See public health from a new vantage point

The new Master of Public Health. Get ready to lead.

Prospective students are advised that offers of admission to a new program may be made only after the university’s own quality assurance processes have been completed and the Ontario Universities Council on Quality Assurance has approved the program.
If you’re reading this, there’s a good chance the misinterpreted Mayan doomsday prediction didn’t come to pass, the Earth isn’t intact and the History Channel is still airing Ancient Aliens, explaining all unknown activities past and present as “extraterrestrial.”

Even though this New Year carries the infamously unlucky 13 as its last two digits, we’ve hoped that aside from a few suffering triskaidekaphobes, the human race will carry on and it will be “business as usual” — for good or bad — on a global scale.

At Western, there are reasons to be hopeful for the year ahead. When I started here in 2004 — after four years at a medical journal in the Research Park — there had already been much buzz around campus about Dr. Yong Kong working on a cure for HIV/AIDS. Eight years later, there is positive news following the first human trials of a preventative HIV vaccine. Just like becoming a doctor, important research takes time. You can’t rush success. It’s been a two-decade quest to end the deadly disease for Kong, but the only HIV vaccine currently under development in Canada, and one of only a few in the world.

If you’re concerned about rising temperatures and a change in our weather, you are not alone. Alumnus Brad Dibble, MD’90, decided to investigate further to see what we can do as individuals to make a difference. The result is a handbook for you are not alone. Alumnus Brad Dibble, MD’90, has a learning tool to empower you and alleviate your fears: Girls’ Guide To Web Design.

If your world is the world wide web, or the world in general, you are not alone. Alumnus Brad Dibble, MD’90, has a learning tool to empower you and alleviate your fears: Girls’ Guide To Web Design.

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JOANNE (J.M.) JACKSON, BA’10 (GOC.), CSL’98

WESTERN WHERE? (Re: Fall 2012, Marcia Steyaert’s last issue as interim editor)

With an Alumni magazine this size (including yours) on almost every page you’ve made the Gazette a glamorous mag too. Bad you’re leaving, I regret the departure of your striking face.

People now ask me “Western where? Australia? Samoa?” “Damn silly change of name!” I can appreciate the rehabilitation and a name” that gave specificity.

P.S. The photo of Derwentwater is gorgeous. I have the name “that gave specificity.”

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IMPORTANCE OF INTERNATIONALIZATION

BY AMIT CHAKMA, PRESIDENT & VICE-CHANCELLOR

Much has been said about universities becoming more international but what has been lacking is a discussion around what is meant by internationalization, or the benefit it brings to Western students and Canada as a whole.

This past year, I had the honour of chairing the Advisory Panel on Canada’s International Education Strategy, the formation of which reflects the importance Canada places on international education. Our report recommends Canada double the number of international students to 450,000 by 2022. That goal can be accomplished while still maintaining a friendly 5 per cent cap on the number of Canadians attending universities and colleges, thereby ensuring Canadian-born students are not replaced.

Canada has much to gain since it’s estimated by 2020, almost 100 per cent of our workforce growth will come from immigrants. International students represent a great opportunity to attract the very brightest.

Many other international students will return to their home countries to work and contribute. Their understanding of Canada and the relationships they form here can open doors and bridge cultural gaps. There is a great responsibility that accompanies introducing students from different parts of the world to new worlds. We want students to succeed, so that means recruiting top international students and putting the supports in place to ensure they have the same great experience at Western as Canadian-born students.

It also means partnering with other universities and organizations around the world to provide Canadian-born students with opportunities that will broaden their knowledge and help them develop their leadership skills.

As someone who came to Canada as an international student, I know intrinsically what these opportunities mean for students. I also get to see our students, how it opens minds and hearts to whole new worlds of opportunities.

Internationalization was not the goal when Western was founded in 1878. Then, the world most students competed in didn’t extend much beyond Ontario’s borders. In comparison, the print version of this magazine will be read by Western alumni living in 145 countries.

We are committed at Western to preparing our students to embrace opportunities on the world stage.

HUMAN CLINICAL TRIALS OF HIV/AIDS VACCINE MAKING STEADY PROGRESS

The first and only preventative HIV vaccine based on a genetically modified killed whole-virus has been making steady progress in Phase I clinical trials in the United States and the interim results are being analyzed in preparation for the next steps.

Developed by Dr. Chi-Hong Kang and his team at Western’s Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry, with the support of Sumagen Canada, the vaccine (SAV001-H) holds tremendous promise for success in the final phases of clinical testing now that the first hurdle has been accomplished.

It is the only HIV-vaccine currently under development in Canada, and one of only a few in the world. The first human applied clinical study (SAV CT 01) using a genetically modified killed whole-virus vaccine (SAV001-H) to evaluate its safety and tolerability was initiated in March 2012. This study showed no adverse effects and no difference between placebo and treatment groups.

In a blinded study, 200 men and women, 18 to 50 years of age, have been enrolled in this study and randomized into two treatment groups to administer killed whole HIV-1 vaccine (SAV001-H) or a placebo.

Sumagen announced Nov. 8, 2012 that the patient enrollment has progressed smoothly and there have been no adverse effects observed including local reactions, signs/symptoms and laboratory toxicities after SAV001-H injection in all enrolled patients to date.

With these interim results, the SAV001-H has proven safety and tolerability in humans and given Sumagen confidence for the next clinical trials to prove its immunogenicity and efficacy evaluation.

In addition, the humoral immune responses, such as HIV-1 antibody formation against SAV001-H, are currently being analyzed. The interim data showed significant increase in the HIV-1 antibody formations after SAV001-H administration compared to the base line in some patients. Even though this study is a blinded study until completion, these results are encouraging for the possibility of the prophylactic potency of SAV001-H.

With these interim results, Sumagen is confident of the safety of SAV001-H and the potency of inducing immune responses in humans.

Dr. Dong Joon Kim, a spokesperson for Sumagen Co. Ltd. says, “We have proven that there is no safety concern of SAV001-H in human administration and we are now prepared to take the next steps towards Phase II and Phase III clinical trials. We are delighted to be one step closer to the first commercialized HIV vaccine.”

In future, the company will be looking for collaboration with multi-national biopharmaceutical companies for globalizing clinical trials and commercialization.

This Phase I clinical trial (SAV CT 01) was partially funded by the Industrial Research Assistant Program of the National Research Council Canada since January 2012.

WESTERN, FRAUNHOFER CELEBRATE INNOVATIVE PARTNERSHIP

A full house of local, national and international leaders helped Western and Germany’s Fraunhofer Society launch the Fraunhofer Project Centre (FPC) for Composites Research at Western. Both research development engineers, Kang, a London native, works with equipment partner Diefenbacher, and Ugresic, a Republic of Serbia native, works for Fraunhofer. (Photo by Terry Rico)

Western President Amit Chakma said the university’s partnership with Fraunhofer will benefit industry, the manufacturing sector, the economy, researchers and students alike, as well as align with his global Western vision.

“I speak often of the importance of internationalization and taking Western to the world and bringing the world to Western. This is an incredible accomplishment (for that), starting here, to build both the Advanced Manufacturing Park and the Fraunhofer Project Centre at Western,” he said.

“This centre will support the competitiveness and increase the productivity of Canada to respond to the lightweight challenges facing North America’s automotive transportation industries, as well as the development of innovative products for the renewable energy and construction material industries,” said Frank Henning, Fraunhofer deputy institute director. “It creates a new life line for the training of the next generation of engineers.”

Fraunhofer, Europe’s largest research and development organization, has been credited with the invention and patent of the MP3, among many other discoveries. This joint venture is the first comprehensive initiative between a Canadian university and an institute of Fraunhofer.

ALUMNAZETTE.CA WINTER 2013 EDITION 7
It is important that they are recognized when she found it.

Karen Stintz, BA’92, Dipl’93 (Political Science, King’s), TTC chair, was named in the Public Service category. She was recognized for her program’s ability to transform the thinking of young people who see science as an important part of society, but not relevant to them. She gets kids to see that many job opportunities will be closed if they don’t have an open attitude toward these fields.

Karen Stintz, BA’92, Dipl’93 (Political Science, King’s). Toronto City councillor and TTC chair, was named in the Public Sector category. Stintz was honoured for her ultimate vision to see a TTC – and community – improved by 2014, better than when she found it.

Fernandez-Espejo collaborated with Adrian Owen, Canada Excellence Research Chair in Cognitive Neuroscience and Imaging, and colleagues from the University of Barcelona, the Medical Research Council Cognition and Brain Sciences Unit in Cambridge, U.K., the Department of Clinical Neurosciences, University of Cambridge, and the Coruna Science Group, University Hospital of La Coruña on this study.

