western Ontario Alumni only!
 Up to 25% OFF the idAlerts regular prices.
 (idAlerts regular prices: TIPS @ \$9.95 mo. /\$99.00 yr.
 or TIPS Elite @ \$14.95mo. /\$149.00 yr.)



Lieutenant-Commander Pat Jessup, BA'72, being invested into the Order of Military Merit by Her Excellency the Right Honourable Michaëlle Jean, Governor General and Commander-in-Chief of Canada at a ceremony at Rideau Hall on January 30, 2009. LCdr Jessup is the Community Relations Officer for CFB Halifax. The Order of Military Merit recognizes distinctive merit and exceptional service displayed by the men and women of the Canadian Forces, both Regular and Reserve. Many have demonstrated dedication and devotion beyond the call of duty, and the Order honours them for their commitment to Canada. The number of appointments per year is limited to one tenth of one per cent of the average number of persons who were members of the Canadian Forces during the previous year.



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

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

To view all of our 2009 and 2010 trips, visit www.alumni.uwo.ca/travel

Former premier, celebrated singer among honorees

Former premier of Saskatchewan Roy Romanow, award-winning musician and activist Buffy Sainte-Marie and philanthropic businessman Joseph Rotman were among those recently selected to receive Western's highest honour.



Roy Romanow

Ten honorary degrees were presented during the spring convocation - Western's 293rd - over the week of June 8 to June 12.

Other honorary degree recipients include Wesley Dunn, founding dean of the Western's Faculty of Dentistry and Sheila Watt-Cloutier, an advocate for northern peoples and Nobel Peace Prize nominee.



Buffy Sainte-Marie

James Rourke carved out a reputation in Southwestern Ontario for promotion of rural medicine, Catherine Williams is recognized as one of Canada's most powerful women and Paul Corkum has pushed boundaries in the world of physics.



Sheila Watt-Cloutier

Roy Ernst made learning music fun for a generation of adults, Frank Iacobucci may have retired but his decision while a Supreme Court of Canada justice live on.

For the complete story and background on recipients, please visit: www.alumngazette.ca

Canada

Calgary, Alta

Off to Western *August 13, 2009*
 Western Road: The Rick McGhie Tour *August 14, 2009*

Guelph, Ont

Western Football @ Guelph *September 26, 2009*

Halifax, NS

Tall Ships and Fireworks *July 16, 2009*

Hamilton-Burlington, Ont

Off to Western *August 19, 2009*

Kingston, Ont

Western Football @ Queen's *October 17, 2009*

Kitchener, Ont

Nine & Dine at Rebel Creek Golf Club *July 30, 2009*
 Oktoberfest at The Concordia Club *October 16, 2009*

London, Ont

Western Road: The Rick McGhie Tour *July 24, 2009*
 Evita at the Huron County Playhouse *August 26, 2009*
 Senior Alumni Program *September – December 2009*
 Homecoming Kick-off and Alumni Association Annual General Meeting *October 1, 2009*
 Homecoming *October 1-4, 2009*
 Six Degrees Homecoming *October 2, 2009*
 Shaw Festival Outing *October 14, 2009*
 Tour of the Mediterranean Wine Tasting & Tapas at Aroma *November 6, 2009*

Mississauga, Ont

Off to Western *August 18, 2009*

Ottawa, Ont

Off to Western *August 11, 2009*
 Western Football @ Ottawa *September 6, 2009*

Sarnia, Ont

Off to Western *August 12, 2009*
 Sarnia Speakers Series *Fall 2009*
 Western Road: The Rick McGhie Tour *Summer 2009*

Toronto, Ont

New York Yankees @ Toronto Blue Jays *August 5, 2009*
 Roger's Cup Alumni Night *August 20, 2009*
 Toronto Argonauts vs. Hamilton Ti-Cats *September 11, 2009*
 Career Networking Reception *September 16, 2009*
 Alumni Western's Lecture Series *Fall 2009*

Vancouver, BC

Toronto Blue Jays @ Seattle Mariners Bus Trip *July 27, 2009*
 Off to Western *August 12, 2009*
 Western Road: The Rick McGhie Tour *August 13, 2009*
 Vancouver Olympic Theme Reception at Pan Pacific *January 28, 2009*

Victoria, BC

Olympic Theme Reception *January 27, 2009*

Windsor, Ont

Off to Western *August 20, 2009*
 Western Football @ Windsor *September 19, 2009*

International

Detroit, MI

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

New York, NY

All Canadian Alumni Reception *September 24, 2009*

Palo Alto, CA

Alumni Reception at Canadian Consulate *September 15, 2009*

Washington, D.C.

