

Alumni Gazette

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WINTER 2013



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On the cover: Karen Stintz, BA'92, Dipl'93 (Political Science, King's) is chair of the Toronto Transit Commission (TTC). See related story on page 12. Photo by Nation Wong.



EDITOR'S NOTEBOOK

WITH DAVID SCOTT

WESTERN, WORLD SURVIVE & THRIVE

If you're reading this, there's a good chance the misinterpreted Mayan doomsday prediction didn't come to pass, the Earth is 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're hopeful that aside from a few suffering triskaidekaphobia, 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 Kang 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 Kang. His is 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 what we can do as individuals to make a difference. The result is a handbook for global warming: *Comprehending the Climate Crisis: Everything You Need to Know about Global Warming and How to Stop It*.

If your world is the world wide web, you're a young woman with a great idea

and want to teach yourself how to create your own online presence, alumna Amanda Aitken, BA'05, Cert'05, has a learning tool to empower you and alleviate your fears: *Girls Guide To Web Design*.

If your world is seeing the world and cramming in as much adventure as possible and never saying no to an opportunity, then alumnus John Marcus Payne, LLB'73, has a story for you. Whether it's England, Nepal, Nigeria, Saudi Arabia, India or the U.S. or Canada, he has found work or hobbies on the backs of elephants, flying in the air, playing polo with rock stars, working for the Saudi Royal family, coaching an African basketball team and teaching law at a university, to name a few.

If you are in charge of the transit system at the Centre of the Universe (a.k.a. Toronto, to the unfortunate people who haven't lived there), it's a daunting task. In all seriousness, the TTC is behind only New York and Mexico City as North America's busiest public transit system. TTC chair, alumna Karen Stintz, BA'92, Dipl'93 (Huron), is no stranger to pressure and politics.

We also enter the worlds of an award-winning composer, a stand-up comedian & comedy writer, a survivor of Canada's internment camps for Japanese in World War II, the director of Ontario's Special Investigative Unit and the managing director for McDonald's Hong Kong.

It's comforting to know the Editor's chair was still here waiting for me – and the *Alumni Gazette* (along with the rest of the world) – when I returned after a year in Advancement Services learning the ways of Prospect Research. It's good to be back.

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IMPRESSED BY STUDENT SPIRIT AT HOMECOMING

(Re: *Homecoming 2012*, Sept. 27-30)

I just wanted to pass on how enjoyable this year's Homecoming was for me personally. It was excellent. There was something for everyone to partake in, and I enjoyed it all. I was quite impressed with the students at Western. Their school spirit and exuberance is second to none. I have always been such a proud Western grad, and the current students have shown me Western is still on top. I want the student body to know how impressed I was with their warm welcome, as well as the City of London.

The football game was great, and I just love seeing our mascot, JW. I would like to make a special mention with regards to the Retro '80s dance. What a brilliant idea! It was well done, and I think this could be done again as the music and sentiments of the '80s are timeless. Congratulations to the individuals involved in making it a most enjoyable evening. I would definitely attend something like that again.

MARY PISCITELLI, BSCN'85

GOOD TIMES AT GORGEOUS CAMPUS

(Re: *Fall 2012*)

Thank you for a great magazine! I am turning 60 this year and really enjoy thinking of Western and the good times at a gorgeous campus and many return trips.

I am three years retired from being an elementary teacher/librarian with Simcoe County District Board of Education, Orillia, Ont. Enjoying lots of forest and provincial park walks with our adopted rescued Aussie who was 8 years old and orphaned, and a one-year-old Aussie pup as well. We have a beautiful 18-month-old granddaughter, do some travelling; retirement is quite a privilege.

We are very proud of our two children who followed my footsteps and went to Western as well. Robyn Foreman, BA'03 (Honours Sociology), and Dustin Foreman, BA'05 (Administrative and Commercial Studies, Commercial Aviation Management). We love Western!

GAIL FOREMAN (SPENCER), BED'75

SMALL WORLD IN BIG FAMILY OF WESTERN ALUMNI

(Re: *Alumni Notes & Announcements*, Fall 2012)

As a graduate of Western, I recently read the Fall 2012 issue and realized what a small world it is.

You had Alumni Notes and Announcements spanning different decades. In the 1940s grad section you featured Dr. Keith Moore, who happens to be my husband's uncle. What makes this story richer was that my husband recently had the pleasure of awarding Uncle Keith with the Queen's Diamond Jubilee Medal for his contributions to medicine.

My husband, Rod Jackson, was able to do this in his capacity as MPP of Barrie. When I saw Uncle Keith featured in the *Alumni Gazette* I realized what a small world this is and how big the Western Alumni family really is!

JOANNE (J.M.) JACKSON, BA'81 (SOC.), CSL'98

WESTERN WHERE?

(Re: *Fall 2012*, Marcia Steyaert's last issue as interim editor)

With shining faces (including yours) on almost every page you've made the *Gazette* a glamour mag. Too bad you're leaving. I regret the departure of your smiling face!

People now ask me "Western where? Australia? Samoa?..." Damn silly change of name, dropping "the local habitation and a name" that gave specificity.

P.S. The photo of Derwentwater is outstanding (panoramic Photo Contest Winner).

CHRISTOPHER M. ARMITAGE, BA, MA (OXON.), MA'64 (ENGLISH), PHD (DUKE)

PROFESSOR OF DISTINGUISHED TEACHING
ADJUNCT PROFESSOR OF PEACE,
WAR AND DEFENSE

DEPT. OF ENGLISH AND COMPARATIVE LITERATURE
THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA

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 Western University.

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 steady 5 per cent increase in the number of Canadians attending universities and colleges, thereby ensuring Canadian-born students are not displaced.

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 as industry and government leaders. Their understanding of Canada and the relationships they form here can open doors to future opportunity and partnerships for our country.

Western is already becoming more global in terms of our students, faculty and staff. International students account for 9 per cent of this year's incoming class – that is three times more than two years ago. While we are well situated to surpass our goal of having 1-in-10 students come from outside Canada by 2013, we still lag behind some other leading Canadian universities.

Both international and domestic students benefit from the enriched educational experience of being exposed to

a broader diversity of global perspectives and cultures.

Attracting international students, however, is only half the equation. More than 1,000 Canadian-born Western students visited another country to study or participate in experiential learning opportunities this school year. Western's goal is to ensure at least 1-in-10 students have these opportunities.

We believe gaining international experience is so important that we are introducing Global Opportunities (GO) awards to ensure that Canadian students won't miss out because they lack the financial means.

Western students who get the chance to go to other countries speak of their adventures as being life-altering. The benefits of these relationships spill over into careers as companies and organizations are becoming more international and need employees who can open doors and bridge cultural gaps.

There is a great responsibility that accompanies introducing students 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 in 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. Chil-Yong 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 is a randomized, observer-blinded, placebo-controlled study of killed whole HIV-1 vaccine (SAV001-H) following intramuscular (IM) administration. Infected 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



Yong Kang (Photo by Paul Mayne)



Louis Kaptur, BESC'12, and Vanja Ugresic, BESC'08, MESC'11, reflect the true nature of partnership involved at Fraunhofer Project Centre (FPC) for Composites Research at Western. Both research development engineers, Kaptur, a London native, works with equipment partner Dieffenbacher, and Ugresic, a Republic of Serbia native, works for Fraunhofer. (Photo by Terry Rice)

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 human trials.

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 at the centre's Advanced Manufacturing Park (AMP) location on Nov. 5. The launch represents an unprecedented partnership bringing together a Canadian university, a German industry and three levels of Canadian government.

Located in the AMP, just north of Highway 401, near London, the centre will focus on developing lightweight composites at this testing-ground facility through full industrial-scale trials.

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 unique platform 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.

WESTERN NEUROSCIENTISTS BREAKTHROUGH ON PHYSICAL CAUSE OF VEGETATIVE STATE

By exploring parts of the brain that trigger during periods of daydreaming and mind-wandering, neuroscientists from Western University have made a significant breakthrough in understanding what physically happens in the brain to cause vegetative state and other so-called "disorders of consciousness."

Vegetative state and related disorders such as the minimally conscious state are amongst the least understood conditions in modern medicine because there is no particular type of brain damage that is known to cause them. This lack of knowledge leads to an alarmingly high level of misdiagnosis.

In support of the study titled, "A role for the default mode network in the bases of disorders of consciousness," Davinia Fernandez-Espejo, a post doctoral fellow at Western's Brain and Mind Institute (uwo.ca/its/brain), utilized a technique called diffusion tensor imaging tractography to investigate more than 50 patients suffering from varying degrees of brain injury.

This state-of-the-art magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) technique allows researchers to virtually reconstruct the pathways that connect different parts of the brain in the

WESTERN IS RENEWING ITS STRATEGIC PLAN, AND WANTS TO HEAR FROM YOU

Western's Senate Committee on University Planning (SCUP) has been tasked with facilitating a strategic plan renewal process for the University by soliciting and receiving input from key stakeholder groups on campus and from the external community.

Members of SCUP will hold a series of meetings with key stakeholder groups to gather input, while individual faculty, staff, students, alumni and external community members can share ideas and suggestions in the following ways:

Online Form:

uwo.ca/plan2013

Email: Plan2013@uwo.ca

Mail: Strategic Plan Renewal, C/O Office of the President and Provost/SCUP, Suite 2107, Stevenson Hall
Fax: 519-661-3139

When making a written submission, please include your name, affiliation to Western (student, faculty, staff, alumni, etc.) and email address. While there is no prescribed format for what written submissions must contain, consideration may be given to exploring themes outlined at uwo.ca/plan2013. Deadline for submissions is February 28, 2013.

For more information visit uwo.ca/plan2013

patients while detecting subtle differences in their brain damage.

Specifically, Fernandez-Espejo was able to show that in vegetative-state patients, a group of brain regions known as the default mode 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 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 Coma Science Group, University Hospital of Liège on this study.

The findings were released Oct. 3 in *Annals of Neurology*, the official journal of the American Neurological Association and the Child Neurology Society.

MOST INFLUENTIAL WOMEN INCLUDES DEAN, ALUMNAE

Richard Ivey School of Business Dean Carol Stephenson, along with five Western alumnae, have been named among Canada's most influential women, according to *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 the most compelling reason why these achievers must be celebrated," said Carolyn Lawrence, BA'00, Women of Influence president and CEO. "The women we profile have made an important impact in their chosen fields and they are all using their influence to change the world, for the better.

It is important that they are recognized because they serve as role models for Canadian women and girls.

"It was how I got inspired at the start of my career, and we've been returning the favour every day since."

Stephenson, named to the list for the second time, was recognized in the Public Sector category for her work developing Ivey's new \$110 million building, including fundraising, site selection, design details and construction plans, bringing the school's current dispersed programs under one roof.

Western's alumnae also made a huge splash, occupying a fifth of the list all to themselves.