Fernandez-Espejo was able to show that in vegetative-state patients, a group of brain regions known as the default network that are known to activate during periods of daydreaming and mind-wandering were significantly disconnected, relative to healthy individuals. “These findings are a first step towards identifying biomarkers that will help us to improve diagnosis and to find possible therapies for these patients” says Fernandez-Espejo. “But they also give us new information about how the healthy brain generates consciousness.”

Fernandez-Espejo and Owen, along with researchers Adnan Sabir, Miguel Fernandez-Espejo and Andrew Nicholls, did this research for the University of Western Ontario’s (UWO) Collaborative Research and Innovation (CoRe) fund. "This is an example of innovation at the cutting edge of research," says Owen. "We are working to develop new and more precise methods of diagnosing and treating patients and showing how these findings are relevant to normal brain function."

Fernandez-Espejo received her BSc (Medical Sciences) from the University of Western Ontario in 2003 and her PhD from the University of Cambridge in 2008. She is currently a postdoctoral fellow in the Owen lab at UWO Department of Human Anatomy and Cell Biology. Her research focuses on consciousness and cognition in the context of brain damage and neurological disorders.

Carol Stephenson, along with five Western alumnae, have been named among Canada’s Most Influential Women.

The list, released in October, is published by Canadian publication’s 2nd annual Top 25 Women of Influence Magazine.

Released in its Winter 2012 issue, the Canadian publication’s 2nd annual Top 25 Women of Influence list celebrates women who have demonstrated, over the last year, strong and unyielding leadership in one of five distinct sectors. The women listed have an unparalleled reach and influence, today.

"Creating access to role models is an important part of society, but not relevant to them. She gets kids to see that many job opportunities will be closed if they don’t have an open attitude toward these fields."
THE CHALLENGE WITH CLIMATE CHANGE IS NOT HOW CAN WE AFFORD TO REDUCE EMISSIONS, BUT HOW CAN WE CONSTRUCT AN ECONOMY THAT LIVES WITHIN THE CONFINES OF NATURE’S BOUNDARIES.”


I think students have to be particularly careful. The more you are informed, once you can identify the problem, then the problem can start to disappear.”

MARGARET TRUDEAU delivers the 2012 Faculty of Health Science Distinguished Lecture, entitled Exploring Mental Health Issues, Nov. 1.

It is an honour to be asked to serve a second term as Western’s president. In my time here, I have been impressed by the passion and commitment of faculty, staff, students and alumni in raising Western’s profile for excellence.”

Nov. 23. Western’s Board of Governors re-appointed President and Vice-Chancellor AMIT CHAKMA to a second five-year term, ending on June 30, 2019.

We need to respect the difference between an enemy and an adversary. An enemy is someone you want to destroy and an adversary is someone you want to compete with in a fair fight. All democracies have to manage to understand that.”

MICHAEL IGNATIEFF delivers the Centre for American Studies/Canada-U.S. Institute lecture, Us and Them: Opponents and Enemies in Politics, Nov. 8

Sarah Richardson (BA’93) is an internationally acclaimed designer, Gemini Award-winning host, producer with four hit HGTV shows to her credit, and a writer. And her love of the arts blossomed at Western.

Extraordinary creativity starts here.
It’s simply not a dirty word to Karen Stintz. “Yes, I am a ‘politician,’ and there is no shame in it,” said the Toronto city councillor for Eglinton-Lawrence. “Politicians are so much a part of the environment, but still a safe environment, that you could try a whole bunch of things, fail at some, and then try again.”

“If you are pursuing, then you’ll find a way to recover. It was also a time when I was a housewife. I was the only way to contribute to the next generation. So I was already starting out on the wrong foot,” she laughed. “I thought I knew a lot about how government worked having studied it in school. But being at the global stage? Those are the issues that require thoughtful discourse, not conflict, not easy, but it can be done.”

“Solving those challenges is not going to solve if we engage the public. And that’s why we have to change that dialogue. Being able to have a vision, show leadership, engage the public, those are skills we should acknowledge and promote.”

After nearly a decade on council, Stintz, BA’92, Dipl’93 (Political Science, King’s), now finds herself centre stage for one of the Big Smoke’s greatest political dramas, the Mayor Rob Ford Era.

In her role as Toronto Transit Commission (TTC) chair, she has been both ally and critic of the controversial mayor. She has supported Ford’s efforts to control spending, but she has gone toe-to-toe with him — as well as other city and provincial leaders, including Western alumnus and Progressive Conservative leader Tim Hudak — over what she sees as shortsighted decisions regarding the city’s transit planning.

“IT WAS AT WESTERN WHERE I LEARNED HOW TO TAKE RISKS, CONFRONT CHALLENGES, TRY NEW THINGS.”

With many of those behind her at odds with proponents of short-term savings. But she is seeing a real shift in the political spine which is the envy of many. “Stintz speaks truth to power with ease and sartly. She credits experience and, particularly, her failures with fortifying a political spine which is the envy of many of local government, and laments the fact fewer are not engaged in the process.”

“I’ve had a lot of them (failures),” she said. “But it is the decision to recover from those failures, and keep going, that inspires me to take on new challenges. We all make mistakes, yet if you’re confident in the cause you are pursuing, then you’ll find a way to recover.”

“It is possible to make change,” Stintz said. “Don’t get disengaged. It is possible to build consensus and you get better outcomes when you do so.”

While the study of politics often revolves around the conflicts, Stintz explained much of the practice of politics is about that consensus. “How are we going to manage our energy policy? How are we going to build a just society? How are we going to ensure we are building a productive nation competing on the global stage? Those are the issues that require thoughtful discourse, not conflict.”

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“There are a lot of issues — as a country, as a province, as a city — that we’re only going to solve if we engage the public. And part of that engagement is having good politicians.”
STAYING THIRSTY FOR ADVENTURE

BY MARCIA STEYAERT, BA’96 (KING’S)

John Marcus Payne’s journey began alongside missionary parents in Nigeria, and brought him to a quiet, small town north of Chicago where he lives now with his wife and three children. But it’s the points in between that make Payne, LLB’73, a contender for the “most interesting man in the world.”

Born in Toronto, Payne was 2 when his family moved to northern Nigeria in 1950. His parents worked for Serving in Mission (SIM), one of the world’s largest evangelical missions. In the decade spent there, Payne fell in love with Africa. It opened his eyes to the world, and he wanted to see more.

Eventually, the family returned to Ontario. Payne went to high school in Woodstock, completed his undergrad at McMaster, and then chose to study law at Western. He had three years of athletic eligibility left, and Payne figured a law degree would open doors for him.

“I KNEW WHAT I DIDN’T WANT TO DO – END UP AT A MAJOR LAW FIRM, WITH A WINDOW ON THE 22ND FLOOR...DOING COMMERCIAL REAL ESTATE. ”

He ran track under Bob Vigars and recalls winter training, running the tunnels at a major law firm, with a window on the 22nd floor, looking out to the building beside them. “I knew what I didn’t want to do – end up at a major law firm, with a window on the 22nd floor...doing commercial real estate.”

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He ran track under Bob Vigars and recalls winter training, running the tunnels at Thompson Arena today.

After graduating from Western, Payne studied theology in England before joining Nigeria’s Ahmadu Bello University (ABU) as a law professor and assistant track coach in August 1974. A few months later, he found himself coaching ABU’s basketball team, despite his limited experience, and the team went on to win the national championship the same year.

Soon after, Payne was called upon by the Nigerian general’s chief-of-staff to coach the national team. Nigeria being a military dictatorship at the time, Payne’s protests that he was unqualified fell on deaf ears. “I did what I was told,” he says. The team won their way to the All-African finals in 1975. One thing leads to another, as they say. And in Payne’s case, another. And another. From 1976 to 1979, he played professional polo and articulated at two law firms until Bell and the next year began working for Cream, at a Nigerian gas station; they became friends and Payne taught him to play polo. “I knew what I didn’t want to do – end up at a major law firm, with a window on the 22nd floor...doing commercial real estate.”

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He got his pilot’s license at Toronto Island Airport’s flying school – in three weeks flat. He’s led safaris in several African countries, taken on commissioned photo assignments from Arizona to Zimbabwe and owned a polo team in England. He’s made a few treks from Arizona to Zimbabwe and owned a polo team in England. He’s made a few treks.

He vowed if he had children, they would have the same opportunities. “When students go to other countries they need to remember they are there to learn. They have to be prepared, and observe. You need water? I’m going to physically help you dig a well. That will do more than lecturing on the use of clean water.”