US Botanic Garden Alumni Outing *August 2009*

Chapters

Dentistry

Alumni of Distinction Award Reception (London, ON) *October 2, 2009*

Engineering

Alumni Homecoming Reception *October 3, 2009*

Law

50th Anniversary Reception (London, ON) *October 1, 2009*
 Homecoming Breakfast at the Law School *October 3, 2009*

Local Government Alumni Society

Local Government Alumni Society Conference *November 6, 2009*

Medicine

Dean's Luncheon for Homecoming Reunion Classes *October 3, 2009*

Nursing

Nursing Homecoming Brunch *October 4, 2009*

Old Oars Club

Old Oars Weekend *September 19 & 20, 2009*
 Parent and Alumni Day *October 10, 2009*

USC Alumni Chapter

Summer Social (Toronto, ON) *August 27, 2009*
 USC Charity Golf Tournament *August 2009*
 Homecoming Mixer *October 2, 2009*

WAA

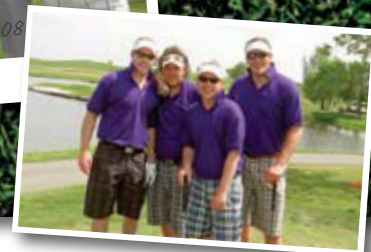
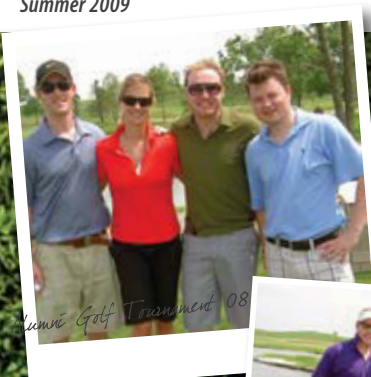
Women's Athletic Alumnae Golf Tournament *August 6, 2009*
 Alumni Awards Dinner *October 2, 2009*

"W" Club

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

Future Western Homecoming Dates

2010 *September 30 - October 3*
2011 *September 29 - October 2*
2012 *September 27 - 30*



Golf Tournaments

Basketball Alumni *July 17, 2009*
 Women's Athletic Alumnae *August 6, 2009*
 "W" Club *August 6, 2009*
 Football Alumni *August 21, 2009*
 Tennis Alumni *August 25, 2009*
 USC Charity *August 2009*
 King's Alumni *September 15, 2009*
 Ivey Alumni *October 2, 2009*
 Homecoming Alumni *October 4, 2009*



Western is going GREEN

Do your part for the environment.

Alumni Western is reducing the number of printed event invitations.

Please update your email address at: www.advser.uwo.ca/alumni_update.htm

to receive electronic invitations to events in your area. Check out our event listings and register at: www.alumni.uwo.ca

Alumni News and Events

PLEASE NOTE: Gazetteer notices, like all portions of the print magazine, appear in an online version of *Alumni Gazette* and the contents may turn up during a web search. Publicly available personal information may be collected for the purpose of updating alumni records as well as for the purpose of recognizing outstanding achievement or distinguished service by alumni in University publications. Western respects your privacy. At any time you have the right to request that your personal information cease to be used to recognize outstanding achievement or distinguished service in University publications. For more information or to make a request about the kinds of contact you would like to receive, please contact the Operations Administrator, Advancement Services, 519-661-4176 or 1-800-420-7519 Fax 519-661-4182 email advser@uwo.ca.

1960s

Robert D. McIntyre, Q.C., BA'60, LLB'64, LLM'67, was recognized by his legal peers recently by the presentation of the Peel Law Association's Lifetime Achievement Award. Bob practises law in Mississauga.

Donald Franklin Gerson, BSc'68, (PhD, McGill, 1972), recently founded PnuVax, Inc. in Kingston, Ont. and is CEO & President. He was recently employed at Celltrion, Inc. as COO & President. He and Gail Meadows, BSc'71, PhD'84, are returning to Canada after four years at Celltrion in South Korea. Gail was Director of Validation at Celltrion. Celltrion is the largest manufacturer of biopharmaceuticals in Asia, and is the only biologics facility in Asia licensed by the U.S. FDA.

1970s

Rothschild Canada recently announced that **David Drinkwater, HBA'70**, joined the firm as Chairman. Drinkwater will be responsible for all of Rothschild's Canadian operations. Drinkwater has had a distinguished legal and business career. He joined Nortel in December 2005 as Chief Legal Officer and a member of their Senior Leadership Team. From May to November 2007, he served as Nortel's Acting Chief Financial Officer. Prior to that, he worked at Ontario Power Generation, which he joined in 1998 as an Executive Vice President with responsibilities for corporate development and legal affairs and was later appointed Chief Financial Officer.

Steven G. Fraser, BSc'71, chairman and chief executive officer of Wilton Products Inc., Woodridge, IL, has been elected to the board of directors of the International Housewares Association (IHA), the full-service trade association for the housewares industry. Fraser has more than 30 years of experience in the housewares industry. He joined Wilton Products in 1998 as group president, Wilton Industries, and was promoted to president/CEO in 2001. He was named chairman and CEO of Wilton Products in August 2007 when the company was acquired by GTCR.

Randy Riggs, BEd'72, completed his MBA at Pepperdine University in Malibu, CA. in December 2008. Randy is the Western Area Vice President for

DePuy Spine, a Johnson & Johnson Co. and resides in Pasadena CA. During his 29-year career at J&J he has worked in Canada, China and the USA. Randy and his family are now citizens of both Canada and the USA. DePuy Spine is a market leader in the spinal device business selling primarily to Orthopaedic and Neuro surgeons. He made the switch to industry after 6 years of teaching high school in Ontario. Friends can contact Randy at rriggs@its.jnj.com.