Sylvia Chrominska, BA'73 (Economics), HBA'75, Scotiabank, Global Human Resources and Communications group head, was named in the Business category. She was recognized for re-launching the bank's Advancement of Women initiative, making executives more accountable for the advancement of female employees.

Carol Hansell, BA'81 (History), Davies Ward Phillips & Vineberg LLP, senior partner, was named in the Professional Services category. She was honoured for creating a reliable corporate voting system for the benefit of the issuer and their shareholders.

Rosemary McCarney, LLB'77, Plan Canada president and CEO, was named in the NGO category. She was recognized for the 'Because I Am A Girl' campaign, a global initiative to end gender inequity, promote girls' rights and lift millions of girls, and everyone around them, out of poverty. This campaign led to the United Nations designating Oct. 11, 2012 the inaugural 'International Day of the Girl!'

Bonnie Schmidt, BSc'86, Dipl'88, PhD'93 (Physiology), Let's Talk Science founder and president, was named in the NGO category. She was honoured 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.



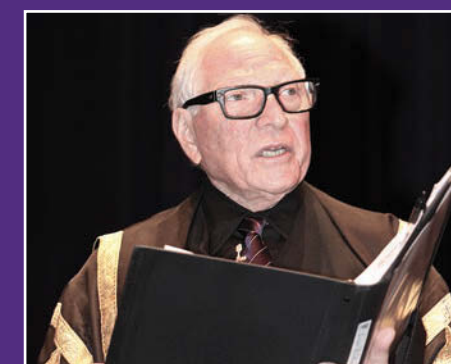
“ I BELIEVE ON A PERSONAL LEVEL THAT WE ARE DEVOTING TOO MANY RESOURCES TO THE WRONG THINGS, AND NOT ENOUGH TO THE RIGHT THINGS...THE U.S. IS BECOMING THE OPPOSITE OF THE PRINCIPLES UPON WHICH IT WAS ORIGINALLY FOUNDED.”

Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry's Leaders in Innovation Dinner guest speaker: award-winning actor, author and spinal cord research advocate **ALEC BALDWIN** (with Dean Michael Strong), Nov. 19.



“ We are going to see activism come to the fore because of social media and our communications revolution...You are the generation that can make that happen; www means no borders.”

Senator **ROMÉO DALLAIRE** at the 2012 Claude and Elaine Pensa Lecture in Human Rights in Western Law, Nov. 23.



“ I believe that the Western mission and mandate, as one of Canada's great academic institutions, will help us bring about a new and better era for our society, first by having developed you as leaders, as well as through its research efforts.”

Alumnus **JOSEPH L. ROTMAN**, BA'57, LLD'09, in his new role as Western's 21st chancellor at the university's 300th convocation on Oct. 25.



“ We, as an educational institution, have a responsibility to ensure that Indigenous students, staff and faculty have a voice, but more than that, that all students, staff and faculty understand our shared Canadian history, understand Indigenous knowledge and the contributions it can make to major issues of contemporary society.”

CANDACE BRUNETTE, Western's new coordinator for Indigenous Services, Nov 29.



“ 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.”

Environmentalist **DAVID SUZUKI**, with economist Jeff Rubin on *The End of Growth – How to Achieve A Truly Sustainable Future*, cross-Canada book tour, Oct. 18.



“ 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



Extraordinary creativity starts here.

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.

Help develop the next generation of extraordinary leaders.
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Be Extraordinary.

The Campaign for Western



Western



Photo by: Nation Wong

STAYING ON TRACK

DEALING WITH TORONTO'S TRANSIT GROWTH

BY JASON WINDERS, MES'10

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 anxious to run as a 'non-politician;' we ought

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.

Now, as Ford's future has become muddied, Stintz's name has been bandied about as a possible candidate to replace him. She considered a run for the top job in 2010, but instead successfully ran for her council seat a third time. Stintz hasn't shied away from the current speculation, opening the door to the chance of her name appearing on a possible by-election ballot.

In 2010, Stintz was named TTC chair and immediately started addressing the financial and customer service issues plaguing the transit system. With many of those behind

the organization, she is focused on the city's long-term commitment to transit. With more than half a billion riders annually, the TTC is behind only New York and Mexico City as North America's busiest public transit system.

"The big fear is we continue to talk about it, but don't build it. It's a lot easier to push the problem to the next government. But knowing we are out of time is the constant pressure for me," she said. "Everyone has been kicking the ball down the field. But we're out of field."

This push for a long-term plan has put her at odds with proponents of short-term savings. But she is seeing a real shift in

attitude. Where transit was once the purview of a few activists, most citizens today – and, in turn, their governments – are starting to see it as necessity.

"There were periods last February and March (during the transit fight) that were very difficult times and often I questioned the wisdom of what I was doing," she said. "But I stayed true to the belief that this was the only way to contribute to the next generation. I knew I had to stay focused on that goal."

Stintz speaks truth to power with ease and sanity. She credits experience and, particularly, her failures with fortifying a political spine which is the envy of many.

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

"I've had a lot of them (failures)," she said. "But it's 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's a whirlwind political career that started at Western.

She arrived on campus at 17, a bit younger than many classmates. She would soon move from Saugeen-Maitland Hall into a house with six other people. Many of those roommates she still calls friends today, a feat she could credit to an early propensity at political compromise.

She would be drawn to Political Science with hopes of becoming a journalist, but that fast faded. "I wasn't very good at it," she laughed.

"It was at Western where I learned how to take risks, confront challenges, try new things," Stintz said. "Because it was a new environment, but still a safe environment, you could try a whole bunch of things, fail at a few, and then try again."

That would come in handy a decade later. In 2003, Stintz was helping John Tory run for Toronto mayor against David Miller.

"It was also a time when I was considering where I wanted to go in my life. I had mentioned to my husband I had considered politics. He said if that's what you want to do, then do it. Don't wait. There is an opportunity now, since it is a municipal election, and while you won't be successful, you can start building your base," she explained.

She would run, and win in a shocking victory fueled by opposition to a midtown condo development. The long-time incumbent she knocked out of the seat happened to be a close political ally of Miller, who would win the mayor's race over Tory.

"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 municipal level is a whole different beast. It has been a trial by fire."

Since taking office, Stintz has fortified her standing as a true believer in the power of local government, and laments the fact fewer are not engaged in the process.

"The range of things we do (as a municipality) is remarkable, yet voter interest is the lowest and voter turnout is the lowest and most people don't actually know who their city councillor is," she said. "So for me, it is a fascinating dynamic."

If she could walk into a classroom today, she would stress one point.

"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."

And 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," she said. "Solving those challenges are not easy, but it can be done."

"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 though, 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, looking out to the building beside me, doing commercial real estate."

He ran track under Bob Vigers and recalls winter training, running the tunnels from Law to Engineering. The experience led him and his teammates to lobby for an indoor track, resulting in the one found in Thompson Arena today.

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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.

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Seated left to right: John Marcus Payne, Ram Gurung, Prasant Mishra and the late Jim Edwards, co-founder of Tiger Tops jungle lodge, after their team won the first World Elephant Polo Championship, December 1983. (Photo provide by JM Payne)

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 Canada picked him up in 1980 as director of contract operations, a go-between for Bell and the Saudi government. In 1982, he

left Bell and the next year began working for the Royal Saudi family, helping to set up a telecom company, HiCap (High Capabilities).

In 1987, Payne opened a chain of 'Jumpers' (English for sweaters) shops in England, and four years later, he set up an international consultancy, Parrington Associates; work he continues to this day. An early win for the company came in 1995, helping to set up Bharti AirTel in India, now the world's third largest mobile telecommunications company.

It hasn't been all work and no play for Payne. He bought into Tiger Tops, a tiger jungle lodge in the Chitwan Jungle bordering Nepal and northern India that had a fleet of domesticated elephants. He and some friends trained the mahouts (elephant drivers) in the fundamentals of polo, eventually establishing the World Elephant Polo Association. Payne wound up in the Guinness Book of World Records in 1985

"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."

for captaining the first world championship elephant polo team.

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 to Everest Base Camp, where he has met and made life-long friends and business

partners. Oh, and then there's rock and roll. By chance, he met Ginger Baker, drummer for Cream, at a Nigerian gas station; they became friends and Payne taught him to play polo. Got Ringo Starr playing elephant polo, too.

For a man with a passport like John Marcus Payne's, why settle in sleepy, small-town Illinois?

Simple: Family and faith.

While he owes his adventuresome 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 8,723), 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.

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."

"You 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."

OSCAR WINNER FIRST MUSIC HALL OF FAMER

BY JANIS 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 wanted 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 2012, 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 at 1,200 cinemas 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. As a result of collaborations on student assignments, the trio formed Rhombus Media, renowned for its performing arts programs, feature films and television drama series.

"It was all mapped out in the stars looking back," she said. "The two people who became my business partners with Rhombus were at York. They also have backgrounds in music. We said we'd always make films with passion,



Barbara Willis Sweete

"IT'S LIKE ANYTHING LIVE – SOMETHING ALWAYS GOES WRONG BUT YOU HAVE TO SAVE IT WITHOUT ANYONE KNOWING. YOU COPE BY TRUSTING YOUR TEAMMATES."

knowledge and comfort."

Their relationship with the CBC was also well-timed. They sold a student film to the national broadcaster. It was the start of a long 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 Music and Arts. So they went in. "Roger Kennedy liked our naïve enthusiastic energy. He loved the film and said he'd run it in the Sunday afternoon slot if we 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."



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Carolina Torres, BACS'05
Student award recipient
Senior Credit Officer, RBC Capital Markets

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STOPPING YOUR OWN GLOBAL WARMING

BY DAVID SCOTT



Bradley J. Dibble, MD'90, is concerned about the cardiovascular health of a very large patient: planet 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, iUniverse). The book is structured into three sections: the

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 it's 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

"..DO WE DO WHAT'S RIGHT FOR TODAY'S ECONOMY – OR DO WE DO WHAT'S RIGHT FOR TOMORROW'S ENVIRONMENT?"

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 anyways."

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

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."