“I KNEW WHAT I DIDN’T WANT TO DO – END UP AT A MAJOR LAW FIRM, WITH A WINDOW ON THE 22ND FLOOR...DOING COMMERCIAL REAL ESTATE.”

“Y ou can’t stay in one place and have the kinds of experiences I’ve had,” Payne says. “It’s about being in the right place at the right time. And if someone asks me if I can help them design a widget, I say ‘yes, of course!’ Then I look up widgets on Wikipedia,” he says, laughing. “I might not know today, but tomorrow I will be able to help you.”

For captaining the first world championship elephant polo team.

“I KNEW WHAT I DIDN’T WANT TO DO – END UP AT A MAJOR LAW FIRM, WITH A WINDOW ON THE 22ND FLOOR...DOING COMMERCIAL REAL ESTATE.”

and uncles. Life today in the Village of Glencoe (population 8,723), on Chicago’s north shore offers his children (ages 10 and 9) that opportunity in spades. With wife Virginia’s family nearby, it isn’t unusual for them to host Sunday family dinners for 30 or 40; and the Payne children see their grandparents weekly.

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Raised Baptist, Payne drifted away from his faith as a young man. “Then, in the mid-1990s, I realized there had to be more.” He began teaching bible school and today sits on the boards of two Christian organizations.

Payne applauds Western’s efforts to provide students more international opportunities. “When students go to other countries they need to remember they are there to learn. They have to be prepared, and observe. ‘You need water?’ I’m going to physically help you dig a well. That will do more than lecturing on the use of clean water.”

“My spirit to his parents, Payne missed out on knowing his extended family growing up. He vowed if he had children, they would know their grandparents, cousins, aunts and uncles. Life today in the Village of Glencoe (population 6,723), on Chicago’s north shore offers his children (ages 11, 10 and 9) that opportunity in spades. With wife Virginia’s family nearby, it isn’t unusual for them to host Sunday family dinners for 30 or 40; and the Payne children see their grandparents weekly.

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Oscar Winner First Music Hall of Famer

BY JANS WALLACE, BMUS ’75, BED ’76

An inaugural inductee into Western’s Music Alumni Wall of Fame went with her gut instinct of making music for films rather than becoming a concert pianist and found Oscar-winning success.

Barbara Willis Sweete, BMus ’75, made the life-changing decision on a bus ride from Ottawa to London during her final year at Western.

“I decided I want to go into film. I hadn’t even made a home movie, but thought I had the visual instinct, the musical instinct and was used to working with teams of people,” said Willis Sweete.

Willis Sweete’s instincts were accurate. Not only was she accepted into the film program at York University, she was to become one of Canada’s leading filmmakers with a long list of awards, including: an Oscar for best original score for The Red Violin, dozens of Gemini Awards, three Genie nominations and one Genie win for Perfect Pie, three international Emmys, three Grammy nominations and dozens of awards at festivals around the world.

In June 2002, she was named Honorary Director of the Female Eye Film Festival in Toronto. She is also an inaugural inductee into Western’s Music Alumni Wall of Fame.

As well as films and television series, Willis Sweete produces many of the Live at the Met HD opera broadcasts screened to 1.2 million cinemats in 42 countries. Music has been at the core of her success. In fact, timing is a central theme for Willis Sweete.

After being accepted into the film program at York, she had to wait to start due to other commitments (marriage, a move to Victoria, B.C.). The one-year delay put her in the class of Niv Fichman and Larry Weinstein.

“My relationship with the CBC was also well-timed. They sold a student film to the CBC, and from there, our careers went to the next level,” Willis Sweete said.

Their relationship with the CBC was also a long-term partnership that remains today.

“It was called Opus One, Number One,” Willis Sweete said. “It was a short documentary about three children rehearsing and performing Beethoven. We went to the CBC children’s department, film reel in hand, and asked the receptionist to show it to the head of the department. They told us it was too dry for children. When the young filmmakers returned for their reel, they noticed a sign for the Music and Arts division. So they went in, got their enthusiastic energy. He loved the film and said he’d run it in the Sunday afternoon slot if I’d added some interviews and behind-the-scenes shots.”

The CBC sponsored the young group to participate in an international organization of music broadcasters, buyers and recording companies. “We were the first to attend as makers of product,” Willis Sweete said. “So we got a lot of attention and very quickly became known to opera companies, orchestras, dance companies and public broadcasters.”

When Willis Sweete describes her techniques, the musical references are clear: lyrical sections, holding a shot as long as it can go, the rhythm. “Everything is music,” she said. “I did not realize how my music training would inform every moment. My choice of subjects is often musical. I can speak the language of the maestros, and with comfort comes trust.”

Producing the Live at the Met broadcasts evoked Willis Sweete’s performance anxieties from student days. She also said she doesn’t like the lack of control in live filming. But she overcomes both obstacles by detailed preparation and a talented team.

“It’s like anything live – something always goes wrong but you have to save it without anyone knowing. You cope by trusting your teammates. I use wrist action like a conductor and tap for each camera cut. The actual experience of sending it out to the world is thrilling.”

The emotional communication of music also informs Willis Sweete’s directing, particularly in stage adaptations such as her latest, Billy Bishop Goes to War.

“The main problem adapting existing material is the play exists in sound. Music is so abstract, you feel it. Music was better training than film school that way.

“You have to make sure the audience is aware and feels the emotion directly from the actors, not secondhand, or it’s just an archive of a performance. We use the camera to create the visceral response. That has become my modus operandi.”

“As a student, Carolina received a Western scholarship that provided her with meaningful opportunities to learn and grow. Since graduating in 2005, she has been making a monthly gift, ensuring other students have the same Western experience. Join Carolina by giving to Western and make an extraordinary impact.”

“I give to Western so students will have the same opportunity I had.”

Carolina Torres, BACS ’05

Student award recipient
Senior Credit Officer, RBC Capital Markets

Make an extraordinary impact
Bradley J. Dibble, MD '90, is concerned about the cardiovascular health of a very large patient: the earth. Like many, the Barrie-area cardiologist, who lives and practises in Midhurst, took a deeper interest in global warming and environmental issues following the release of Al Gore’s film An Inconvenient Truth in 2006. “I was very impressed with all of that. I was frustrated that governments and societies didn’t seem to be coming on board. I thought there has to be more to this story.”

Dibble undertook a massive self-education, reading as many books and articles as he could find on environmental issues affecting not only Canada but the entire planet. What he found when he tried discussing the topic with others was that most people’s knowledge on the issue was limited to media sound bytes and many didn’t bother digging any deeper.

“What I found was there wasn’t really a good book that took people who were open-minded and wanted to know the facts and broaden their horizons on this so they could make their own informed, intelligent decisions.” So, he solved the problem by writing the book he couldn’t find: Comprehending the Climate Crisis: Everything You Need to Know about Global Warming and How to Stop It (2011, Universe). The book is structured into three sections: the background science, the problem of global warming, and the solutions available to us all.

“I wanted to fill a niche that I thought was missing. I’ve always loved all sorts of science, so that’s why geology and evolutionary biology and astronomy and cosmology were interests of mine anyway.”

In August 2012, Dibble was selected, following an involved application process, to receive training from Gore, the former U.S. vice president and Nobel Laureate, as part of the Climate Reality Project. “He will be providing me with some valuable education and tools that will allow me to provide a version of his climate talk for Canadians,” reported Dibble on his blog.

“There will be more than 1,000 people from more than 20 countries attending this event. Canada will be represented by 115 individuals, and I’m thrilled to be one of them.”

Dibble’s new book, which is widely available through Chapters and Amazon, is gaining the attention and support of fellow physicians, including Western alumnus, Dr. Marc Lewin, MD ‘90.

“I’ve just finished this book and I’ve got to say that it’s incredible. It really ought to be required reading for all 9th graders in social studies classes,” Lewin says. “The way he explains the science… makes it real, understandable and personal.”

He also has the endorsement of the Canadian Association of Physicians for the Environment. “Dr. Dibble’s book is an excellent overview of climate change. He sets out practical solutions—like ending coal-fired power and ramping up solar and wind energy—that in relatively short order could bring great improvement,” says Gideon Forman, executive director.

Dibble encounters many people who say: “even if I believe in global warming and even if I believe it’s man made, the market will sort it out.” He doesn’t buy that.

“I think the market in most part is driven by selfish motives, and not for ones that are going to have long term benefits. In fact, a lot of what society has to face is ‘do we do what’s right for today’s economy – or do we do what’s right for tomorrow’s environment?’”

As far as environmental concerns, nothing draws public and media attention like the Oil Sands of Alberta, both north and south of Canada’s border. Even with a contentious energy source like the Oil Sands, Dibble still likes to view all sides of the argument for the complete picture.