Lieutenant(N) Patricia Mary Anne Jessup, BA'72, M.M.M., C.D. was awarded the Order of Military Merit at Rideau Hall in Ottawa by the Governor General, the Right Honourable Michaëlle Jean, Chancellor and Commander of the Order of Military Merit. Date of the appointment was October 2, 2007 and date of investiture was January 30, 2009. Pat is the president of the Halifax Branch of Western's Alumni Association.

Murray Elston, BA'72, LLB'75, the former head of the Canadian Nuclear Association and a provincial Minister of Health from 1985-87, has joined Bruce Power as Vice President, Corporate Affairs, effective May 19. He will guide all of Bruce Power's external communications, including government, community, investor and media relations. Elston brings a wealth of experience to the role, having served as a member of the Ontario legislature for Huron-Bruce from 1981 to 1994. While in government, he held a number of positions, including Minister of Health, Chairman of the Management Board, Minister of Financial Institutions and Chairman of the Public Accounts Committee.

Appointed to the Board of Directors of Randsburg International Gold Corp., **Henryk Chodorowicz, MBA'72**, is a self-employed business and financial consultant with extensive experience in all aspects of business development, including strategic planning, real estate, design, construction and financing.

Mary Thomson (Ford), BA'73, recently won 3rd prize in a national poetry competition. Her poem, "Summer's Song", was published in *Island Treasures*, an anthology of verse by Canadian Poets and printed by the Poetry Institute of Canada.

Heather Ann Hunter, MBA'76, was recently appointed head of Canadian Equities for Invesco's institutional business in Canada. In her new role, she will focus on building Invesco's Canadian equity capabilities in the defined benefit and defined contribution pension channels in Canada. Hunter began her investment career at Confederation Life Insurance Company in 1976. Prior to joining Invesco Trimark in 1999, she was a vice president at Ontario Teachers' Pension Plan Board, where she was responsible for building the equity investment platform and transforming the investment portfolio to include equities.

Dr. Robert Brown, MD'77, is now part of the staff at Crown Mountain Women's Health, in Dahlonega, Georgia. A naturalized American citizen, Dr. Robert A. Brown was born and raised in Ontario.

Timothy Lane, MA'78, PhD'83 (Economics), was recently appointed as Deputy Governor of the Bank of Canada. He joined the Bank of Canada last August as adviser to Bank of Canada Governor Mark Carney on domestic and international monetary policy issues after 10 years at the IMF. He held various positions at

the IMF from 1998, including a stint as senior adviser in the research department from 2006-2008. He was a visiting fellow at Balliol College at Oxford University in 2004-2005 during a sabbatical from the IMF. Prior to joining the IMF, Lane taught at the University of Iowa and Michigan State University.

David Fitzpatrick, BA'78 (Economics), was appointed Senior Vice-President of Operations of The Economical Insurance Group. He joined The Group in 1995, and has previously held positions as the Vice-President, Human Resources, Vice-President, Field Operations and Vice-President, Corporate Services. Fitzpatrick brings considerable skill and knowledge to this new role. As the Vice-President, Sales and Distribution, he will have responsibility for the development of new business and overall responsibility for the relationship with the Independent Broker force.

David Poynton, LLB'78, was appointed as SVP, General Counsel and Corporate Secretary of Iberian Minerals Corp. He is based in Toronto reporting to the President in Geneva. Together with a specialized understanding of the mining industry, Poynton has extensive advisory and transactional experience from private practice, including structuring and implementing M&A and financing transactions. Iberian is a Canadian-based global copper and zinc company with interests in Spain and Peru.

Gerald Shields, LLB'79, was recently appointed as VP to Rainy River Resources. He is a principal of Providia Investment Group, which is engaged in the business of merchant banking. Shields spent approximately 27 years as a practicing lawyer in Calgary and Vancouver.

Recently appointed VP, Portfolio Strategies for CPP Investment Board, **Ronald Otsuki, BA'79** (Economics), will work in partnership with other CPP Investment Board investment professionals to develop portfolio designs that optimize total fund performance over medium-and long-term investment horizons.

1980s

Donald Carson, MBA'80, was appointed Managing Director of UBS Investment Bank in New York. Carson will cover Agricultural, Commodity, and Specialty Chemicals. Carson is based in New York and report to David Bleustein, Head of US Equities Research.

Maureen Barry, MLIS'80, was appointed Chief Executive Officer for Burlington Public Library. A local resident, Barry will replace Wendy Schick, who is retiring after 40 years with the library. She has been city librarian since 1985. Barry was the winning candidate of a national CEO search that attracted three-dozen applicants, which was short-listed to seven. She has an extensive background in library service having had a lengthy career at the Burlington Public Library, where she started as the deputy head of the children's department in 1984.

Mark Badger, HBA'80, was appointed Executive Director of Canadian Plastics Industry Association. He received a Queen's Jubilee Medal from the Governor General of Canada in 2002, in recognition of his leadership roles with charitable organizations.

Peter Cookson, BA'80, BESC'87, has been appointed High Performance Director for the Canadian Rowing Program at Rowing Canada. Cookson, originally from St. Catharines, Ont., has 30 years experience in the sport at the national and international level. Cookson will be responsible for the overall management of the high performance and national team programs. Cookson, who coached South Africa's women's single sculls at the 2008 Olympics, started his coaching career in Canada in 1985 and went on to become a coach with the University of British Columbia, The University of Western Ontario and the University of Toronto.