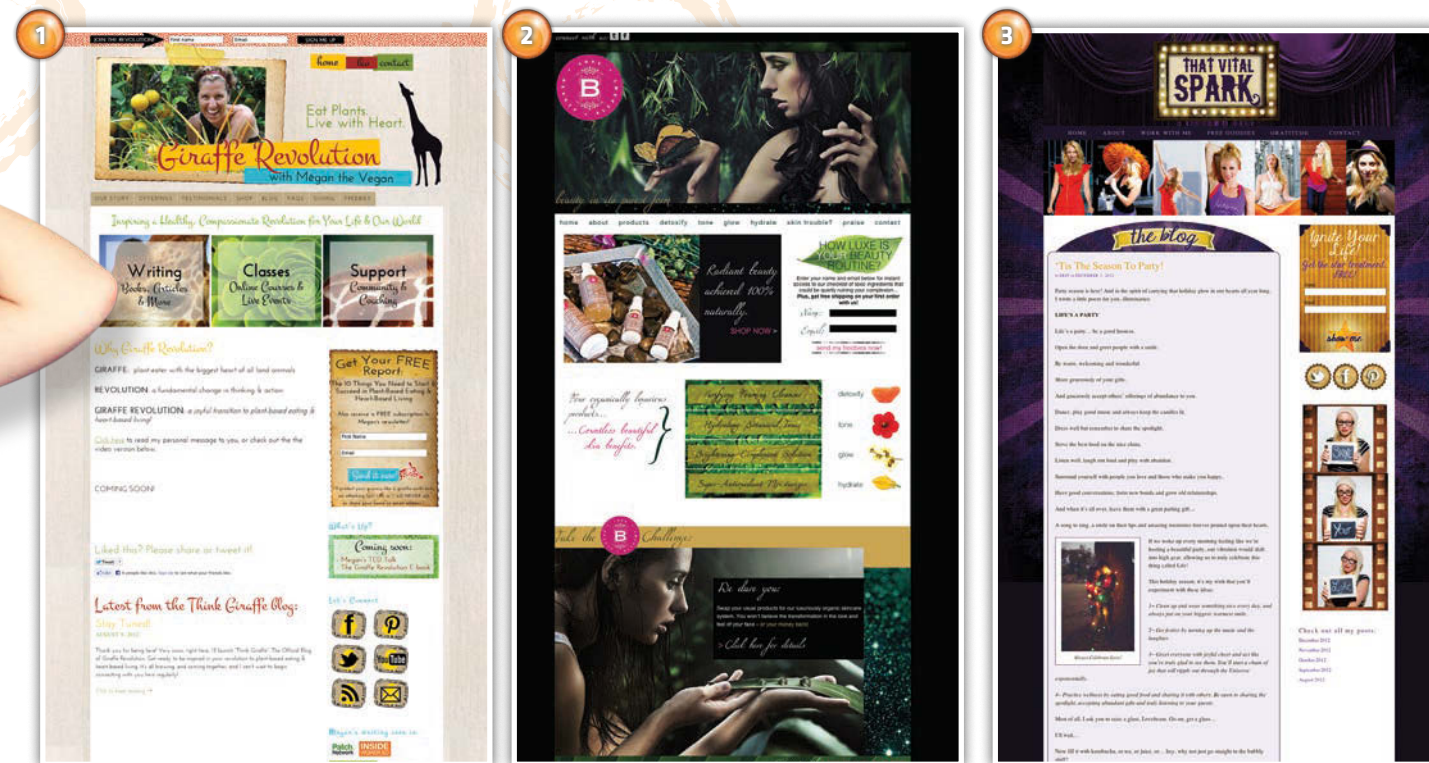
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Writing Code for Websites is Fun?

EMPOWERING WOMEN ON THE WEB



Amanda Aitken



BY SUZANNE BOLES

The owner of Better Than Chocolate web design, and founder and CEO of Girls Guide To Web Design (GG2WD), has a totally unique business model – Jetsetter – that’s really taking off.

She’s been named to Forbes’ list of “20 Inspiring Young Female Founders to Follow on Twitter” and ranked third place in Ali Brown’s “Entrepreneurs Who Thrive” contest. Interviewed by CBC, profiled in the *Montreal Gazette* and quoted by numerous online e-zines and popular blogs, Western’s MIT grad, Amanda Aitken, BA’05, 31, has a way with words, a flair for design, and gets a thrill out of “empowering women.”

From her apartment in Montreal, Aitken created GG2WD to help women become “empowered” and to “unleash your inner designer and create an awe-inspiring WordPress blog or website.”

“It really is filling a gap,” Aitken says. Up until GG2WD the “only place to learn (WordPress) web design, and to have this support and handholding, would be to go to school.”

To date, more than 600 women have purchased the 35-hour video-training course, launched in July 2011. With a reasonable price tag of \$397 US, this has catapulted her over the \$200,000 gross income mark. She also offers an add-on, one-hour “website

therapy” session for \$200 with a business coach she’s teamed up with.

Her sales approach – chatty, ‘hey girlfriend’ style - is appealing and the offer to learn HTML and CSS code without any prior knowledge, enticing. Support for learners comes from her Facebook page, monitored by three former students.

Born in Montreal, her family moved to Toronto when she was 8. At 13, they moved to Ottawa and she taught herself code and began designing websites for clients. She attended the prestigious Lisgar Collegiate Institute’s full-time high school, gifted students’ program.

With a voracious creative appetite she wasn’t about to be pinned down to any specific specialty. Knowing her next move was university, Aitken chose Western’s (then new) MIT program “because I saw it’s a degree of possibilities.” Her final year was an exchange at McGill University. She graduated in 2005 adding the certificate in writing to her credentials and stayed in Montreal.

Her resumé is impressive including copywriter for a marketing company – something she says she really enjoyed, and allowed her to expand on the tools she learned from both the MIT and writing certificate programs - to indulging her passion for fashion via entrepreneurial forays as *The Stylish Copywriter* and her online

Some websites created by Amanda’s course include: 1) girafferevolution.com 2) lovebeautyalchemy.com 3) thatvitalspark.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.”

fashion website and magazine, *Lady Licorice*. Also bilingual, at one point she did fashion and beauty translation for *LouLou Magazine* that, she says, was “an easy add-on to a full-time job.”

She finally decided to take the leap of faith and launched her

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



Winterblahsblowaway

CONTRIBUTED BY ALAN NOON

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 'tug of war' competitions, chariot races in the old JW 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*.



- 1) Giant slide on University Hill
- 2) Typical scene carvings 1981
- 3) Winter Carnival Queen 1971
Linda Hammett
- 4) Lumberjack 1978
- 5) Cat with bird admired by
Phyllis Horpenuk 1971
- 6) Puff football players 1971
- 7) Little Richard performs in
Alumni Hall 1971

BUILDING GREEN EARNS 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. "My mother and father (John, BESC'62 & Shirley, DipIN'63) went to Western," said Westeinde. "I had a very enjoyable time there as well. I found the courses useful and had fun as a member of the rowing team."

After completing his degree, Westeinde worked for a consulting firm setting up Canada Post outlets across western Canada. He began to consider how to blend an interest in the environment with a career in business. "In 1998, when I completed my MBA from Trinity College in Dublin, Ireland, I was actually considering doing a degree in Marine Biology. Around this time, I read a book called *Natural Capitalism*. It really helped frame my ideas about green buildings and the business opportunities available within that context."

In 2003, Westeinde founded the Windmill Development Group. "I formed the company with the intent to be a visionary real estate development and services group with expertise in brownfield redevelopment and green developments," said Westeinde. "We also wanted to adhere to a triple bottom line approach placing an equal emphasis on people, profits and the planet."

Having family members at Windmill who



Docks Green project in Victoria, B.C.

are Western engineering grads helps with that mission, too. Jonathan's father, John (class of '62); his brother Jeff, BESC'89 and sister-in-law Colleen, BESC'91, and his sister Julie Westeinde, BESC'89, were all involved in the setting up of Windmill Developments and are still involved in varying degrees today.

Windmill was quickly able to put its green credentials to work. The company became one of the founding developers behind the high profile Docks Green project in Victoria, B.C. Docks Green was a 15-acre brownfield that the City of Victoria became owners of through default. The plan is for the project to be built over seven years being a model sustainable community. Some of the unique features of the project include an on-site biomass gasification plant that transforms wood waste into biogas, which is burnt as fuel to provide hot water and heat. The project also provides onsite treatment of its own sewage. Docks Green has been awarded a LEED (green building rating system) platinum status. Windmill also achieved LEED platinum for projects completed in Ottawa and Calgary.

While constructing green buildings is a laudable goal, it is not always easy to

do. "The word to describe building green projects is perseverance," commented Westeinde. "It certainly takes a lot more time and the learning curve increases. Most developers are risk-averse so we are doing something that is against the norm."

There are a number of benefits to green developments beyond the obvious environmental ones. "We found with Docks Green and our other projects, the green features are a natural advertisement. We calculated about 2.5 million dollars worth of free advertising for Docks Green. Less marketing is required to fill occupancy with our projects. Also we find selling the health benefits of not using toxic materials is almost greater than the energy benefits of green construction."

Westeinde 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 Ledcor Group in Vancouver to form LedcorRenew. In the coming decades, there will be a huge opportunity to retrofit existing buildings to make them more energy efficient. This will help to reduce energy costs and greenhouse gas emissions."



OVERARCHING SUCCESS

BY JASON WINDERS, MES'10

Randy Lai has gone from a "golden time" on Western's campus to running one of the most successful 'Golden Arches' operations in the world.

Lai, BA'93 (Economics), serves as McDonald's Hong Kong managing director, accountable for the overall direction of the company's more than 200 restaurants in the country. Under her leadership, McDonald's Hong Kong has the highest transaction base in the world.

At Western, Lai, who fondly recalls living in Lambton Hall, completed her Economics degree in just two and a half years. After graduation, she returned to Hong Kong, where she would earn an Executive MBA from the Chinese University of Hong Kong.

She joined McDonald's China in 1998 as a marketing executive, and then moved to the marketing department of McDonald's Hong Kong in 2005.

In 2010, she would be named as managing director of McDonald's Singapore, the first woman to serve in that position. She would return to Hong Kong as managing director.

Today, Lai, named CEO of the Year 2012 by the Asia Pacific Customer Relationship Excellence Awards, pushes for restaurant expansion and customer service, while also dedicating vast resources to employee training and career development. In 2011, McDonald's was named among the Aon Hewitt Best Employers in Hong Kong.

And the root of that success, she credits Western.

"In the past 20 years, I have gone through different phases of my life, both ups and downs," said Lai, who was recently honoured with Western's 2012 Young Alumni Award of Merit - Asia. "But one thing was certain, my university education at Western has provided me with a strong foundation, both academically and personally, to enable me to walk through my journey."

"For that I am eternally grateful."

Nominate an outstanding Western alumnus for a prestigious Alumni Award of Merit

Categories, criteria and nomination form can be found at www.alumni.uwo.ca/connect/awards/merit.html

The nomination deadline is Friday, March 15, 2013. Awards will be presented on Homecoming weekend, September 27-29, 2013

For more information, please call Susan Henderson at 519.661.2111 ext. 85871



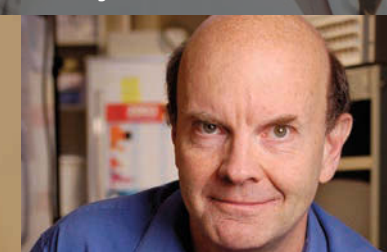
2012 Community Service Award: Towhid Noman, BSc'90



2012 Young Alumni Award: Carolyn Lawrence, BA'00



2012 Dr. Ivan Smith Award: Agnes Chan, BACS'81



2012 Professional Achievement Award: Dr. John Roder, PH.D'77

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 alumnus 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 protester 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."