“You know if the dirtiest oil on the planet. It creates a lot of jobs in Canada. And we’re sitting on 13 per cent of the world’s source of bitumen (the heaviest, thickest form of petroleum). So, do we just deny that when the whole world wants it?” He admits that although “it’s environmentally awful” what’s happening in Alberta, that it does help Canada’s economy. The Oil Sands continue to be developed but he asks: “Does every decision have to be made for today’s economy?”

The cardiologist thinks a major problem with our political system is that it is not designed for long-term planning. “They think no more than four years because that’s the next election and they can’t do a decision that’s going to help 20 years from now because it usually won’t be so helpful in the next four years.”

So, if the federal government eventually introduces a tax (or a less controversial political term) on carbon, electricity and natural gas, heating is going to cost more and in turn encourage Canadians to move towards renewable energy, reasons Dibble. But then, it’s also going to create a lot of opposition and resistance.

“People start to look for cheaper alternatives and if they’re do-able and they’re cheaper, they’ll go to them. But people will hate that group (of politicians) and they’ll vote them out next time… We almost have to have a long-range committee for the planet.”

In the mantra of short-term pain for long-term gain, Dibble admits: “You’re going to have to expend the energy of today (to develop green energy). But then the energy of tomorrow will be green and we won’t have that problem ongoing but it’s going to be a problem in the short term.”

For more information: bradiddibe.com
WHAT I'M DOING NOW IS OFFERING A MUCH MORE RICH, TOTALLY CUSTOMIZED IMMERSIVE EXPERIENCE… DESIGNING BRANDS FOR WEBSITES FOR WOMEN ENTREPRENEURS REALLY BASED ON WHO THEY ARE.

Better than Chocolate web design company, with the focus on creating a website in a day, now marketing it as a “branding studio.”

“What I’m doing now is offering a much more rich, totally customized immersive experience…designing brands for websites for women entrepreneurs really based on who they are.”

Less than a year since their wedding Aitken and husband, Justin Verrall, headed out on a six-month adventure in November 2012, traveling to Hawaii, New Zealand, Australia, Thailand, Hong Kong, and beyond. Aitken will remain hands on with her businesses throughout the journey, and plans to grow GG2WD, adding level 2.0 and, rolling out a Guy’s Guide to Web Design, with Justin jumping on board, and likely the voice behind the videos for this new enterprise.

Reflecting back she says “I didn’t ever see myself doing this. When I was at Western I hadn’t yet fully woken up to the fact that I was an entrepreneur at heart, but looking back I can see that my decision to go to Western specifically to enroll in the MIT – which is such a flexible interdisciplinary program – was definitely an important stepping stone for me.”

More information at: girlsguidetowebdesign.com
On the evening of Jan. 21, 1971, several students walking across campus peered into the shadows near University College and spotted a large dinosaur. A giant cat-like animal sitting on a nearby lawn, in turn, was watching them. The 1971 winter carnival had arrived!

Circa 1960, The Purple Spur, a University Council club promoting student social activities on campus, decided to organize an annual ‘Winter Carnival’ to help eliminate the winter blahs. Activities would include snow sculptures, sporting games, dances, fashion shows and concerts by leading acts of the day.

Perhaps the most public aspect of each carnival was the snow sculptures that dotted the campus. The first ones, during the early 1960s, were simple and straightforward but as the years past there developed a keen competition for the various prizes and accompanying prestige leading to an increase in overall quality. Many entries were coloured and displayed incredible talent and originality.

As each carnival rolled around some of the entries became risqué and a few were considered in bad taste and removed by order of senior Western officials. By 1982, there was a dramatic drop in the number of entries as interest in snow sculptures began to wane and official competitions were terminated.

Other popular attractions included a giant slide on University Hill, which remained in daily operation until 4 a.m. A game called ‘Powder Puff’ football encouraged female students to don football gear and carry the ball. As a spectator later remarked, “It was somewhat disarming to hear a player flatly refuse to wear a helmet because it would ruin her hairdo.” Meanwhile, the men strained and grunted in ‘bug of war’ competitions, chariot races in the old J.W. Little Memorial Stadium, and snowmobile races on the Baldwin Flats, now site of the TD Waterhouse Stadium. For the less hardy, there was the Winter Carnival Queen competition, frat parties that seemed to run almost continuously and dances both on and off campus. Fashion shows featured Western’s finest from mini skirts to midis and everything in between.

Beginning in 1968, feature concerts were held in Alumni Hall. Not all of them ran smoothly. Some artists, including Leonard Cohen, cancelled on two-weeks notice and the Purple Spur organizers had to scramble for a replacement. Appropriately, blues guitarist Johnny Winter was available and performed twice for the admission price of 50 cents each show. Rock legend Little Richard’s appearance was delayed by a bomb scare and his first set was four hours late in starting. Further complications delayed the second show and the local Free Press reporter remarked that when he departed Alumni Hall at 5 a.m. Sunday morning the audience was still rocking to Good Golly Miss Molly.
BUILDING GREEN EARN GREEN

BY STEPHEN JOHNSON

Jonathan Westeinde, BA’92, is promoting a new type of capitalism— one that puts equal importance on the environment and making profits. Westeinde is the founder and managing partner of Windmill Development Group. The company has completed a number of high-profile green building projects in cities like Victoria, Calgary, and Ottawa. They have won many local, national and international awards for their commitment to green building.

Considering these credentials, one might think Westeinde had a PhD in Environmental Studies. He actually has a Bachelor of Economics from Western University.

“Windmill was quickly able to put its green credentials to work. The company became one of the founding developers behind the high profile Dockside Green project in Victoria, B.C. Dockside was a 15-acre brownfield that the City of Victoria became the owner of through default. The plan is for Dockside Green and our other projects, the green features are a natural advertisement. We found with green developments beyond the obvious environmental ones. ‘We found with Dockside Green and our other projects, the green features are a natural advertisement. We calculated about 2.5 million dollars worth of free advertising for Dockside Green. ‘We found with Dockside Green and our other projects, the green features are a natural advertisement. We calculated about 2.5 million dollars worth of free advertising for Dockside Green.

Windmill quickly able to put its green credentials to work. The company became one of the founding developers behind the high profile Dockside Green project in Victoria, B.C. Dockside was a 15-acre brownfield that the City of Victoria became the owner of through default. The plan is for Dockside Green to be built out over the next few years. “We are still developing new green projects, but the material and labour are getting very expensive. Windmill has teamed up with the Leduc and Leduc Corporate to form Leduc Renew. In the coming decades, there will be a huge opportunity to retrofit existing buildings to make them more energy efficient. This will help reduce energy costs and greenhouse gas emissions.”

Dockside Green project in Victoria, B.C.

Windmill sees his business evolving over the next few years. “We are still developing new green projects, but the material and labour are getting very expensive. Windmill has teamed up with the Leduc Corporate to form Leduc Renew. In the coming decades, there will be a huge opportunity to retrofit existing buildings to make them more energy efficient. This will help reduce energy costs and greenhouse gas emissions.”

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Dockside Green project in Victoria, B.C.
WHO IS WATCHING THE POLICE?

BY SHELDON GORDON

Ian D. Scott, LLB '81, has the thankless but essential job of policing the police. As Director for the past four years of Ontario's Special Investigations Unit (SIU), he oversees probes into police actions that have ended in death, serious injury, or allegations of sexual assault (Alberta is the only other province with an independent investigative unit).

The SIU investigates incidents across Ontario, involving any of the 28,000 municipal, regional and provincial police officers. Scott's role in the process of police accountability hasn't won him many friends in blue, but he says his mission is to "develop public confidence in the civilian oversight of the police. I'm not here to be buddy-buddy with the police." Instead, he has pushed for "independence, thoroughness and transparency" at the SIU.

In 2010-11, the last fiscal year for which data are available, the SIU conducted 291 investigations, and laid 12 charges against officers. Almost half of the investigations were of deaths or injuries suffered in police custody. Despite a growing number of probes, however, Scott and his staff of 87 investigators are sometimes thwarted by police refusal to co-operate.

"I've advocated for changes in the legislation that would give the SIU more power," says Scott. Currently, the unit can compel interviews with officers who witnessed an incident, but not with the officers being investigated, he says. "We cannot compel them to give us a statement or their notes." He would like uncooperative officers to be subject to disciplinary measures, including possible dismissal from the force.

While the provincial government hasn't acted on this recommendation, Scott has overcome resistance from officials within the Ministry of the Attorney General (from which he is seconded) in order to make the Unit's investigations more transparent. He now issues a detailed public annual report as well as news releases following fatal incidents and when charges are brought.