Daniel MacLean, BESC'81, was recently appointed President & CEO of Tundra Oil & Gas Limited. He served most recently as Tundra's Vice-President, Reservoir Engineering and has 28 years prior experience in the oil and gas industry, primarily with the Chevron organization on both domestic and international assignments.

Recently appointed as a Consultant to the Toronto office of Russell Reynolds Associates, **Tom Long, LLB'82**, brings more than 16 years of successful executive search experience, serving clients' top talent needs across a range of sectors in Canada and internationally. He joins the firm as a Managing Director and his practice will leverage his extensive experience in senior executive search, board search and executive assessment in the Consumer, Industrial/Natural Resources and Not-For-Profit areas.

Appointed to the Board of Directors of Fortis Inc., **Ida Goodreau, BA'82**, is President & CEO of LifeLabs Medical Laboratory Services. Prior to entering the health care field, Goodreau held senior leadership roles in several Canadian and international pulp and paper and natural gas companies.

ENMAX Corporation of Calgary has appointed **David Halford, BA'83 (ACS)**, as its new chief financial officer, effective April 20, 2009. Halford brings to ENMAX over 25 years of financial management and strategic planning experience focused on the energy industry, including corporate and project finance. He received his chartered accountant designation in 1987. Most recently, Halford held the position of Chief Financial Officer of OPTI Canada Inc. from 2007 to 2009 and prior to that he was chief financial officer at BA Energy in Calgary and CFO of Irving Oil, a New Brunswick-based refiner and marketer of petroleum products.

Professional Engineers Ontario (PEO), the licensing body for professional engineers in the province, installed **Catherine Karakatsanis, BESC'83, MESc'91**, (PEng), as its 90th President during its annual general meeting on May 9, 2009, at the Renaissance Toronto Airport Hotel. Karakatsanis succeeds J. David Adams, (PEng), and will lead PEO's 71,500 members and 4900 interns and chair its Council in 2009-2010. She is the fourth woman to be elected president of the association. Karakatsanis is a senior VP and board member at Morrison Hershfield, a consulting engineering and management firm with 12 offices across North America and over 700 employees.

Peggy Sattler, BA'83 (Political Science), was appointed to a Governance Review Committee established by the Ontario Minister of Education to recommend

changes to the Education Act. She is also a trustee and two-term past Chair of the Thames Valley District School Board.

Jimmy T.M. Ho, BA'83, MA'84 (Economics), was recently appointed to the COO, Markets of The Hong Kong Mercantile Exchange. Established to bridge the international commodities markets to China.

Shane O'Leary, MBA'83, was recently appointed COO of Gran Tierra Energy Inc. Gran Tierra is focused on oil exploration and production in South America. Prior to joining Gran Tierra Energy, O'Leary was President and Chief Executive Officer of First Calgary Petroleum Ltd., an oil and gas company actively engaged in exploration and development activities in Algeria. From 2002 to 2006, he worked for Encana Corporation where his positions included Vice President of Development Planning and Engineering, as well as Vice President Brazil Business Unit.

Jamie Clark, HBA'84, was promoted to Vice President and General Manager of the Rampart Division of Printpack, Inc. in Atlanta, GA. He is a 21-year veteran of the company, having joined James River in 1988 and then Printpack in 1996. Jamie has been an integral part of the management team, first serving as Sales Manager, then accepting marketing and technical responsibilities as well, and in the last year taking charge of all Rampart operations. Over the last dozen years, he helped grow Rampart tenfold in sales.

Michael Medline, BA'84 (History), is appointed Chief Corporate Officer and President, Diversified Businesses, and continues as an officer of the Canadian Tire Corporation. In his expanded role, Medline now has accountability for all corporate functions, excluding Finance, including Human Resources, Real Estate, Strategy, Legal, Corporate Communications & Investor Relations and Risk, as well as Dealer Relations, Canadian Tire Petroleum and PartSource. He also received a degree in Law at the University of Toronto, and an MBA at the College of William & Mary.

John Glover, BSc'85 (Chemistry), was appointed as Director to Barclays Capital - Foreign Exchange Sales in the Toronto office. In his role, he will be responsible for expanding the firm's FX client base in Canada. Glover joins Barclays Capital from HiFX, Inc in Toronto where he was Head of Structured Products with a focus on FX. Prior to that, he held similar roles with Hypo Vereins Bank and Toronto Dominion Securities in London. He received his MBA from the Schulich School of Business, York University.

Robert Scott, BA'85, was appointed Chairman & CEO of Stream Global Services Inc - a provider of customer relationship management (CRM) and other business process outsourcing (BPO) services. The company provides services to companies in the technology, software, consumer electronics and communications industries.

Sharon Patterson, BA'86, is appointed Senior Vice-President, Human Resources and Officer of the Canadian Tire Corporation. Patterson has more than 20 years' experience in Human Resources and holds a Bachelor of Administrative and Commercial Studies.

Destiny Solutions Incorporated, the industry-leading provider of enterprise software & solutions for Continuing Education, announced recently that it has named **Ian Suttie, BESC'87**, as its Vice President of Marketing.