**"I'M NOT
HERE TO BE
BUDDY-BUDDY
WITH THE POLICE."**

LIQUID ASSETS: TOP 5 WINES TO DRINK NOW



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

Terrific price for such a luscious, full-bodied chardonnay. Bursting with aromas of green apple, butter and toasty goodness. Pair with roast chicken, corn dishes and a blazing fireplace. Drink: 2012-2014. Product No: 328559 14.7% XD \$14.95 Score: **88/100**

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 Reserva Syrah 2009

Elquí 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 meaty 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: 171025 14.5% XD \$15.95 Score: **90/100**

Natalie MacLean, author of the bestseller *Unquenchable: A Topsy Search for the World's Best Bargain Wines*, is editor of Canada's most popular mobile wine apps and wine site at www.nataliemaclean.com.

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-Roussillon, where the deals are to be found.





Photo by Shawn Simpson

BY DAVID SCOTT

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 spiked 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 sad, 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. Also on the list, Comedy Central's flagship stars Jon Stewart of *The Daily Show* and Stephen Colbert of *The Colbert Report*.

"I got 5,000 (Twitter) followers overnight."

He needed a persona, so he created "a fat guy with boobs who lived in his parents' basement."

Soon Sethi was attracting the attention of Hollywood. Actress Alyssa Milano sent him a private tweet. And comedian Denis Leary's wife, Ann Lembeck Leary, was a regular reader. She asked the Computer Science grad turned blog writer when he'd be in New York next. "Oh, next week," scrambled Sethi, not knowing what would happen.

He bought a ticket to the Big Apple and met Leary for lunch. After a friendly chat and realizing Sethi really wasn't "a fat guy with boobs who lived in his parents' basement," she told him "you should do stand up." He got his first agent through Leary in 2009.

His next brush with fame was a pivotal conversation with Ricky Blitt, one of the original writers on *Family Guy*. In 2010, he created

the TV show *Romantically Challenged* starring Alyssa Milano.

Blitt took Sethi under his wing and asked him to send him some sample scripts to read. Sethi agreed. He had none.

So he bought every script-writing book he could get his hands on, then wrote three sample scripts and sent them off. He called back Blitt later for his reaction.

"Did you send this to anyone yet?"

"No."

"Well, don't. It's terrible."

Blitt patiently helped Sethi along with his script development. His agent sent Sethi some scripts of *The Office*. He then wrote some spec scripts and sent them to Blitt until one hit the mark. Patience paid off.

Blitt then shared it with Seth MacFarlane, creator of the animated adult comedy series *Family Guy*.

Escalation up the TV ladder resulted in Sethi being invited to L.A. to meet with executives in the *Family Guy* offices.

There was no way around this. He had to tell his father something.

"I told my Dad I was doing research for beans."

His meeting went well and Sethi was offered a one-year contract to work on the *Family Guy*.

This time, he had to break it to his Dad for real.

"It was tough. He had all these succession plans for the business. My sister wasn't interested."

Without someone to take over the family business, his Dad sold the business.

But Sethi has since given his father plenty of reasons to be proud. Near the end of his year with *Family Guy*, he got his first writing credit on an episode.

"I was asked to co-author the season finale. It was an amazing turn of events," he said.

Following his contract, he entered the cutthroat world of freelance comedy writing where his agent warned him "there are 5,000 writers with the same credentials as you looking for work."

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'."

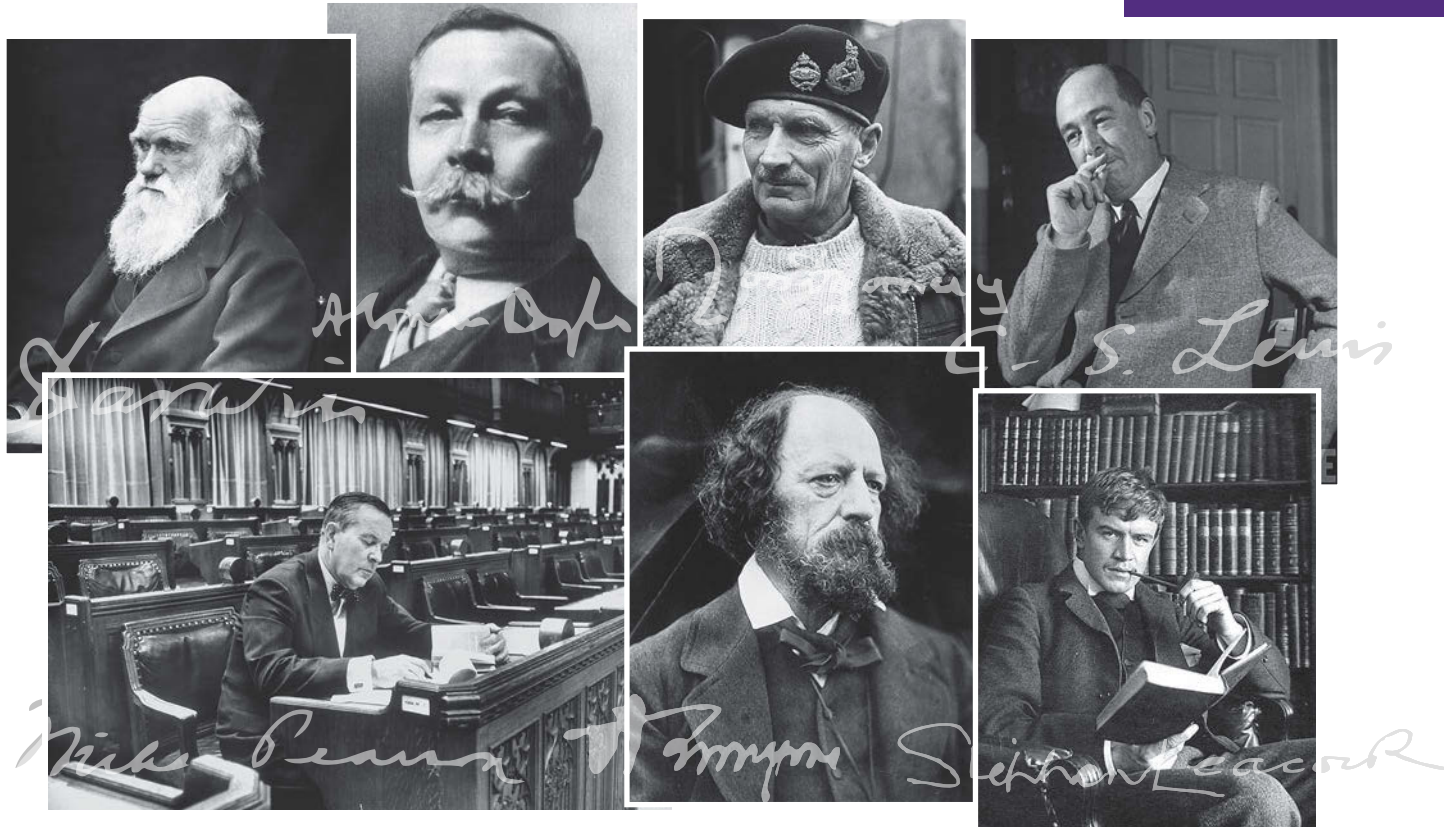
Sethi's advice: "Don't worry about rejection. It got me to where I am."

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. While the national broadcaster hasn't committed to a production, it is a positive.

Since then he signed with Comedy Central and has a contract with Daniel Tosh to write on his animated series *Brickleberry*.

In addition to his script writing gigs, Sethi loves the thrill of a live audience in the world of standup comedy. In November, he had a stint at the L.A. Comedy Factory on top of Planet Hollywood on the 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."



JUST SIGN HERE

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

Clockwise from top left: Charles Darwin, Arthur Conan Doyle, Bernard Law Montgomery, C.S. Lewis, Stephen Leacock, Alfred Lord Tennyson and Lester B. Pearson.

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 of the 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...” if 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.

How will you impact future generations?



“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, BEd'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

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.

Consider making an endowed gift to Western through your will. Your commitment will help the next generation achieve their full potential.

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Western University, Alumni Relations & Development, Gift Planning
Westminster Hall, Suite 160, London, ON N6A 3K7



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

He 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.

INTERMENT CAMP

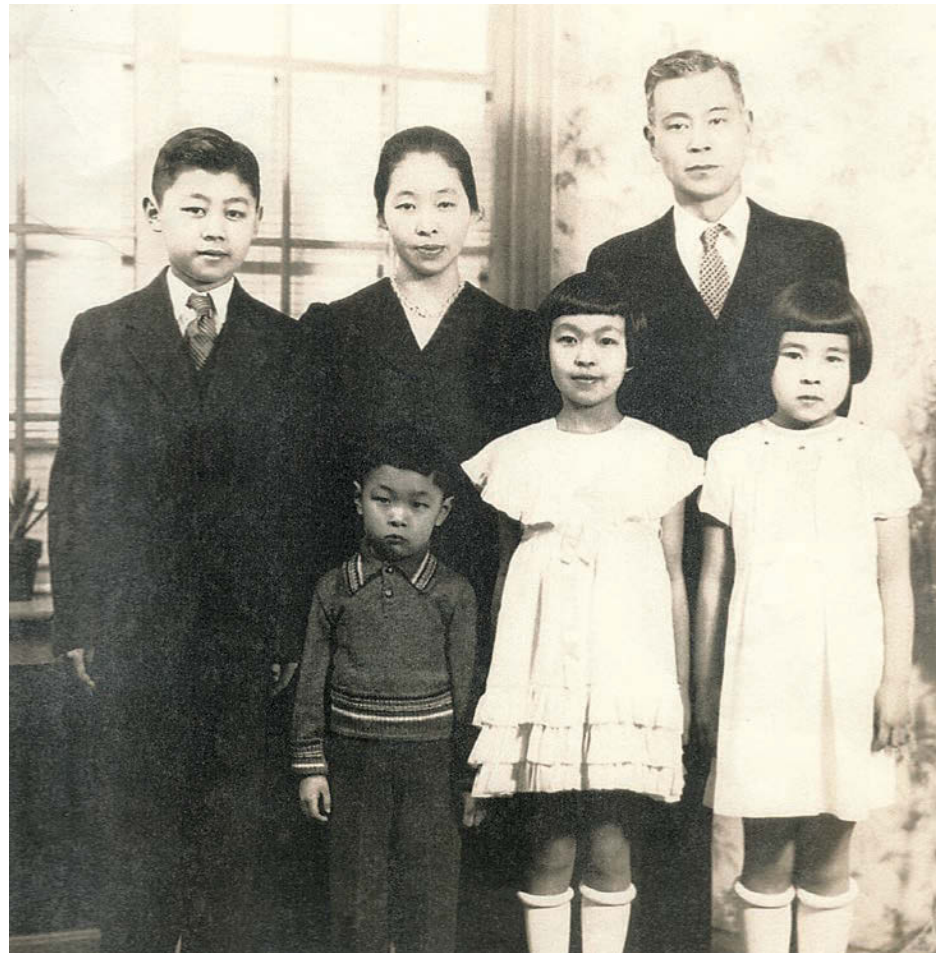
The attack on Pearl Harbor changed the lives of Japanese Canadians. In a tragic chapter in the country's history, all Canadians of Japanese descent on the west coast were interned in prison camps in B.C., in 1942, following the Pearl Harbor attack in December 1941.