When he has issued releases citing lack of cop co-operation, "it has caused great consternation within the police community," Scott says. "But if we could not do a thorough investigation, I'm going to report to the public on that."

The Western alum is not related to the late Ian Scott, the former Ontario Attorney-General, or to Iain Scott, the current Dean of Western Law, or to any of the Ian Scotts in private law practice. But he brings not only a respected name but also the right legal background to the SIU leadership.

He earned his LLB at Western in 1981. "Those were good years," he recalls. "They provided a strong foundation for the next step in my career." That step was to clerk for judges of the former High Court of Justice. He intended to practice civil litigation, and did so for six months at Stikeman Elliott LLP, "but I got tired of it, and wanted to be a courtroom lawyer."

So in 1985, he joined the Ministry of the Attorney General as a Crown Attorney. A career highlight was his successful prosecution in 1997 of a former Ontario Provincial Police officer for the shooting death of aboriginal protestor Dudley George during the land dispute at Ipperwash Provincial Park. Scott left the Attorney General's office soon afterward "for a new challenge," starting his own practice as a criminal defence lawyer. But in 2001, when the A-G's Ministry "made me an offer that I couldn't refuse," he returned to do appeal work.

Will he return to the Ministry when his term at the SIU ends in 2013? Or would he accept a second term? "Five years here might be enough," he says. "I will have been the Director of the SIU longer than anyone else has. Frankly, you don't make a lot of friends here."
By Natalie MacLean, MBA’92

Remember Finance class at Ivey? P/E multiples, ROI, EPS… don’t keep those concepts just for your investments. Use them to maximize the present value of your everyday living, too. I pride myself in being a wine cheapskate, as I don’t think you should pay more for pleasure than you have to. And these days, you don’t have to as you can find terrific wines in the liquor store at great prices. Here are my top five bargain bottles at the moment.

Henry of Pelham Estate Winery Sauvignon Blanc 2011
Niagara Escarpment, Ontario
Lovely aromas and flavours of ripe melon rather than the herbal notes in some sauvignon blancs. I like this medium-bodied wine a lot, and the price even better. Bring on refreshment as well as white-fleshed fish, oysters, goats milk cheeses and crisp walks. Drink: 2012-2015. Product No: 430546 12.3% D $14.95 Score: 89/100

Cathedral Cellar Kwv Chardonnay 2011
Western Cape, South Africa

Inniskillin Wines Pinot Noir 2011
Niagara-on-the-Lake, Ontario
Loaded with mouth-watering cherry-berry flavour delivered on a satin texture with medium- to full-bodied weight. A blackberry-infused finish makes this wine go down slippery fast. This wine is a great match for turkey, salmon carpaccio, grilled tuna and wild mushroom risotto. Drink: 2012-2016. Product No: 261099 13.5% D $13.95 Score: 89/100

Falernia Reserve Syrah 2009
Elqui Valley, Chile
A full-bodied palate-whacker that doesn’t take a bite out of your wallet. Lots of fleshy black fruit and coffee depth. Pair with a juicy rare steak, prime rib and hearty discussions about your vacation plans this year to warmer climes. Drink: 2012-2015. Product No: 208371 14% XD $15.95 Score: 89/100

Cuvee Georges Domaine Puig-Parahy 2010
Côtes Du Roussillon, Midi, France
Spicy dark fruit on the nose with layers of velvet texture on the palate. Full-bodied and generous. I like that in a wine. Pair this big beauty with a rack of lamb, grilled pork chops or the Netflix release of that great movie you missed while in theatres. Drink: 2012-2016. Product No: 170205 14.5% XD $15.95 Score: 90/100


Natalie MacLean’s Top 5 Tips for Finding Bargain Bottles

1. When a region is stereotyped for one kind of wine, in Niagara’s case icewine, look for what else it does well, such as sauvignon blanc or riesling. These are the best supporting actors that often offer stellar performances in the glass.
2. International trade bans are tough on any country, but it can motivate domestic industries to be more competitive afterwards. South African wine has made amazing progress quickly following the end of Apartheid and they offer extraordinary taste and value.
3. A bargain is not the cheapest wine but rather the best price/quality ratio. Pinot noir is expensive to grow and make. Niagara pinots are a bargain compared to those in Burgundy, which easily top $50 a bottle as a starting price.
4. Look for wines from warm regions, such as Chile and Argentina. Often the cost of production is cheaper because winemakers aren’t battling disease, rot and weather as much as cool climate producers do. Therefore, there’s less crop loss and lower costs for production.
5. Ultra-fashionable wine regions often get all the attention for any particular country, as do France’s Bordeaux and Burgundy. They command high prices. Look for the lesser-known regions for your best value bottle, like southern France’s Languedoc-Rousillon, where the deals are to be found.
How does a computer science graduate working in his father’s chickpea business end up on a top 10 list with comedy giants Jon Stewart and Stephen Colbert? 

Standup comedian and comedy writer Deepak Sethi, BSc’02, landed a computer science dream job after graduation: doing encryption for wireless Internet networks. He was building ciphers and travelling extensively from his workplace in San Antonio, Texas. “In one year, I earned 250,000 Air Miles. I took about seven business trips a month when I was 23 and 24. Around the USA and to Europe."

Eventually the company Sethi was working for went bankrupt. His job — and he honestly claims this is no joke — was outsourced to his cousin in India. “We talked later and he said ‘your job is SO easy,’” said Sethi. Plan B was joining the chickpea business in Toronto, to his father’s great approval, in 2005. He also enrolled at Schulich School of Business at York University to complete his MBA. To fill the creative gap in his busy schedule, he started creating funny posts on his Facebook page.

The first one was about his self-confessed “creepy goatee.” Word of mouth amongst friends spilled interest in his public musings. Sethi started getting 50 to 60 comments per post from people he didn’t know. “Those were good days. It made me happy.” On a friend’s advice, he started his own blog and wrote anonymously. After one month of posts, he was eager to check his online statistics. Total: six viewers.

Not discouraged, he continued his intense regimen of waking up at 4 a.m. each day to write his blog before going to the bean factory. He was also fitting in university classes for his MBA. “It was bad, depressing, hard,” admits Sethi. Then his luck changed. He wrote an article on “why I hate Tropicana juice.” It got 3,000 views. His next one got 15,000 to 20,000 views. Then he started Tweeting small, funny thoughts. It culminated in 2009, when out of the blue, Sethi’s blog was named No. 8 of 10 top funniest sites or online people by MSNBC. “You could get 100 rejections in a year. Some people would just give up,” he noted. Sethi continued to write on advice from Blitt. And he was rejected again and again - including from The Rosie O’Donnell Show. “You could get 100 rejections in a year. Some people would just focus on that. But you only need one ‘yes’.” Sethi’s advice: “Don’t worry about rejection. It got me to where I am.”

His persistence paid off. He made it into the Just for Laughs comedy festival with a short film he produced. A CBC executive saw the film and called him. He pitched a show idea and they bought it. “I told my Dad I was doing research for beans. ” He then wrote some spec scripts and sent them to Blitt until one hit the mark. Patience paid off. Blitt patiently helped Sethi along with his script development. His agent sent Sethi some scripts of The Office. He then wrote three sample scripts and sent them to Blitt until he hit the mark. He then bought a ticket to Las Vegas strip and played YukYuk’s in Toronto. The computer science grad doesn’t have many regrets on his path to Hollywood — but if he could change just one thing, it would be his Soph name at Western, which translated to “Indian Lover Boy.”
HIDDEN TREASURES OF WESTERN ARCHIVES: FAMOUS SIGNATURES

BY JENNIFER ROBINSON, MLIS’97 COMMUNICATIONS AND OUTREACH LIBRARIAN

While the materials in the Western Archives are indeed hidden treasures at Western, stored in climate-controlled spaces with limited access by the general public, valued for their monetary and/or historical worth, perhaps even more priceless, and certainly more hidden, are those treasures discovered by archivists as they set about arranging and describing materials acquired by Western Archives. For many years now archivists at Western have been compiling a list of famous signatures discovered among various donations. These serendipitous finds include signatures from Arthur Conan Doyle, creator of Sherlock Holmes, to Billy Graham, a Christian evangelist notable for having been a spiritual advisor to a number of U.S. presidents.

What makes these signatures even more interesting is the context in which they appear — usually in correspondence, i.e. handwritten letters expressing sentiments that today would likely be accomplished digitally, through email or even Twitter. There is something very special about discovering a letter from Field Marshal Bernard Law Montgomery (known as Monty) written on his own letterhead (“From Field Marshal The Viscount Montgomery of Alamein”) in his own hand, thanking an unknown writer for a letter praising Montgomery’s memoirs. This was the same hand that doubtless wrote out battle plans for the D-Day invasion at Normandy, a polite and friendly missive penned by the man who defeated Rommel’s army at El Alamein in 1942.