Appointed as a Partner at Torys LLP, **Kathy Moore, BA'87** (History), practises tax law, with an emphasis on the tax aspects of domestic and cross-border corporate finance, corporate reorganizations and M&A.

Appointed as CAO to the City of Cambridge, **James King, Dip'87, MPA'92**, has extensive knowledge of the corporation and has served the city for more than three decades. Since 1976, his roles have given him a variety of high-level experience in a multitude of departments.

Sean Cleary, BA'87, MBA'97, was appointed Executive Chairman & VP Corporate - Groupworks - a professional services company that provides advice and implementation services in the area of corporate benefits and pension plans.

Globe and Mail writer **John Ibbitson, MA'88**, the newspaper's Washington correspondent, won a \$25,000 Governor-General's Literary Award for *The Landing*, a novel, deemed by a three-member jury to be the best children's book (text) published in Canada this year. Ibbitson had been nominated previously in the children's category for his 1991 novel *1812: Jeremy's War*. The jury lauded Ibbitson's story, about a violinist growing up in Ontario's Muskoka region during the Great Depression, for being "as timeless as the music and the adolescent imagination that lie at its centre."

Michael Scarpelli, BA'88 (Economics), was promoted to Senior VP & CFO of Data Domain Inc. a provider of deduplication storage systems for backup, archive and other nearline applications.

Mark Fedor, BEd'89, realizes this is the 20th year of graduating Western and asks his classmates from Mme. Gray's French course (to whom he extends his warmest regards) to help solve the mystery. Mr. Fedor is the Head of French at a rural high school near Peterborough, where he is also the only member of the department, but prefers quieter pursuits and shuns when possible things like cell phones, computers, DVD players, iPods, Blackberries, and microwaves. Regrettably, he can be contacted via the internet at: fedormark@hotmail.com when he is not watching *The Simpsons* on the pictocube.

1990s

Susan Carpenter, BA'90 (Honours English), recently became an Associate Investment Advisor at BMO Nesbitt Burns Inc. in Calgary, AB where she is busily looking for new clients to guide through this volatile market. With 15 years experience in the Financial Services field Susan has her Canadian Securities Course, Professional Financial Planner and Wealth Managers, as well as a Public Relations Certificate. Recently remarried with a blended family of five boys, one chocolate lab puppy, five guinea pigs and two geckos. Susan comes to work for a little peace and quiet.

Andrew G. Munro, HBA'90, MBA'96, has been appointed Board Member and Policy & Governance Committee Chair for The Redwood Women's Shelter in Toronto.

Andrew continues his work at FlashVideoLab.com as Senior Producer of video and flash projects for corporate video and the web.

Mark Burton, LLB'90, was appointed as President & CEO of BorderWare Technologies in January 2009, an internet security company.

Noël Brown, BA'91 (Philosophy) joined Rodman & Renshaw, LLC, of New York, a subsidiary of Rodman & Renshaw Capital Group, Inc. as a Managing Director, bringing a wide range of experience in corporate finance and strategic advisory for U.S., Canadian and European life sciences companies, including mergers, acquisitions, divestitures, leveraged buyouts, initial public offerings and private placements for both public and private companies. Brown was most recently a Director at Barclays Capital, which acquired Lehman Brothers, where he was a Senior Vice President covering life sciences and healthcare venture capital and financial sponsors.

Kot Fung Billy Ng, BSc'91, has recently accepted a position of Director of Marketing at Happy's International Ltd, in Hong Kong. He is now responsible for the corporate's overall marketing and logistic management.

Appointed CFO of Acceleware Corp., **Geoffrey Clark, MBA'92**, has held several executive and managerial positions in a number of service and technology companies, including Pan Terra Industries, Revolve Magnetic Bearings, Nova Corporation, and most recently as CFO of TSX listed Guest-Tek Interactive Entertainment Ltd. Clark also holds a BSc in Electrical and Computer Engineering from the University of Calgary.

Andrew Gottwald, BA'92 (Statistics), was recently appointed CFO of Homeland Energy Group, an energy/coal producer with operations in South Africa. Gottwald is a Chartered Accountant with over 10 years experience in the financial services industry. Prior to joining Tahera Diamond Corporation as Controller in 2000, he was a financial analyst with Arthur Andersen LLP.

Sukhinder Singh Cassidy, HBA'92, Google's top sales executive for Asia-Pacific and Latin America, is leaving the company to join Accel. She was appointed CEO-in-Residence at Accel Partners, a venture capital firm. This move will enable her to search for a consumer-oriented Internet company to run. She said she hopes to find a company to run within 12 months.

Brent Choi, HBA'93, was appointed Chief Creative Officer at Cundari, one of Canada's largest independently-owned and operated communications agencies with offices in Toronto, Montreal and Washington. He has had a remarkable run, which has included countless awards from around the world, and more than 20 new business wins in the past nine years. As Chief Creative Officer, Choi will oversee the creative and branding for all of Cundari's Group of Companies including general advertising, design and interactive.

Jordan Shapiro, BA'94 (Philosophy), was appointed as Corporate Secretary & Director of MASS Petroleum, an oil and gas production company backed by an experienced and dedicated management team.