His father arranged to have a family photo taken before they were sent away. They all dressed up for a formal picture.

"My Dad was a very handsome man. As was my mother, very distinguishing."

Masashi's parents were forced to sell the small family store, valued by an appraiser at \$100,000, for a mere \$1,000. Two months later, the family registered at Hastings Park Clearing Station—where the Japanese were herded, processed and later transferred to prisoner-of-war camps, called relocation camps. In Hastings Park, they lived in livestock barns and slept in bunk beds with straw mattresses.

The family was split up—Kawasaki lived



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

in one barn, his father in another, his mother, two younger sisters and 6-year-old brother in still another. With other Japanese men, his father was transported to Slocan City, British Columbia, to quickly build shelters for the internees—their own families. Fortunately, three months later, the family reunited in Slocan City. Some families remained separated during the internment years.

He and his family spent four years in the camp.

"You could move around in our camp.

There was no barbed wire, no barriers. Because the mountains were running north and south and we were in the valley. And on one of the sides of the mountains, you have coyotes—you can hear them on a clear moonlit night. One would howl, then they would all start—a whole mountain of howling. The other side was cougars, bears," he said.

At the time, the teen wasn't sure what was going to happen. "In one sense, you're an adventurous guy, so you don't mind it. In another sense, this is a very insecure



Dr. Helen Battle, BA'23, MA'24, LLD'71 (PhD'28, U of T), 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.

situation. You ask yourself 'Did we do anything wrong, that we're put in this situation?' We use the word: shikata ga nai—it can't be helped. That's a word used over and over again."

Back at Western for Homecoming 2012, Kawasaki recalled his years in the camp without bitterness. The temporary housing they lived in had no insulation, only tarpaper. The lumber used for construction was wet. It split when it dried, which made for cold nights when winter started. He remembers waking up some mornings with snow on his blanket.

"Food was not plentiful. My parents leaned on their gardening skills to plant vegetables. I remember one evening we feasted on cooked sparrows—cleverly, mother threw one of the army blankets over a gathering of sparrows and smothered them. Under my mother's tutelage, we gathered mushrooms from the wooded areas. Dandelion inner leaves served as our salads."

The interned Japanese set up a school to educate the elementary age children. Fortunately, in 1943, the Roman Catholic Order of the Sisters of Assumption responded to the call from the Bishop of Nelson, B.C., to establish a high school.

"I would have lost my high school years. It was an entrance into realizing what the future is going to be if you don't get educated."

"I will remember the imposed humiliation of incarceration during those years of my life. However, I have forgiven the acts by those in power and bear no hatred."



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.

LIFE IN WINDSOR AND UNIVERSITY IN LONDON

Following internment, Japanese Canadians could not return to Vancouver. They were spread across the country. The Kawasaki family ended up in Windsor, Ont. The children were the first Japanese students in the public school system in the border city.

Kawasaki admits his English was not strong when he first attended high school in Windsor.

"I met the challenge with the first math exam. I got the same mark as their top math student. From then on, things changed. We got along better, the teacher and I and everything started to improve. I worked hard."

Although money was tight, his parents saved and sent him to Western for his undergrad degree. He worked in his summers to help pay the tuition each year. In third year, he started wondering if he should go into medicine.

"There was one lady involved in all of this, who made the decision for me. It was Dr. Helen Battle. She was a marine biologist."

DR. BATTLE'S INFLUENCE

She called Kawasaki into her office for a 2 p.m. meeting. "I saw all these degrees and honours she had. It was a huge room. She had a beautiful desk. Very impressive for a young boy with no money, nothing."

She says "What day is this today?" He answered "It's Wednesday, April 29." "What else?"



Internment camp in Slocan City, B.C., in winter 1942. The first winter was so bad that the snow and ice came right through the cracks of some shacks. Many woke up to a frozen pot of water on the potbelly stove. (Photo from Library and Archives Canada)

"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'24, 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."

She replied "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."

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 their undergrad degrees and were pursuing PhDs at Western: Fred Sunahara, BSc'48, PhD'52; the late Samuel Yamada, BSc'49, PhD'55; and Kaney Ebisuzaki, 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



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.

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- 4) **THEY KNEW MARILYN MONROE – FAMOUS PERSONS IN THE LIFE OF THE HOLLYWOOD ICON** - by Les Harding, MLS'77
- 5) **THE OCTAGON TECHNIQUE – AND OTHER LIFE LESSONS FROM COLLEGE** - by Michael Rubin, BMSc'05 (MD)
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VOICE OF ALUMNI
WITH ROBERT COLLINS, BA'77

MANY WAYS TO ENGAGE

We know you want to be a part of this. So let me tell you how to get started. When I speak with alumni like yourself, it quickly becomes clear you crave a range of opportunities to get involved with your alma

mater again – be it in your own community with fellow alumni or back on the main campus. You want that Western student 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

HOW WOULD YOU SUGGEST PEOPLE ACKNOWLEDGE THEIR PURPLE AND PROUD TRADITIONS IN THEIR COMMUNITIES AND OFFICES AROUND THE WORLD?

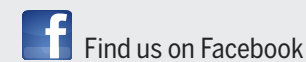
this challenge and is currently reviewing our strategic mandate, renewing our constitution, refreshing our alumni legacy on campus and recruiting talented alumni volunteers, to ensure that it can enhance its contribution to Western's ongoing excellence.

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.

ALUMNI EVENTS



ALUMNI EVENTS

Connect with old friends and make new ones at Alumni Western events happening in locations around the world. Our full events listing can be found at: alumni.uwo.ca/connect/events

FEATURED EVENTS

FEB. 7 – Hope for the HIV/AIDS Epidemic with Dr. Chil-Yong Kang, F.R.S.C. – Toronto, Ont.

FEB. 12 – UWOpera – Cosi Fan Tutte – Sarnia, Ont.

MARCH 28 - The Power of LinkedIn - Waterloo, Ont.

MAY 13 – China, Past, Present & Future with Professor Ken Bowlby – Vancouver, BC

MARCH 7 - Celebrate Founder's Day around the world

- Hong Kong
- London, UK (Mar. 5)
- London, Ont.
- New York
- Ottawa
- Vancouver
- Toronto and more



From left, Julie He, MPA'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.

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



Fall
Danube, Greece,
China, Italy, France



Summer
Spain, England Lakes,
Russia, Black Sea



2014
Galapagos, Panama
Canal, Celtic Lands

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



ALUMNI NOTES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS



Thomas Plant (1940s) and Dean Michael Milde

1940s

Faculty of Arts & Humanities Dean Michael Milde recently presented alumnus **Thomas Plant, BA'42**, with a certificate from Amit Chakma, a pin and gifts from Homecoming to mark his 70th anniversary of graduation from Western. Milde and Jo Jennings, communications officer, heard fantastic stories of the faculty in the '40s, Plant's D-Day history, and got to see his original transcript. He regaled them with stories of all of his old professors, most of whom he remembered by name; he also had to justify his grades to his wife and granddaughter. Read the full account online at alumnigazette.ca.

1950s

James Fleck, HBA'53, has been appointed as vice-chair to the board of Canadian Museum of Civilization Co.

Brgn. W. Donald McNamara, BA'54, is the current Chair of the Board of Governors for Royal Military College of Canada. He is a retired (1988) Brigadier General with the Canadian Air Force. In 2009, McNamara retired from the Queen's School of Business as an associate professor. In November 2011, he completed 15 years as Honorary Colonel, Canadian Forces College, Toronto. The same month he received the 4th clasp to Canadian Forces Decoration (52 years of uniformed service). In June 2011, he received the Canadian Forces Distinguished Service Award from Chief of Defence Staff, and in June 2012 was awarded the Queen's Diamond Jubilee Medal.

Don Getty, HBA'55, was inducted into the London Sports Hall of Fame on Nov. 8. Getty served as quarterback for the Mustangs while attending Western and led the team to two consecutive Yates Cup victories in 1952 and 1953 before leading the team 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 of Ont. three consecutive years from 1952-54. Getty's football career continued to a professional level playing for the Edmonton Eskimos for 10 years, winning two Grey Cup Championships. He was also named Outstanding Canadian in the Western Conference in 1959, and was runner-up for the Schenley Award for Outstanding Player in the CFL.

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

1960s

William Thomas, BA'63, MSc'67, MDiv'80, was awarded the Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal, in Ottawa on June 3, acknowledging his contributions over the last three



Winn Walters (1950s)

decades to Naval Veterans in Canada, the Canadian Naval Memorial Trust, the Friends of HMCS Haida, and for bringing credit to Canada in his pioneering work with the International Association of Conference Center Administrators, and the Interim Ministry Network.

Garry Douglas Cardiff, BA'66, has been inducted into Brockville Collegiate Institute's Hall of Excellence.

The Canadian Ophthalmological Society (COS) has named **Dr. W. Bruce Jackson, MD'67**, as the recipient of the 2012 Lifetime Achievement Award. Jackson was presented with his award on June 27 during the COS's 75th annual meeting held in Toronto. After 17 years at McGill University, Jackson arrived in Ottawa to help establish the University of Ottawa Eye Institute in 1991. He served as director general until 2008 and is now director of the Refractive Surgery Laser Program. In 1992, he pioneered the excimer laser program at the Eye Institute, the first university training program of its kind in Canada.

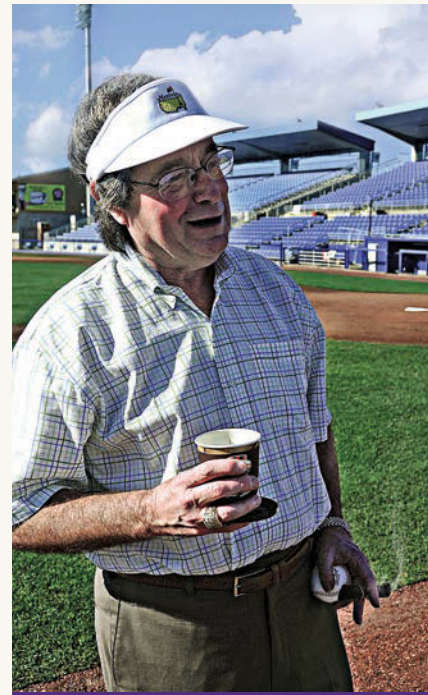
Paul Beeston, BA'67 (Huron), will remain president and CEO of the Toronto Blue Jays. The 67-year-old from Welland, Ont., agreed to a three-year deal in October 2009 after spending the previous 12 months in the role on an interim basis while searching for Paul Godfrey's successor. Initially reluctant to take the position on permanently, Beeston said he's "committed to seeing this thing through," although he refused to put any sort of time frame on that.