In addition to Montgomery, while going about their duties Western archivists have uncovered hidden treasures such as a letter written by Charles Darwin in 1873, a short note penned by Alfred Lord Tennyson and the familiar signature of C.S. Lewis on a neatly typed academic reference for a student. Lester B. Pearson signs off as ‘Mike Pearson’ in a letter to Western President ‘Ed’ Hall. A favourite find is a letter written by Canadian humorist Stephen Leacock to Edward Reid, a London Life Insurance company, in which Leacock speaks about the editing process for his latest book, noting that he is happy to receive corrections, directing those reading his manuscript to also... “put in better jokes...” I desired.” The discovery of these signatures in an age where people think more about their digital signature than their signature signature is made all the more exciting, and perhaps bittersweet, knowing that correspondence archived from 2013 will lack the flourish of pen and paper. No stray inkblots, no embossed personalized letterhead or post-marked envelopes. Correspondence today is often of the digital variety; collections of emails with an automated signature file identifying the sender. This is part of what makes these hidden treasures, scattered among the files of Western Archives, all the more precious and unique.

For alumna Sally Lane, it’s helping students, faculty and researchers achieve their goals through ongoing financial support and including Western in her will.

While those who benefit from planned gifts may never meet the donor who helped them, they will always appreciate the opportunities they have been given because of someone else’s generosity.

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Western University, Alumni Relations & Development, Gift Planning

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“Western is like a family to me and I want to do my part to take care of my alma mater.”
Sally Lane, BA’73, BE’74 - donor

“With my student scholarship, I have been able to explore my educational interests and discover my ultimate career goal in public health.”
Sanna Malik, BScN’12 - student award recipient

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For Alumnigazette.ca
The Path of Persistence

DR. MASASHI KAWASAKI
NEVER GAVE UP HOPE IN PURSUIT OF HIS DREAM

BY DAVID SCOTT, WITH NOTES FROM DR. MASASHI KAWASAKI

Kawasaki lived through four years of internment camp as a teenager and was educated by nuns so he wouldn’t lose his high school years. He survived near fatal bouts of pneumonia as a child and as a medical student, yet he persisted to become the first Japanese graduate with a medical degree from Western.

Dr. Masashi Kawasaki, BA’53, MD’57, an otolaryngologist (ears, nose, throat specialist), has enjoyed a successful career in Dallas, Texas, and was back on campus to celebrate his 55th anniversary of graduation at Homecoming 2012 and to reflect on his past.

INTERNMENT CAMP
The attack on Pearl Harbor changed the lives of Japanese Canadians. In a tragic chapter in the country’s history, all Canadians of Japanese descent on the west coast were interned in prison camps in B.C., in 1942, following the Pearl Harbor attack in December 1941.

His father arranged to have a family photo taken before they were sent away. They all dressed up for a formal picture. The photo was taken before the family spent four years in an internment camp. (Photo Provided)

Back row from left: Kawasaki is standing beside his mother and father. In the front row are his brother, Ken, and sisters Mary and Shirley. The photo was taken before the family spent four years in an internment camp. (Photo Provided)

Dr. Helen Battle, BA’23, MA’24, LLD’71, had a science and pre-med teaching career at Western that spanned more than 50 years, beginning in 1921. She was the first woman in Canada to be awarded a PhD in Marine Biology.

In 1957, Masashi Kawasaki was Editor of the Medical School Journal, a member of the Hippo-Campus medical student newspaper staff, and received a Hippocratic Honour Society Award for his extensive participation in student activities.

“Dr. Battle, it’s the last day for applications to medical school.”

“You can move around in our camp.”

“Y ou could move around in our camp.

In 1974, following the Pearl Harbor attack in the Philippines, the Japanese interned on the island were sent to an internment camp in B.C. in 1942. They were separated into two groups. The Japanese families lived in prisoner-of-war camps, called relocation camps. The other group, the Japanese students on the west coast were interned in prison camps in B.C., in 1942, following the Pearl Harbor attack in December 1941.

“Your father arranged to have a family photo taken before they were sent away. They all dressed up for a formal picture. The photo was taken before the family spent four years in an internment camp. (Photo Provided)

Back row from left: Kawasaki is standing beside his mother and father. In the front row are his brother, Ken, and sisters Mary and Shirley. The photo was taken before the family spent four years in an internment camp. (Photo Provided)

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“Dr. Battle, it’s the last day for applications to medical school.”

“Yes, it is. I went by the Registrar’s Office this morning and saw Helen Allison (Registrar, BA’23, LLD’65). I went down the list of the people, and noticed your name wasn’t on there. Why not?”

“Dr. Battle, I can’t afford it. I don’t have any money to go to school.”

“The reply? ‘We won’t worry about that, will we?’

Kawasaki said “yes, I have to worry about it. Where am I going to get the money to go? I think that’s going to be out of the picture.”

“Dr. Battle asked ‘would you do me a favour?’ She pointed over to Allison’s office. ‘Would you go over there and register right now?’

“Yes ma’am! And she was happy with that. I had a green ticket.’

Kawasaki had learned of three other very bright Japanese students who had earned undergraduate degrees and were pursuing PhDs at Western, Fred Sunahara, BSc’48, PhD’52; the late Samuel Yamada, BSc’49, PhD’55; and Keney Eisubzaki, BSc’50, MS’52, PhD’55, University of Wisconsin.

There seemed to be an underlying belief in the 1950s that no Japanese student would be admitted into Western’s medical school. But following a personal meeting with university president George Edwin Hall to discuss the matter, and coming through with good marks, Kawasaki became the first Japanese medical school graduate at Western in 1957.

To read more about Dr. Kawasaki’s time at Western & medical career, please visit: www.alumnigazette.ca
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7) ASSASSIN’S TRAP - by Rob Gordon, BSc’01
8) I, WAYNE GRETZKY - by Rob Gordon, EMBA’02
9) JUST STAY...A COUPLE’S LAST JOURNEY TOGETHER - by Jennifer Fazakerley, BSc’97, Grace Bradish, MScN’94 & Helen Butlin-Battler
10) THE GARGOYLE AT THE GATES – LOST GARGOYLE SERIES - by Philippa Dowding, BA’85
11) THE OCTAGON TECHNIQUE – AND OTHER LIFE LESSONS FROM COLLEGE - by Michael Rubin, BMSc’05 (MD)
12) UNDER THE MOON - by Gail Voisin, BA’74
13) WAKE ME UP INSIDE – PAIGE MADDISON SERIES - by Lee Bice-Matheson, BA’84, MLIS’86.
14) WORLD OF FANTASY – THE LIFE AND ART OF ANNA P. BAKER - by Beryl Hutchinson, BA’50 & Roz Hermant, BA’50
15) APPRECIATIVE INQUIRY IN HIGHER EDUCATION: A TRANSFORMATIVE FORCE - by Joan McArthur Blair, BA’78 & Jeanie Cockell

SAVE THE HUMANS
In Save the Humans, award-winning documentary filmmaker Rob Stewart, BSc’01, tells his captivating life-story so far—from self-professed “animal nerd” to one of the world’s leading environmental activists, from a person whose sole focus was saving his beloved sharks to a mission to save us all. Stewart has always been in love with creatures: the odder or more misunderstood the better. His passion for all living things has led him around the world, as a university student studying zoology in Kenya, as a wildlife photographer in Madagascar and Southeast Asia, and ultimately as a documentary filmmaker in the Pacific shooting his innovative and award-winning documentary Sharkwater. Stewart has set his sights on a slightly bigger goal—saving the human species. To read an excerpt, please visit: alumnigazette.ca. More about the upcoming documentary can be found at: therevolutionmovie.com.
When I speak with alumni like yourself, it is clear you want to be a part of the Western experience, the one that hooked you in the first place, to grow and expand into a lifelong Western alumni experience. And we know the pressure is on us to deliver just that.

Your alumni association Board of Directors, through its committees, is actively developing ways for you to engage. While we are always on the lookout to develop more fulsome programs, here are a few steps you can take right now.

**Let us tell you a story.** Tell us about interesting alumni doing interesting things in interesting places. We love to tell the stories of our alumni – be it on our website, alumni.uwo.ca, or in our magazine, Alumni Gazette. Do you know a notable alumnus? Send Alumni Gazette editor David Scott, dscott24@uwo.ca, a note today.