Robin Isard, BA'95, MLIS'98, was appointed as e-Services Librarian with the Arthur A. Whishart Library at Algoma University. His immediate work as e-services librarian will focus on building Algoma's new open source integrated library system with partners at the University of Windsor, McMaster University, Laurentian University and the Northern Ontario School of Medicine.

Brenton Slade, BA'95 (PolSci), was appointed Director to Flagstone Reinsurance Holdings, a global reinsurance holding company. Prior to Flagstone, he worked with several members of the Executive Management at West End Capital Management in the role of Director of Business Development, beginning in 2003.

Leslee J. Thompson, MBA'98, was appointed as Kingston General Hospital's new president and chief executive officer, effective Feb. 16, 2009. Thompson brings extensive health-care industry experience in both the public and private sectors to this important leadership role. She was vice-president, Health System Strategies, with Medtronic of Canada, a global medical devices company.

2000s

Paul Dittrich, PhD'01 (Engineering Sci), was appointed Principal of Golder Associates - a global group specializing in ground engineering and environmental services.

Katinka English, MLIS'03, has accepted a position as Coordinator, Reference and Information Services at a New York University. After working as a children's librarian in Florida (2004) and a hospital librarian in Northern Ontario (2006), she finally secured the academic position she wanted in February 2009. She started her new position at the end of April.

Frank Elsner, MPA'04, has been appointed Police Chief for Sudbury. Elsner has more than 27 years of experience in policing, including posts with the RCMP, Ontario Provincial Police and the Thunder Bay Police Service. Elsner also holds a bachelor's degree in political science and a minor in law from Lakehead University.

Kadie Ward, BA'05, MA'07 (Media Studies), has been hired by the London Economic Development Corp as the Manager, Business Retention. Previously, she was in marketing with the London Chamber of Commerce.

Alison Sammel, PhD'05 (Education Studies), was appointed as Head of Senior School at St. Hilda's in Australia. After completing her graduate diploma in education, she took a position as a science/math teacher in Ontario, where she spent the next seven years when not travelling during the holidays. She returned to Australia to undertake a Masters in education and again to Canada to conduct her thesis research and teach. She accepted an appointment at the Gold Coast campus of Griffith University and is now a tenured faculty member. Her research areas are post-modern science education and anti-racist pedagogies.

In Memoriam

Doris B. Buzza (Eagles), BA'40, passed away peacefully in Owen Sound, Ontario on May 22, 2008, three days after her 90th birthday. During her years at Western, Doris led an active and fulfilling campus life. She held the position of Sub Prefect, participated in sports, most notably the swim team, was a member

of Kappa Alpha Theta sorority and had the distinction of being Western's very first female cheerleader. She is survived by her husband Gordon, daughters Sandra Atkinson, HBA'65, BEd'66, Mary Jane Buzza and Ruth Miller, BA'72, and their families.

Walter H. Barkman, BA'50, passed away at Guelph General Hospital on February 26, 2009 after a brief illness. He was 85. Born in Russia in 1923, he is survived by his wife Mabel E. Barkman (Branton) also a Western graduate (1943). He will be sadly missed by his four children and their families. Walter attended university after serving with the Lincoln and Welland regiment during WWII. He was a wonderful husband, father, grandfather and great-grandfather and will always be remembered for his hard work, courage and integrity. He will be missed by all who knew him.

James Douglas McKnight, HBA'51, passed away March 21, 2009. Jim is survived by his beloved wife and best friend of 64 years, Alda (Dean), his loving daughters, Lynda (Michael Zulauf) and Sharon (Jack Mills), his grandchildren-Heather (Glenn Birch), Cheryl (Mike Birch), Casey and four great grandchildren. After serving as a bomber and transport pilot in the RAF and RCAF in WWII, James entered The University of Western Ontario after the war. He received the Gold Medal for his graduating class of 1951. Jim's degree was in Honours Business Administration; he was the recipient of many scholarships and academic awards. He was also president and founder of the school's Glee Club. After university, Jim was employed by IBM Canada from 1951 to 1980. With his usual drive and determination, he achieved 19 Hundred Percent Clubs when in sales. He rose through the ranks to be Manager of Placement and Employment for IBM Canada in the 1970s, a time of great growth for the company. Jim spent the last several years of his career in Human Resources. Jim and Alda enjoyed retirement years in Florida where they wintered for 25 years. He was an avid fisherman, tennis and golf enthusiast. Jim utilized his magnificent singing voice by starting, with the help of Alda, three separate vocal groups, which put on Easter, other holiday productions as well as singing in nursing homes and in his large church, First Baptist Church of Indian Rocks where he was an enthusiastic member. James' strong faith sustained him throughout the years of war-related illness and old age. Jim was a man of strong faith, excellence, wisdom, sharp intellect and great wit. He will be greatly missed by his family, his long-term friend and fishing buddy, Chuck Noltie (HBA'51) and all who had the privilege of knowing this remarkable survivor.