William Campbell, MBA'67, has recently been appointed as senior operating advisor of New Silk Route's leadership team based in New York. New Silk Route is a leading Asia-focused private equity and growth capital firm.

Alan Thicke, BA'67 (English) recently starred in a new Canadian musical called *Queen for a Day*, performed at the Richmond Hill Centre for the Performing Arts.

Robert A. Brine, BA'67, has been awarded Fanshawe College's annual president's distinguished full-time teacher award.

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



Paul Beeston (1960s)

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 International Actuarial Association. In addition to 29 years at Waterloo, he has taught at Western, the University of Texas at Austin and the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor. He is now (mostly) retired and living in Comox, B.C. and Elora, Ont.

Frank McCrea, BSc'69 (Computer Science), received a Queen's Diamond Jubilee Medal on Oct 16. He is president of Procom – Professional Computer Consultants Group.

Walter Iwaniw, BA'69, MA'71, asks if any Western rugby players are still alive from 1967-70 teams, or the 1968-71 hockey team.

1970s

Dr. James McMillan Franklin, PhD'70 (Geology), has been appointed to the technical advisory board for Falco Pacific Resource Group Inc., in Quebec.

Seventy-two year old **Don McLeish, BA'70 (Huron)** of Mississauga again teamed up with Peterborough's Mike Moloney to win the men's T-7 2x doubles category at the Canadian Sculling Marathon 10.5 km distance on the Ottawa River. McLeish and Moloney posted a time of 55 minutes 14 seconds to beat their perennial competition by 4 min 28 seconds from Niagara Rowing School. Rowers from Ottawa New Edinburgh Club, Burnstown RC, Island Rowers, Beachburg RC, and Ottawa RC rowed in excellent conditions in 1x, 2x and 4x categories. McLeish tore his hamstring the day before the race in 2011, and spent six months in physio/rehab and PRP injections, but finally training at the London High Performance Centre and was able to compete in 2012.

Ken Martin, BA'71, president and CEO of Pacific Blue Cross, director of Ovarian Cancer Canada and the Canadian Life and Health Insurance Association, has been elected chair of the Vancouver Board of Trade.

Karen J. (Stoskopf) Harding, BA'74 (MA'77, Art History, U of T), received Richmond Hill's 2012 Volunteer Achievement Award in the Arts, held at the Richmond Hill Centre for the Performing Arts. Her volunteer appointments include 18 years on the Richmond Hill Public Library Art Committee, the Board of Directors of Arts Richmond Hill and member and archivist of the Sculptors' Society of Canada (1984 to present). Harding also founded and chaired the annual Richmond Hill Youth Visual Art Festival in 2007.



Dennis Fairall (1970s)

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), BED'78, has recently been inducted into the Windsor/Essex County Sports Hall of Fame for his work with the Windsor Lancers.

Dr. William Colby, BSc'77, MSc'80 (Microbiology/Immunology), has been appointed as Chatham-Kent's permanent medical officer of health.

Paul Haggis, BA'77 (History), is a new chairman of CP Railway Ltd., Vancouver.

Richard Senechal, HBA'77, has been appointed as CEO and president for DUCA Financial Services Credit Union Ltd. in North York.

Brenda Fisher Dickie, BA'77 (BEd), married 32 years to John Dickie, a lawyer. They have two daughters, the first an event manager, the second a Visual Arts educator, now on their own. Dickie is still teaching, but supplying now and enjoying traveling.

David Cornhill, BSc'77, MBA'80, has been ranked 10th out of 100 by *Financial Post* as a 2011 Top CEO. He is chairman & CEO of Alta Gas Ltd. in Calgary.

Anthony Brown, HBA'78, has joined Brookfield Financial as a managing partner in Hong Kong.

Dr. Patrick Ferris, BSc'78 (Biochemistry), a University of Arizona research associate in the department of Ecology/Evolutionary Biology, has recently had a newly discovered species of algae named after him.

Arthur Reimer, BEd'78, has just retired from 23 years of teaching with the District School Board of Niagara. Also, during a teacher financed leave last year, spent three wonderful weeks driving around southern Europe. Arthur and **Deborah L. Reimer, BSW'77 (King's)**, are now proud grandparents of three beautiful grandchildren.

Allan Oberman, BA'79, has been appointed president and CEO of Teva Americas Generics. He is president & CEO of Teva Americas Generics in North Wales.

Maureen P. Brosnahan, MA'79, has received an award from the United Food and Commercial Workers Union and the Agriculture Workers Alliance for her outstanding contributions to improving the lives of agriculture workers in Canada.

1980s

Thomas D. Willock, MBA'80, has recently been appointed to the Board of Directors for Orestone Mining Corp. in Toronto.

Joseph Tomenson, BA'80 (Economics), has been appointed a financial advisor to the Raymond James Ltd – the Canadian branch of Raymond James Financial Inc – NA investment dealer. He is FA to TT Wealth Management Group

On Aug. 26, **Jocelyne Zucco, BA'81 (French)** won a Canadian Comedy Award: "Best Performance by a Female - Film" for her portrayal of Nicole in the 2011 feature film *Funkytown*. *Funkytown* is a Canadian drama directed by Daniel Roby and written by Steve Galluccio. Set in Montreal during the disco era, the film revolves around the Starlight, a fictionalized version of Montreal's famed Lime Light discothèque. The film won a Genie Award for Best Achievement in Costume Design.

Paul Sommerville, LLB'81, has been appointed VP, Regulatory Affairs and General Counsel for Toronto Hydro-Electric Systems Ltd.

Carman Overholt BA'81, (LLB'84, Queen's), has resigned from the partnership of FMC Law to establish Overholt Law in the heart of downtown Vancouver where he has practiced since his call to the Bar in 1986. Overholt can be reached at carman@overholtdlawyers.com

James N. Fairbairn, BA'81, has been added to the board of directors of Eurocontrol Technics Group Inc. in Toronto. He is CFO of Band-Ore Resources Ltd. in Burlington.

Leslie McIntosh, BA'81, LLB'84, after 20 years in New Zealand, is leaving her current role of Chief Legal Counsel Civil Aviation Authority of New Zealand to take up Senior Counsel Corporate Services role with IATA in Geneva, Switzerland.

John W. Vandertuin, BMus'82, MMus'88, an organist for several churches in Brantford, performed at Western in October. On Oct. 27, he was added to the university's Wall of Fame at the Don Wright Faculty of Music.

In July 2012, **Dr. Bruce E. Broster, PhD'82 (Geology) P.Geo.**, of Fredericton, N.B. was the recipient of the 2012 Canadian Professional Geoscientist Award from Geoscientists Canada. He has been involved at every level of his profession from



Jocelyne Zucco (1980s)

research and teaching, to independent geological consulting and government relations. His academic career brought him to positions at the University of British Columbia, the University of Windsor, and finally to the University of New Brunswick (UNB) where he served as Chair of the Department of Earth Sciences.

Rower **Lesley Thompson-Willie, BA'82, BEd'83**, won a silver medal at the 2012 Summer Olympic Games in London. Coxswain Thompson-Willie pushed the women's eight to a silver medal win on Aug. 2. She has won five Olympic medals (gold in Barcelona, bronze in Sydney, silvers in London, Atlanta and, as part of the coxed four, in Los Angeles), more than a dozen world championship or World Cup medals, and was named one of the sport's Top 10 women by the International Federation of Rowing Associations in 2011. This was the seventh time the 52-year-old rowing legend has competed in the Olympics.

Patrick Joseph Nangle, HBA'82, is Purolator Inc.'s new president and CEO effective Jan. 3. Nangle joins Purolator from PNI Digital Media Inc. Prior to joining PNI, he served as president of Digital Dispatch Systems Inc. Throughout his more than 15 years in senior leadership roles, he has held pivotal senior positions in a number of prominent global firms, including Neopost and the Ascom. He earned his MBA from the Sauder School of Business in 1986.



Dr. Michael W. Neumeister
(1980s)

In August, the Ontario Teachers' Federation Board of Governors elected Thunder Bay teacher **Terry Hamilton, BEd'82** (Math/Physics), as the 69th president of the Ontario Teachers' Federation at its annual meeting in Niagara Falls. Hamilton has been a math and science teacher with the Lakehead Board of Education since the early 1980s. Hamilton has also been very active in his Affiliate—the Ontario Secondary School Teachers' Federation (OSSTF)—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 Fitzhenry, BA'83** (EngLang/Lit), was elected by the Board of Directors as senior vice president of global communications, effective Oct. 8.

Peter Manojlovic, BSc'83 (Geology), has been hired as the vice-president of exploration at Nevsun Resources Ltd. in Vancouver.

Joyce Musial, BSc'83 (Geology), has been promoted to vice president, corporate development at Batero Gold in Vancouver.

Jim Mignaul, BA'83, is an executive financial consultant for Investors Group Financial Services Inc. and recipient of the Herbert H. Carnegie Community Service Award for 2012. Among his many charitable endeavors, he has been a tireless advocate for diabetes treatment, research and education. He has volunteered for several community organizations in London, Ont.

David I. Climie, MA'84 (Journalism), has been appointed the new vice president of communications at Hill + Knowlton Strategies, a public relations and public affairs firm in Vancouver.

James Brett, MLIS'84, has been named among Ontario's most outstanding university librarians by the Ontario Confederation of University Faculty Association.

Nazir Valani, BSc'84 (Mathematics), has been appointed a partner to KPMG in Toronto.

Dr. Michael W. Neumeister, BSc'84 (Physio/Pharm), has been promoted to chairman of the Department of Surgery at Southern Illinois University School of Medicine. He has been chief of the Division of Plastic Surgery since 2002.

The Municipal Government of Shanghai has presented **Andrew Au, HBA'84**, CEO of Citi China, with a Magnolia Award in recognition of his contributions to the city, at the award conferment ceremony held at Shanghai's Xijiao State Guest Hotel in September. Named after Shanghai's official flower, the Magnolia Award honors foreigners living in the city who contribute significantly to Shanghai's economic performance, international relations, business environment, management standards and community development.

George A. Cope, HBA'84, has been ranked 17th out of 100 by *Financial Post* as a 2011 Top CEO. He is president and CEO of Bell Canada and BCE Inc. in Toronto.

Marvin Haasen, BA'85 (Geo/UrbDev), has been appointed the new president and CEO of Madison Pacific Properties Inc. in Vancouver. He is also joining the board of directors.