**Serving our communities.** Looking to continue that sense of responsibility to others fostered during your Western years? We are exploring a variety of community-service initiatives for our alumni to work together to better their local community. We would love to hear your suggestions, please contact Trista Walker, executive director, trista.walker@uwo.ca, to share your ideas.

**Sharing our Connections.** Connecting the talents of our students and our alumni through enhanced school-to-work opportunities and ongoing career linkages where alumni can provide mutually beneficial experiences. Visit our website, alumni.uwo.ca, through 2013 as we enhance our career service offerings.

**Raising our profile.** Nobody, I mean nobody, knows how to celebrate quite like Western. We already own the best Homecoming in Canada, now our challenge is to make Founder’s Day (March 7) a global occasion on the same scale. How would you suggest people acknowledge their purple and proud traditions in their communities and offices around the world? Send a note to alumni@uwo.ca with your ideas today.

It’s said postsecondary institutions with the most engaged alumni are those with the longest tradition of excellence, are the most resilient and are held in the highest esteem. Your alumni association hopes to rise to this challenge and is currently reviewing our strategic mandate, renewing our constitution, refreshing our alumni legacy on campus and recruiting talented alumni volunteers, to ensure that it can enhance its contribution to Western’s ongoing excellence.

All this activity would not be possible without the countless hours of our current alumni volunteers, the talent of our staff and the important contributions of our commercial affinity partners – MBNA, Manulife Financial and TD Insurance. And, most importantly, your participation.

As you read this and have a comment, a suggestion or want to share an opportunity, please contact us at alumni@uwo.ca

Robert Collins is president of Western’s Alumni Association.

### Discover the World

Alumni Western’s 2013 Discover the World program offers travel opportunities for Western alumni and friends. Join like-minded travellers on one of our journeys, enhanced by knowledgeable lecturers and tour directors, offering an exceptional cultural and educational experience.

#### Spring
- Italy, Istanbul, Cycling the Loire Valley

#### Summer
- Spain, England Lakes, Russia, Black Sea
- 2014 Galapagos, Panama
- Canal, Celtic Lands
- Delphi, Greece, China, Italy, France

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

Contact us to receive a copy of our catalogue or to be added to our mailing list.

Susan Henderson
Tel: 519.661.2111 or 1.800.258.6896 ext. 85871
Email: discovertheworld@uwo.ca

### Founder’s Day

March 7

Celebrating 135 years

It’s time to remember the contributions of our founders and celebrate the extraordinary accomplishments of our students, staff, faculty and alumni.

Celebrate with fellow alumni around the world.

- Toronto
- London, ON
- London, UK
- Vancouver
- New York
- Hong Kong
- Ottawa

alumni.uwo.ca/connect/Founders-Day

From left, Julie He, MPR’11, Spencer Sandor, BA’11, BA’12, Julien Patel, BA’12, and Paul Szabo, MPA’13, at the Western Local Government Program • 2012 Annual Conference, Nov. 2 in London.
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ALUMNI NOTES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Don Getty, BHAB’55, was inducted into the London Sports Hall of Fame on Nov. 8. Getty served as quarterback for the Mustangs while attending University of Alberta, and led the team to two consecutive Yates Cup victories in 1952 and 1953 before leading them to the Eastern Collegiate Union Football Championships in 1954 and 1955. Getty played basketball for the Mustangs as starting guard and won the Sr. Collegiate Championship in Oct. three consecutive years winning two Grey Cup Championships. He continued to professional level playing for the Edmonton Eskimos for 10 years, winning two Grey Cup Championships. He was named Outstanding Canadian in the Western Conference in 1959, and was runner-up for the Schreyer Award for Outstanding Player in the CFL.

After retiring as a vice-president of Natal Networks in 1995, Winn Walters, BA’59, became a sculptor, and recently included a major work of the new Centre for Addiction and Mental Health (CAMH) in Toronto. New working on a life-size bronze sculpture of Lucy Maud Montgomery. He has works in many public collections and public pieces in urban and institutional settings.

1960s

Thomas William, BA’63, BS’67, mathematics, is the current president and CEO of Digital Dispatch Systems Inc. In June 2012, he received the Canadian Forces Distinguished Service Medal (Silver Clasp) for his work with the Windsor Lancers.

Robert Nightingale, LLB’75, has been appointed to serve with the Superior Court of Justice in south central Ontario.

Dennis Fairall, BA’75 (Phys.Ed.), BE’78, has recently been inducted into the Windsor Essex County Sport Hall of Fame for his work with the Windsor Lancers.

Dennis Fairall (1970s)

M. Vogel Prize by the Society for Industrial Archeology, in recognition of “outstanding scholarship in the field of industrial archeology.”

Harry H. Panjer, BA’69, MA’71, PhD’75, was awarded the title of distinguished professor emeritus by the University of Waterloo at its fall 2011 convocation for his contributions to the field of actuarial science. He has served as president of the Canadian Institute of Actuaries, as President of the U.S.-based Society of Actuaries, and on the executive of the volunteer Actuarial Foundation. In addition to past 29 years at Waterloo, he has taught at Western, the University of Arizona and the University of New Brunswick.

Alan Thicke, BA’67 (English) recently starred in a new Canadian musical titled “Quinn’s Harbour” at the Richmond Hill Centre for the Performing Arts.

Robert A. Brins, BA’67, has been appointed Fairview College’s annual president’s distinguished full-time teacher award for 2012-2013.

Robert W. Paschall, BA’68, senior historian emeritus, Parks Canada Agency, has been awarded the Robert

Winn Walters (1950s)

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James Brett, M.Sc.'84, has been named Ontario’s most outstanding university librarian by the Ontario University Libraries Faculty Association.

Nazli Valari, B.Sc.'84 (Mathematics), has accepted a position as a partner to KMFG in Toronto.

Dr. Michael W. Neumeister, B.Sc.'94 (Physics/Pharmacology), has been promoted chair of the Department of Surgery at Southern Illinois University School of Medicine. He has been chief of the Division of Plastic Surgery since 2002.

In August, the Ontario Teachers’ Federation Board of Governors elected Thursday Times President, Ted Gibson, as the new president of the Toronto District Teachers’ Federation at its annual meeting in Niagara Falls. Hamilton has been school and science teacher with the Lakehead University Board since the early 1980s. Hamilton has also been very active in the Affiliate—the Ontario Secondary Schools Teachers’ Federation (OSSFT)—serving in a variety of local capacities in Thunder Bay including branch president, chief negotiator, and district president.

The Goodyear Tire & Rubber Company announced that G. Paul (Penny) Bursick, B.Eng./L.L.B., has been appointed the Director of Business as a co-chair of president of global communications, effective Oct. 1.

Peter Manojlovic, B.Sc.'83 (Geology), has been hired as the vice president of exploration of Newfield Resources Ltd. in Calgary.

Joyce Musial, B.Sc.'83 (Geology), has been promoted to vice president, corporate development at Banff-Gold in Vancouver.

Jim Mignall, B.A.'93, is an executive financial consultant for Investors Group Financial Services Inc. and the corporate representative of the Herbert H. Carnegie Community Foundation. As a 1990 University of Guelph graduate, he has been a tireless advocate for diabetes research, treatment, and education. He has volunteered for several community organizations in Ontario.

David I. Climie, M.B.A.'84 (Journalism), has been appointed the new vice president of corporate communications to Velani Solutions, a public relations and public affairs firm in Toronto.

Michael Nolan, B.A.Sc.'87, has recently been appointed to the York Region Board of Education with a focus on development of 21st-century skills. He is a former Ontario government official who has served in various roles, including as a Cabinet Minister.

Rod Elliott, B.A.'91 (King's, Eng/His), B.Ed.'95 (Western), has recently been appointed director of the PIMF-led Toronto Youth Orchestra, a public orchestra of Denmark.

Michael Back, B.A.'93 (Economics), has been nominated for the Ernst & Young Entrepreneur of the Year Award in the Business-to-Business Products & Services category. He is President and CEO of ExhibitPoint (Sales) Ltd. of Toronto.

Shelley Nino, M.F.A.'97, is the first Alumna of the McEwan University Council Aboriginal Arts Award. She received the award on Aug. 9, 2013, at the McEwan University’s Aboriginal Arts Centre in Brampton during the Indigenous Arts Festival. Her work is recognized internationally.

Paul Asmundson, MBA.'01, has been appointed chief financial officer of Canadians Direct Credit Union in Woodbridge.

Melissa Sawatsky, B.A.'74, has been named as senior vice-president of business development at Tekke Solutions Ltd. of Toronto.
Western graduate Erica Masur, BSc’08, was awarded the 2012 Tim Hickson Memorial Health & Safety Scholarship from the City of London.