Marion (McNeil) Parker, BA'51 (Sec. Sc.), passed away July 12, 2008 at Maplevue Lodge, Athens, Ontario after a lengthy illness. She was the eldest of five children of the late Roy and Margaret (Cole) McNeil of Dutton, Ont. She is survived by her husband Elliott E. Parker, Brockville, Ontario and three children Sara, Jennifer (Shahram Taghivand) and John (Barbara) and two grandchildren. She also leaves her siblings, brother, John and wife Phyllis; Janet, BA'54 (Arts) and husband Bill Myers; Frances, BA'55 (Sec. Sc.), and Barbara, BA'59 (Sec. Sc.); her sister-in-law, Diana Jamieson, as well as several nieces, nephews, great-nieces and great-nephews. Marion was very active in the Brockville community volunteering for the Maycourt Club, the Brockville Museum, 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.

John Allison (Jack) Fowler, BA'53, passed away at London Health Sciences Centre on Sunday, July 27, 2008, in his 78th year. Beloved husband of 54 years of Beverly and loving father of Jennifer of London, Kim of Port Coquitlam and Karen and Allan Vonkeman of Canmore. Survived by his sister Aileen and her husband Nobi Kubota of Toronto and his brother Jim and his wife Betty of Fenwick. Will be sadly missed by extended family, many nieces and nephews and numerous great friends.

Beverly Joanne Fowler, BA'54, passed away at London Health Sciences Centre on Saturday, November 29, 2008, in her 76th year. Loving mother of Jennifer of London, Kim of Port Coquitlam and Karen and Allan Vonkeman of Canmore. Pre-deceased by her husband John (Jack) July 27/08. Survived by her brother Charlie and his wife Shirley Lockwood of Woodstock. Will be greatly missed by many nieces, nephews and extended family and friends.

Otto Salonen, MD'59, passed away peacefully with his family by his side on December 21, 2007. Otto was predeceased by his wife Alice Irene Salonen (nee Clarke) DHP'57. He will be greatly missed by his children Jane and David Ruttan, David and Kim Salonen, Mark and Carolyn Salonen and Lisa Salonen MacKay and Dan MacKay. Loving grandfather of Amanda Ruttan, Dana and Erin Salonen, Eric and Natasha Salonen, and Megan and Matthew MacKay. He was predeceased by his parents Otto and Aune, and sister Sirkka. Otto and Irene lived in Thunder Bay for over forty years before retiring to Guelph in 2001. Otto was a prominent family physician whose accomplishments included being Chief of Staff at St. Joseph Hospital and Pioneer Ridge Home for the Aged, as well as being President of the Thunder Bay Chapter of the Ontario Medical Association. Otto spent over 39 years as a member of the Canadian Navy and Naval Reserves, retiring with the rank of Lieutenant-Commander. Otto loved spending time at his cottage with his family and dogs, or traveling to other lands. Most of all he was known throughout his life for his excellent sense of humour, as well as his deep love for family and friends. He will be sadly missed by all who knew him.

Russell ("Russ") Goodwin, BA'64, of Trenton, Ontario passed away peacefully surrounded by family at Belleville General Hospital on April 2, 2009 in his 77th year. Loving husband of his late wife Marion-nee Martin (September 1992). Beloved father of Jennifer Anne Goodwin of Kitchener and Jeffrey Louis Goodwin of Trenton. Proud grandfather of Jessica & husband Dennis Abraham of Hamilton, Private Justin Goodwin of CFB Borden, Rebecca Andruchow of Vancouver and Nadia Andruchow of Kitchener attending McGill University. Dear brother of Bert of Elmira & late wife Francis, Dr. James & wife Marilyn of Gravenhurst, Gerald & wife Terry of Burlington, Larry of Elmira & late wife Mae, John & wife Terry of Englehart. Predeceased by brother Herb & wife Dorris, and sisters Kathleen, Reta & husband John Bittorf, Elsie & husband Ken Henderson and Jean Regier. Russ was born in Elmira, Ontario to William O. and Hilda (nee Moeser) Goodwin on October 16, 1932. As a boy, he was actively involved in scouting. He joined the Royal Canadian Navy in 1954 and received his commission as an officer after receiving his Bachelor of Arts degree from The University of Western Ontario in 1964. He retired as a supply/finance officer after an extended career in the military in 1986. Upon his retirement, he became a member of the Supplementary Ready Reserve until 1994. In 1988, Russ established Goodmar Tax Services that he ran until the time of his death. He was a member of the Royal Canadian Legion Branch 110, Air Force Association of Canada - 413 Wing, past Treasurer of the Federal Superannuates National Association and an associate member of the First Special Service Force. He was an avid golfer and a champion of many charitable causes.

William John Dinsdale, BEd'69, passed away May 14, 2009 at LHSC University Campus, at the age of 90. Beloved husband of 67 years to Doreen May Dinsdale. Loving father of Faith Elaine Poole and her husband Ron, and John David Dinsdale and his wife Michelle. Papa of Benjamin West and his wife Susan, Katie West, Adam West and Ian Dinsdale. Great-grandpa of twins Abigail and Gregory West. Survived by brother James Dinsdale. Predeceased by Charles Dinsdale and Malcolm Dinsdale.