Julis Pataky, MBA'85, has been appointed a partner to KPMG in Vancouver.

Thomas Apostolos, BESC'85 (Electrical), has been appointed president of Ricardo Inc., a global, world-class, multi-industry consultancy for engineering, technology, project innovation and strategy.

Christopher John Halyk, HBA'85, has been appointed as chair of the Board of Directors of Research-Based Pharmaceutical Companies (Rx&D). He is the president of Janssen-Ortho Inc.

Dr. Katherine Pisters, MD'85, was honored at Joan's Legacy: Uniting Against Lung Cancer's "Strolling Supper with Blues and News," gala in New York City on Nov. 14. Pisters, professor of thoracic/head and neck medical oncology at the M.D. Anderson Cancer Center, is a leading clinician at

the forefront of patient care. She has been a member of the Uniting Against Lung Cancer's medical board since 2003. She is being honored for her contribution to advancement in the field of lung cancer and for guiding the foundation's scientific program.

Scott Thomson, HBA'86, has recently been appointed CEO of Manitoba Hydro. His former position was EVP Finance, Regulatory and Energy Supply, CFO at Fortis BC.

Dr. Connie Deline, MD'86, has recently opened Sante Integrative Medicine in Lower Paxton Twp., Penn.

Michael Meneguzzi, BA'86, has been appointed as president of High Rise Division of Empire Communities - a residential builder and developer in Vaughn.

Paul L. Rooney, BSc'86, has been appointed chief operating officer and senior executive vice-president of Manulife Financial Corp. in Toronto.

Enrique Mendoza, MA'86, PhD'89 (Economics), has been appointed as Presidential Term Professor of Economics in the School of Arts and Sciences at the University of Pennsylvania effective Jan 1.

Rory Ring, BA'87 (PoliSci), became the new president and CEO of the Sarnia-Lambton Chamber of Commerce in mid-December.

Troy Wright, BA'87, was appointed an executive VP and president and CEO of Group Financiero Scotiabank Mexico effective October.



Alana McClure (1990s) Wedding photo by John Reid Photography

Michael Nolan, BA'87 (Economics), has recently been appointed as VP, chief financial officer and treasurer of AMRI (Albany Molecular Research Inc.).

George McEwan, BEd'87, has recently become the principal of Central Huron Secondary School in Clinton, Ont.

Peter Shearing, BESC'87, of Vancouver has been appointed to the board of directors of Rare Earth Metals Inc. Shearing is the current VP of business development at CEC Rare Earth, which has been retained as an adviser to Rare Earth Metals Inc.

After seven years as a National Coach with the Canadian Curling Association, **Scott Arnold, BA'87**, has accepted a position with the World Curling Federation as a Competitions and Development Officer.

Armour Shield, a company owned by **Assaad El Dik, BSc'88**, won the 2012 Integrity Award from the Better Business Bureau of Western Ontario.

Paul W. McDonald, MA'88, has been appointed as the first head of Massey University's new College of Health in New Zealand.

Jon A. Hantho, MBA'89, is the 2012 recipient of the Services category at the Ernst & Young Entrepreneur of the Year Awards in Ontario.

Ian Cullwick, MBA'89, has been appointed VP, Leadership & HR Research to the Conference Board of Canada in Ottawa.

Roz Elliott, BA'89 (King's, Eng/Hist), **MA'91** (Journalism), has been promoted VP, public affairs of Denver energy company DCP Midstream in January 2012.

Paul Ziemer, BSc'89 (Biology), **Dip'91** (PhysEd), has been appointed as director of EKO International Corp.

1990s

Karim Karsan, BA'90 (Political Science), 44, received a Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal for his community service. Managing Director, Compliance and Consumer Protection at the Ontario Energy Board, Karsan was born in Kenya and emigrated to Canada with his family in 1973, settling in Belleville. As a gay man who is acutely aware of the hardships that HIV/AIDS have placed on people in Canada and other countries, he joined the ACT board of directors in 2004. During 2009 and 2010, he chaired the board. In 2011, Karsan joined Casey House as the vice chair of its \$10 million Redevelopment Campaign Cabinet, which is allowing the organization to address the changing need of HIV/AIDS care with a new Day Health Program in a state-of-the-art facility to be opened in 2016.

Howard Grosfield, BA'90 (Philosophy), **LLB'94**, has been appointed president and CEO of American Express Canada, in Markham.

Rev. Don M. Aitchison, BSc'91, MDiv'94, of Port Hope, was awarded a Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal on Oct. 25.

David Holler, BMus'91, has been appointed the new artistic director overseeing the Fanshawe Chorus London, The Gerald Fagan Singers and the London Concert Orchestra.

David Graham, HBA'92, has been appointed a Judge of the Tax Court of Canada.

Judy Bornais, BA'92 (PoliSci), **Dip'93** (Brescia, PoliSci), **BScN'98** (King's), **MSc'99** (Physiology), Psychology, professor in the Faculty of Nursing, University of Windsor, is a recipient of the 2011-12 Teaching Awards presented by Ontario Confederation of University Faculty Associations (OCUFA).

Mark Morabito, JD'93, of North Vancouver, is set to join the Savary board of directors as a director after the closing of the acquisition of Burkina Gold Corp. by Savary Capital Corp.

Michael Back, BA'93 (Economics), has been nominated for Ernst & Young Entrepreneur of the Year in the Business-to-Business Products & Services category. He is President and CEO of Collective Point of Sale Solutions Ltd. of Toronto.

Jordan Shapiro, BA'94 (Philosophy), has been appointed a director of Metropolitan Energy Corp. in Vancouver.

Thecla Ellen Sweeney, BA'94, MBA'99, has been promoted to Partner at Birch Hill Equity Partners at Toronto.

Christopher Gratias, HBA'94, has been appointed as Co-Head of global mining investment in CIBC, in Toronto.

Corey A. Dias, BA'94, MBA'00, has been appointed to the Board of Directors of Equinox Exploration Corp. He is a Research Analyst, Agriculture and Special Situations at MGI Securities in Toronto.

Lucy Emery, BA'95 (Eng/Soc), has been nominated a Partner with PwC Canada in Montreal.

Lawrence M. Chu, BA'95 (Admin/CF/Econ), has joined Goodwin Procter's Business Law Department, Silicon Valley Office, as a member of Goodwin's Technology Companies, M&A/Corporate Governance and Private Equity Practices.

Peter Marshall and Alana McClure, BA'95, married April 16 in Punta Cana, Dominican Republic.

Toronto Life (Dec 2012 issue) highlighted **Nicole Winstanley, BA'96** (Eng Lang/Lit), in its article on Toronto's most influential people. The Penguin publisher was named as one of Toronto's Next Moguls, with expert networking and fast growing clout.



Nicole Winstanley (1990s)

Shelley Niro, MFA'97, is the first laureate of the new Ontario Arts Council Aboriginal Arts Award. She received the award on Aug. 2012 at the Woodland Cultural Centre in Brantford during the Planet IndigenUS activities. Her work is recognized internationally.

Jayne Paquin, BA'97 (English Lang/Lit, King's), has been selected as the 2012 winner of the Alan Marentette Manager of the year award. She is the HR manager for Pen Financial Credit Union in Welland, Ont.

Steven B. Kroeker, MBA'97, is the new vice-president and chief financial officer of Keyera Corp. in Calgary. He was formerly the company's Vice-President of corporate development.

Mitchell W. Pady, BMus'97, is the new artistic director of The Cellar Singers, a 60-member choir in Orillia, Ont.

Rajeev Aggarwal, BSc'97, MBA'03, is a CEO and co-founder of Localytics, in Cambridge, Mass. Localytics provides app analytics and app marketing for the mobile market, similar to companies such as Flurry and Adobe.

Joseph Odhiambo, MA'98 (Political Science), of Ottawa, returned safely from Bamako, Mali, following the March 2012 military coup that destabilized the country and resulted in a sustained political, economic and humanitarian crisis. Odhiambo is grateful that he was able return to Canada through Burkina Faso after numerous unsuccessful attempts to leave the country. He was in Mali as the Canadian representative to a global initiative for clean energy and fuel sources which was launched in February 2012.

Stephen Eddy, BA'98 (Economics), has been appointed as VP, sales and marketing for Niobec Inc.-subsidiary for IAMGOLD-gold mining company. In this newly created role, he will be responsible for sales and marketing in the North American and Asian markets.

Arthur Zuidema, MPA'98, MBA'05, has been appointed as city manager for the City of London.

Erin Pond, HBA'99, has recently become the owner of Jackman's The Flower People in North Bay. She purchased the business from her parents.

The Second Cup Ltd. announced October 9 that **Stephen Kelley, BSc'99** (Mathematics) has been appointed to the Company's Board of Directors. He was the Chief Executive Officer of Stocom Research Trading & Investments Ltd.



Melissa Sawatsky (2000s)

2000s

Paul Asmundson, MBA'01, has joined People Corp. as vice-president of corporate development in Winnipeg.

Michael Joudrie, MBA'02, has recently been appointed as VP, Business Development at Teck Resources Ltd., Vancouver.

Dr. Mohammad-Haneef Mian, PhD'04 (EngSci), has been appointed to the Board of Directors of Seair Inc.

Dr. Scott Jobin-Bevans, PhD'05, has been appointed a member of the Board of Directors for Northern Shield. He is a national correspondent for the CBC in Toronto.

Scott Blandford, MPA'05, has accepted the position of dean at the Fire & Public Safety Centre of Excellence at Lambton College, Sarnia.

Eugene Profis, HBA'05, MBA'08, has been appointed VP of Burgundy Asset Management Ltd., Toronto.

Melissa Sawatsky, BA'06, has been teaching in St. Walburg, Saskatchewan since 2009. On Aug. 13, 2011, she was married to Bryon Gabrielli. In February 2012, they went on their dream honeymoon to Oahu, Hawaii.



Joshua Vander Vies (2000s)

Troy Krywulak, BA'06, MA'07 (History), and **Marissa Nash, BA'07** (French), (BEd'08 OISE/U of T) were recently married in Stoney Creek, Ont. The two met in second year (September 2003) in a class in NatSci 145 and have been together ever since.

CTV Toronto announced in September 2012 that **Michelle Dubé, MIT'07**, will be Co-Anchor with Ken Shaw of Toronto's No. 1 newscasts: *CTV NEWS AT SIX* and *CTV NEWS AT NOON*. Already well known to CTV NEWS viewers as a reporter and a fill-in anchor, Dubé continues to file reports while co-helming newscasts.

After about three years as a proprietary equities trader in Toronto, **Brennan Basnicki, BA'08**, decided to return to school for two reasons: to further his education and career, and launch a passion project he long had in the back of his mind. The project, My Social Passport (mysocialpassport.com), is a social network for meeting people when traveling, moving, vacationing, and more.