IN MEMORIAM

Ruth Fordyce, B‘33, on Sept. 30, 2012, in Ottawa, Ont.
Winfred Robinson, B‘44, on June 30, 2012, in Owen Sound, Ont.
Jean E. Linton, BSc‘44, on Sept. 12, 2012, in Essex, Ont.
Dr. Garnet H. Smith, MD‘45, on March 17, 2012, in St. Catharines, Ont.
George Bowery (Beau) Pearson, BSc‘46, on Nov. 3, 2012, in Ottawa, Ont.
Lois Goodman, BSc‘48, on Nov. 4, 2012, in Oakville, Ont.
George Eaton Bouchfield, BSc’49, on Sept. 10, 2012, in London, Ont.
Robert Cake, BSc’49, on Jan. 19, 2012, in Salt Spring Island, B.C.
Donald Laskes, BSc‘49, on May 9, 2012, in Hamilton, Ont.
Leslie Dickerson, BSc‘50, on Oct. 13, 2012, in Oshawa, Ont.
Dr. Stanley M. Jay Richardson, BA‘51, on Jun 15 in Beirut, Lebanon, to Nabil and Linda Khawand.
Joshua Vander Vies (2000s)

Troy Krywulak, BA‘06, MA‘07 (History), and Marina Rash, BA‘07 (French), (BEd‘12/OSE ‘10) were recently married in Stoner Creek, Ont. The two met in second year (September 2003) in a class in NAT35 145 and have been together ever since.

CTV Toronto announced in September that Michelle Dubé, MIT‘07, will co-host with Ken Shaw of CTV Toronto’s No. 1 newscast. "Dubé continues to file reports while co-helming newscasts."

Michelle Dubé, MIT’07, decided to return to London in 2012 to pursue her career in equity trading in Toronto.

The university’s No. 1 newscast: CTV NEWS London will be Co-Anchor with Ken Shaw of CTV’s No. 1 newscast.

Alanna Basnici, BA‘08, is an equities trader in Toronto, Ontario, Brennan Thakur, LLB‘11, is an associate in the law firm as an associate in the Corporate & Securities, Canada/U.S. Cross-Border, and International Corporate & Securities, Canada/U.S. Corporate practice group.

Hodgson Russ announces appointment as Bruce County’s new chief banker.

Kellie Coutler, MP’32, has been appointed as Bruce County’s new chief administrative officer.

Dr. Mark Ferri, PhD’12 (Epidemiology/Biostatistics) has been selected as a 2012 Banting Postdoctoral Fellow. He is a postdoctoral fellow at the Ottawa Centre for Child Studies at McMaster University.

Hogdon Russ announces Jennifer Riau, LLB’11 (King’s) has joined the law firm as an associate in the Corporate & Securities, Canada/U.S. Cross-Border and International Corporate & Securities, Canada/U.S. Corporate practice group.

Kassie Dolan, BA‘09 (French/PolSci), together with Marco Dispaltro (HonsPerformPiano), directed the University of British Columbia’s 2012 London Paralympic Games. He is a law student at the University of British Columbia.

Jenifer Mott Mithoff, BSc‘87 (Biology), on Nov. 13, 2012, in London, Ont.

Jennifer Basovich, BSc‘83, on Sept. 28, 2012, in Woodstock, Ont.

Dr. Rainer E. Ludwig, MD’66, on Oct. 29, 2012, in London, Ont.

Robert R. Campbell, BSc’67, on Dec. 23, 2021, in St. Albert, Ont.
Robert G. Woods, BSc‘69, on Nov. 12, 2012, in Victoria, B.C.

Lazlo Gyere, BScA, on Nov. 18, 2012, in London, Ont.
M. Jane (Stuart) Karyak, B’70, CertB’71, on May 17, 2012, in Edmonton, Alta.
William B. Hamilton, PhD’70, on Nov. 5, 2012, in Sackville, N.B.

Christopher H. Collins, CertB’71, DiplB’71, on Sept. 9, 2012, in Richmond Hill, Ont.

Barbara Ryasey, B’72, MAT’77, PhD’89, on June 24, 2012, in Waterloo, Ont.

PLEASE NOTE: Gazetteer notices, lists of all portions of the print magazine, appear in an online version of Alumni Gazette and also on our website. For the purpose of recognizing outstanding achievement or distinguished service by alumni in University alumni records as well as for the purpose of used to recognize outstanding achievement or distinguished service by alumni in University alumni records as well as for the purpose of publications will appear on a postcard from the Office of Alumni Relations in the hundreds of people who attended her memorial service had only met her once but still felt compelled to express their condolences.

Ally passed away on August 23, 2012 in Brantford, Ont. from an extremely rare brain tumour. She had a collyseum cyst. She would not want to sleep was that she wanted mental stimulation. She craved experience: to see, touch, smell, hear, taste and most of all to crum as much life as possible into every waking moment - and my gosh, how she did! At 4, she began to argue with her parents’ friends.

She really began to bloom as possible into every waking day.

Finally, her parents thought, she did! She really began to bloom and you will be contacted if yours is chosen. Those not chosen for publication may be featured in other portions of the print magazine, appear in the online version of Alumni Gazette and also online to express their condolences.

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Remembering is a new Western Alumni Gazette feature. Essays of less than 400 words about alumni who have passed in the last year will be considered. Only one will be published per issue, and you will be contacted if yours is chosen. Those chosen for publication may be featured online at alumni.guelph.ca. Submissions can be sent to wag.editor@uwuo.ca or Remembering. cogWAG Editor, Communications & Public Affairs, Western University, Suite 360, 635 Westminster Hall, London, Ontario, Canada, N6A 3K7.
For a fair imitation of a Skinner rat frantically pressing a lever in hopes of getting food pellets, have a look at the Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada’s (AUCC) pre-budget submission to the federal government for 2013.

Pre-budget submissions are, in every sense, what they sound like. Various groups and associations, knowing the federal government must write a budget every year, put great effort into letting the feds know what they’d like to see in the budget. The AUCC is pretty sure the only notion that turns the Harper government’s crank when it comes to universities is that universities help create the jobs of today. So, Canada’s universities have something to do with work, and the global economy, and prosperity? Yes indeed. “This year, more than one million students are pursuing their first degree,” the document continues. “The kind of experiences they have will have a profound impact on — their life stories? The depth and variety of the human drama? Silly rabbit! — Canada’s ability to sustain our quality of life in the decades ahead.”

There are passing hints that universities offer some other, subtler kind of benefit. But if you think you’ll miss them. “Universities are the hub through which we develop new knowledge; prepare students to be engaged global citizens” — this is all true, and disarmingly altruistic-sounding — “and transfer the creative, innovative and ingenious ideas that will ensure we can compete to win.” (Bar.) You thought we were getting high-flown there, didn’t you? But have no fear: the proper end of the production of global citizens and creative ideas is national victory in a global competition. Who could think otherwise?

Sometimes the pitch becomes so thick it’s unsettling. “Our vision for a prosperous Canada,” the AUCC says at one point, “continues to be one that leverages our research and innovation through the training of students and the quality of research on our campuses…” I’m afraid I don’t recall the end of that sentence because I got hung up on the mention of “training” students. Perhaps to really get into the spirit of things we could rename Frosh Week as Get Into Momentus. Perhaps to really get into the spirit of things we could rename Frosh Week as Get Into Hamster. Perhaps to really get into the spirit of things we could rename Frosh Week as Get Into Hamsters. Perhaps to really get into the spirit of things we could rewrite Frosh Week as a time for students to learn innovative and creative ideas that will help them compete to win. But if we persist in claiming they are job mills, we endanger everything at a university that does not look like a job mill, which is most of a university.

Constant readers of this space will know I am repeating myself. But since I am clearly not changing a lot of minds among the people who push the food-pellet levers, I content myself with saying once again: explaining what universities actually do is harder than claiming falsely that they are efficient job mills. But if we persist in claiming they are job mills, we endanger everything at a university that does not look like a job mill, which is most of a university.

What the AUCC actually requested in its pre-budget submission is not objectionable. Indeed, it sounds pretty good. They wanted steadier funding for basic research, a little more money to promote international collaboration, and programs to encourage aboriginal participation in postsecondary education. Probably, reading this after the 2013 budget, you will know how those demands fared better than I did when I wrote this before the budget.

But the story higher education tells about itself matters, and there is no trustworthy shortcut in telling that story.

Paul Wells is a senior columnist for Maclean’s magazine. Follow him on Twitter @InklessPW.
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Most insurance companies offer discounts for combining home and auto policies, or your good driving record. What you may not know is that we offer these savings too, plus we offer preferred rates to members of The Alumni Association of Western University.

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