Richard Colley Negus, BEsc'82, passed away on September 5, 2008 at the age of 60, following several years of kidney dialysis. Richard grew up in Penfield, NY, attended Penfield High School, and graduated from New Hampton School in New Hampshire in 1966. He attended Ohio Wesleyan University and served four years in the U.S. Armed Services spending time in Korea and Texas, before graduating with a degree in electrical engineering from The University of Western Ontario in 1982. Richard was a free spirit, who worked in a variety of jobs including carpentry, computer programming, music performance, and music recording. He found solace in several religions, including Judaism, Christianity, and Self Realization Fellowship. Richard's greatest love was music, and most of his energy in recent years was spent sharing music with friends and participating in many ensembles throughout London. He was proud to be a lifetime member of the London Music Club. He was the son of Jean Colley Negus of Nashville, Tennessee and the late George Thornton Negus. He is also survived by his sisters Helen Katherine Negus of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, Mary Thornton Negus of Two Harbors, Minnesota and Andrea Negus Baldwin of Nashville, Tennessee; and six nieces and nephews.

Mark Paciga, BSc'02, MSc'05, died unexpectedly at his residence in Seattle, Washington at age 29. After finishing his undergraduate and graduate programs in computer science, Mark moved to Seattle where he excelled as a computer programmer with Amazon.com. Born in Fredericton, NB, he was the beloved son of John and Jane (Thomson) Paciga. Technology fascinated him, and he enjoyed photography, theatre and gardening. Besides his parents, Mark is dearly missed by his sister, Allison Paciga, Fredericton, NB and two brothers, Jeffrey Paciga, Ottawa, Ont. and Gregory Paciga, Toronto, Ont. We remember him for his kind heart as much as his ingenuity and dedication.

Homecoming Kick-off and Alumni Association Annual General Meeting

All alumni and friends are welcome!

Thursday, October 1, 2009, 7 – 9 p.m.

The Labatt Lounge at TD Waterhouse Stadium

Celebrate the 60th Anniversary of Western's Alumni Association
Reflect on our past - Discover what's new

Event highlights include:

* Alumni Western's 2nd Annual Spirit of Western Award presentation

* Appetizers, cash bar, mingling and entertainment

Complimentary event. Please RSVP by Thursday, September 24, 2009
online at www.westernconnect.ca/alumni_agm or call 1-866-447-1044



Summer in the comfort zone of London

By Paul Wells, BA'89

For the longest time I didn't get summer in London. Mostly that's because I didn't take summer in London. Those four months off were for getting out of town, and getting out of town was what I did: back home at first, and then further afield in later years as I grew more adventuresome. If I wasn't going to be in class I wasn't going to be on campus or anywhere near.

So it wasn't until the summer after my fourth year (my second-last; I took the scenic route to a BA) that I spent a whole summer in London. It was work that kept me there. My first real newspaper job. An editor at The London Free Press wanted to hire me for an internship. His boss thought it was a horrible idea but relented, grumpily.

I was in. So for the first time, when the city substantially emptied of people my age, I stuck around.

It was magical. I freely admit that nostalgia may be making me an unreliable witness. The further I get from my undergrad years, the more all of it seems magical, although with a little reflection I do recall that at the time much of it was barely tolerable. But that summer of 1988 really was lovely.

Partly it just felt like home. I'd grown up only an hour away in Sarnia. So London had the deeply satisfying ordinariness that home always has. Only later, by contrast with the great out-there, would it reveal its quirks and gifts.

There's a different feel to the summer air in southwestern Ontario, a deep calm, a sense that the day will bring no worry, that the night will last about a week and a half, and that in that night anything can happen. A decade later, riding a campaign bus in late May through the same part of the province while I covered the 1999 provincial election, I saw the impossibly lush green fields and felt the just-right humidity and realized that this was why summers elsewhere don't feel quite right, because they don't feel quite like this.

And it was like a little secret shared among friends. If you're 21 in the north end of London during the school year, you're amid the mob. Which is fine

because the mob brings its own mix of anonymity and possibility. But when the mob goes home your circle shrinks to comprehensible size. In that long summer I deepened friendships I would barely have noticed in the din of autumn. I got up close to bands at Call the Office that would have filled larger venues if more of my tribe had been in town. My birthday is in the summer; on the

Call The Office patio I celebrated with a dozen friends late into the endless heavy-lidded night.

Summer is for making promises to yourself and not worrying too much about keeping them. I made a list of books to read and mostly ignored it. I had a bicycle that could help me get into better shape. It didn't. Oh well. In my apartment, with no roommates around to jostle, I could finally learn to cook. Or not. Thirty times I swore I'd ask the cute girl from work out. Thirty times I put it off til another day. No great loss. She probably wanted a guy who could cook anyway.

I want to claim it was that summer at The Free Press where I honed my craft, but it wasn't that kind of summer. I was an intern in the entertainment section. It wasn't exactly a pressure cooker. Record companies sent us stacks of LPs for review. I fell in love with Tracy Chapman's debut, which you know, and Thomas Dolby's *Aliens Ate My Buick*, which you don't, but Thomas Dolby and I are right about that one and you just missed out, is all. I interviewed a high-school ska band; they argued amongst themselves about whether this guy with the pen and notepad was really old enough to be with The Free Press. Bruce Cockburn complimented me on the necktie I wore to my interview with him. I remember that tie to this day. If you saw me wearing it you'd say, wow, is that ever an '80s tie.

A year earlier I was in Quebec City, so lonely I could barely breathe. A year later I would be in Montreal with my entire formal education behind me and no way to know what lay ahead. This was... easier.



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

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