Natalie Baalbaki (2000s)

Natalie Baalbaki, BSc'08, got married June 15 in Beirut, Lebanon, to **Nabil Jaroudi**.

Joshua Vander Vies, BA'09 (French/ PoliSci), together with **Marco Disalptró** won a bronze medal in Boccia in the 2012 London Paralympics Games. He is a law student at the University of British Columbia.

2010s

Sardar Hyder Khan, BA'10, is currently working with CIBC as a Personal Banker.

Kelley Coulter, MPA'11, has been appointed as Bruce County's new chief administrative officer.

Dr. Mark Ferro, PhD'11 (Epidem/ Biostat), has been selected as a 2012 Banting Postdoctoral Fellow. He is currently a postdoctoral fellow at the Offord Centre for Child Studies at McMaster University.

Hodgson Russ announces **Rajeev Thakur, LLB'11** (King's) has joined the law firm as an associate in the Corporate & Securities, Canada/U.S. Cross-Border, and International Cross-Border Practice Groups. He is resident in the firm's Buffalo office, and will spend a significant amount of time in Toronto.

Alessia Collarile, BMus'12, has been accepted by the prestigious Berklee School of Music in Boston to pursue her master's.

Mark-Antony Del Brocco, BMus'12 (HonsPerformPiano), directed the music for *Wonka the Musical*, which came to London in October.

Western graduate **Erica Masur, BScN'12**, was awarded the 2012 Tim Hickman Memorial Health & Safety Scholarship from the City of London.

IN MEMORIAM

Ruth Fordyce, BA'31, on Sept. 30, 2012, in Ottawa, Ont.

Beverly Shrives, BA'39, on Oct. 3, 2012, in Oakville, Ont.

Winifred Robinson, BA'44, on June 10, 2012, in Owen Sound, Ont.

Jean E. Linton, BScN'44, on Sept. 12, 2012, in Essex, Ont.

Dr. Garnet H. Smith, MD'45, on March 17, 2012, in St. Catharines, Ont.

George Beverly (Bev) Pearson, Dipl'46, on Nov. 5, 2012, in Ottawa, Ont.

Lois Goeden, BA'48, on Nov. 4, 2012, in Oakville, Ont.

George Eaton Bousfield, BA'49, on Sept. 10, 2012, in Ottawa, Ont.

Robert Cake, BSc'49, on June 30, 2012, in Salt Spring Is., B.C.

Donald Lawless, BA'49, on May 9, 2012, in Hamilton, Ont.

Leslie Dickerson, HBA'49, on Oct. 13, 2012, in Oshawa, Ont.

Dr. Stanley M. Jay Richardson, BA'50, MD'53, on Nov. 7, 2012, in Collingwood, Ont.

Phyllis M. Anderson, BA'51, on Sept. 5, 2012, in London, Ont.

Armand Anthony 'Tony' Belluz, HBA'51, on June 30, 2012, in Thunder Bay, Ont.

Philip Anthony Molloy, BA'52, on Oct. 17, 2012, in Victoria, B.C.

David Frederick Reeve, HBA'53, on June 6, 2012, in Cambridge, Ont.

Dr. John B. Stothers, BSc'53, MSc'54, on Oct. 20, 2012, in London, Ont.

Rev. Walter Rennie Cowan, BA'54, on May 4, 2012, in Winnipeg, Man.

John K. Johnston, HBA'57, on Nov. 14, 2012, in Newmarket, Ont.

Robert Fenner, BA'57, on Sept. 26 in Cobourg, Ont.

William (Bill) Watson Hood, HBA'59, on July 21, 2012 in Georgian Bay, Ont.

Peter O. Richardson, HBA'59, on Dec. 19, 2011, in Hamilton, Ont.

Alan Dennis Fitzpatrick Dunn, BA'59, on Nov. 4, 2012, in St. Catharines, Ont.

Lionel Kennedy Conacher, HBA'60, on Nov. 8, 2012, in Toronto, Ont.

Edward Gordon Joseph Kennedy, BA'61 (King's) on July 22, 2012, in St. Mary's, Ont.

Uldis J. Uiska, HBA'61, on Nov. 8, 2012, in Nanton, Alta.

Richard W. Welsh, BA'63, on Nov. 4, 2012, in Victoria, B.C.

John MacDonald Roberts, BA'64, on Sept. 17, 2012, in Nanaimo, B.C.

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

Dr. Robert R. Campbell, BA'67, on Dec. 23, 2011, in St. Albert, Ont.

Robert G. Woods, HBA'67, on Nov. 12, 2012, in London, Ont.

Laszlo Gyorok, BA'69, on Nov. 18, 2012, in London, Ont.

M. Jane (Stuart) Klaray, BA'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, CertA'71, Dipl'71, on Sept. 9, 2012, in Richmond Hill, Ont.

Bev G. Curran, BA'71, on April 20, 2012, in London, Ont.

Barbara Ryerse, BA'72, MA'77, PhD'89, on June 26, 2012, in Simcoe, Ont.

Helen J. Barry, MLIS'74, on Sept. 18, 2012, in Saint John, N.B.

Hilda Katan, MLS'75, on Sept. 11, 2012 at Campbellton, N.B.

Frances Armstrong, BA'75, on Oct. 6, in Goderich, Ont.

Solange Silverberg, MLIS'75, on April 20, 2012, in Toronto, Ont.

Mary Van Den Broek, BEd'77, on April 16, 2012, in Mount Forest, Ont.

Patrick B.M. Supeene, BMus'78, Mus'81, on Mar. 20, 2012, in Medicine Hat, Alta.

Kenneth David MacLeod, BA'81, MLIS'83, on Aug. 8, 2012, in Owen Sound, Ont.

Gordon Kilburn, BA'82, on Oct. 18, 2012, in Stratford, Ont.

Gregory A. Kouri, BA'83, on August 11, 2012 in New York City, NY.

Frank Campbell, BA'83, on Nov. 18, 2012, in Mitchell, Ont.

Tanya Davidson, BA'85, on Nov. 10, 2012, in London, Ont.

Bradley Dixon, HBA'86, MBA'91, on Nov. 13, 2011, in London, Ont.

Vera L. Sharp, BA'87, on Nov. 19, 2012, in London, Ont.

Jennifer Mott-Miffiin, BA'87 (Brescia), on April 16, 2012 in Chatham, Ont.

Clara L.E. Hendrick, BA'89, on Nov. 9, 2012, in London, Ont.

Catherine Solly, BA'93, on Sept. 29, 2012, in Woodstock, Ont.

John Macdonald, EMBA'99, on Feb. 9, 2012, in Ballinafad, Ont.

Dr. Ian R. McWhinney, DSc'00, on Sept. 28, 2012, in London, Ont.

Danyal Bhyat, BSc'04, on April 7, 2012, in Toronto, Ont.

Rockwell "Rocky" Campana, HBA'11, on Aug. 26, 2012, in Windsor, Ont.

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, e-mail advser@uwo.ca.

REMEMBERING : MS. ALEXANDRA MILETIC, BA'12

BY THE MILETIC FAMILY

Alexandra Elyse Miletic was born on Sept. 17, 1990 in Windsor, Ont. The world would never be the same. Ally, as she was called, drove her sleep-deprived parents crazy by waking up at night every 45 minutes. The doctor said it was colic. Her parents knew better. They believed the reason Ally didn't want to sleep was that she wanted mental stimulation. She craved experience; to see, touch, smell, hear, taste and most of all to cram 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 and family. She had already found her calling in life.

In grade school she began to jump rope competitively. Finally, her parents thought, "something to curtail that boundless energy."

She and her younger sister Olivia wound up jumping all the way to the Canadian Championships. Ally earned her community service hours



in high school by teaching kids how to skip.

To use the old cliché "her smile lit up the room" wouldn't do her justice. Ally owned the room. She was radiant and could make a friend for life in the blink of an eye.

She really began to bloom when she started at Western. Always outgoing, she had discovered her utopia. Her Western experience was everything she could have dreamed of and more. So many people to talk to and learn from. So many stories of her famous Richmond Row shenanigans to share. She was fiercely proud of her school.

Ally was on the Dean's Honour List. She sat on the

Environmental Committee at Western. She wrote her LSAT exams and was on the waiting list for Western, Queen's and Windsor law schools. As a testament to how easily she could make a lasting impression, many of 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 21, 2012 in Bracebridge, Ont. from an extremely rare brain tumour. She had a colloid cyst, which represents 1 per cent of all brain tumours. In addition to these long odds, three people in a million will actually die from having this kind of cyst. We always said Ally was one in a million. She is survived by her mother, father, sister, grandparents and numerous aunts, uncles and cousins.

Ally's family is starting a charity that will raise funds to build a bereavement retreat to help families that have lost a child. For more information, visit: Alexandras-Haven.tumblr.com.

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 not chosen for publication may be featured online at alumnigazette.ca. Submissions can be sent to wag.editor@uwo.ca or **Remembering**, c/o WAG Editor, Communications & Public Affairs, Western University, Suite 360, Westminster Hall, London, Ontario, Canada, N6A 3K7.

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DEADLINE FOR INCLUSION IN THE SPRING 2013 ISSUE IS MARCH 1.



THE FINAL SAY WITH PAUL WELLS, BA'89

TO TRAIN OR TO EDUCATE?

BY PAUL WELLS, BA'89

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 tomorrow. So, the AUCC is all about telling the feds that universities help create the jobs of tomorrow.

In this, the association is persistent. It actually submitted two, er, submissions last year with an eye toward this year's budget. The first was for the Commons finance committee. The second, for Finance Minister Jim Flaherty, was more insistent. The AUCC understands that in Ottawa, Flaherty will get you everywhere. Little pun there.

"Canada's universities put ideas to work for Canadians," the Flaherty-intended

document begins. "We need to compete on our wits to succeed in the global economy," it continues, and "Canada's universities help deliver the solutions needed to achieve ongoing prosperity for Canada."

Subtle. 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 blink 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." Bam. 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 frank 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 Harness.

In 2011 in this space I made gentle fun of a quotation from Stephen Harper. "Research leads to discoveries and inventions," he had said. "That leads to patents that build Canadian businesses and create Canadian jobs, and that makes a greater prosperity for Canadian families and workers." The only way to make those sentences true is to insert the word "sometimes" before "leads to patents." But the sentences appear in the AUCC pre-budget report just as the prime minister spoke them, which means Canada's universities are eager to repeat back to the big guy a notion of universities' role within which most of what universities

actually do has no place.

If universities are thought to exist for the purpose of training students for research that leads to patents so we can compete to win — if, indeed, Canada's universities are first in line to serve up this vision — then over time, governments will lead the rest of the population by only a step or two in rejecting students who do not care to be trained, research that leads only to understanding, and scholarship for no other purpose than to keep knowledge alive and preserve the university as the bastion of freedom it has been for centuries.

"...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 am content to say 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 seed money to promote international research 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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