President re-appointed to second term

WESTERN’S BOARD OF Governors has re-appointed President and Vice-Chancellor Amit Chakma to a second five-year term, ending on June 30, 2019. The unanimous decision comes a year and a half before the current term’s expiration on June 30, 2014.

“The board has been impressed with Dr. Chakma’s contributions in his first term as president,” said Stephen Coford, board chair. “Under his leadership, Western has continued to attract some of the finest students in Canada, while at the same time increasing the number of international students. The Board of Governors has full confidence in Dr. Chakma and his team will continue to raise the quality, prestige and profile of Western.”

“It is an honour to be asked to serve a second term as Western’s president,” Chakma said. “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.

“I am keenly aware of the great leadership that came before me and on which we continue to build,” Chakma added. “Western is at an important point in our history as we begin an important strategic planning process, and I encourage all members of the campus community to participate in helping shape the future of this great institution.”

On July 1, 2009, Chakma was named Western’s 10th president and vice-chancellor, succeeding Paul Davenport, who served three terms from 1994-2009.

Along with Sherwood Fox (1927-1947) and George Hall (1947-1967), Davenport was the third Western president to serve longer than 10 years.

Chakma arrived at Western after serving the University of Waterloo since 2001 as vice-president, academic and provost, and as a professor in the Department of Chemical Engineering. Prior to that, he served as Engineering dean and then vice-president (research) and international liaison officer at the University of Regina. He began his academic career as a professor of chemical and petroleum engineering at the University of Calgary.

Chakma earned his undergraduate degree from the Algerian Petroleum Institute and masters and PhD from the University of British Columbia. The author of more than 100 articles, he is a leading expert in areas related to petroleum research and energy management.  

- Jason Winders

FILE PHOTO BY PAUL MAYNE
Western’s Board of Governors has re-appointed President and Vice-Chancellor Amit Chakma, pictured in April with University of Toronto President David Naylor, to a second five-year term, ending on June 30, 2019.
**Coming Events**

**NOV. 29 – DEC. 5**

---

**THE WELLNESS SERIES**

Eldercare Essentials: Where Do I Start? Who do I call? What do I do now? These questions can be daunting when you are faced with making decisions about your aging parent(s) care. Exploring options is often easier when you have a place to start. 12:15 p.m. Support Services Building, 4210.

**BIOCHEMISTRY VISITING SPEAKER SEMINAR**

Valerie Booth, Memorial University, St. John’s, NL. How do antimicrobial peptides really work? From high resolution structures to whole cell biophysics: 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. MSB 384.

**LEARNING SKILLS PRESENTATION**

Writing multiple-choice tests. Register at sdc.uwo.ca/learning: 2:30-3:30 p.m. Western Student Services, room 3134.

**LEARNING SKILLS PRESENTATION**

Writing multiple-choice tests. Register at sdc.uwo.ca/learning: 3:30-4:30 p.m. Western Student Services, room 3134.

**DON WRIGHT FACULTY OF MUSIC**

Wind Ensemble, Instinctive Travels featuring works by Sousa, Hearshen, Shostakovich, Marquez and Markowski. 12:30 p.m. Paul Davenport Theatre.

---

**HUMBER**

The Business School

From marketing to finance to international trade, this program offers the unique skills you need to launch your career as a brand manager, operations planner, marketing coordinator, media analyst and many other exciting career options.

---

**GLOBAL BUSINESS MANAGEMENT POSTGRADUATE CERTIFICATE**

**Somerset Place**

1209 Richmond Street, London, ON N6A 3L7

Phone: (519) 438 - 8801

somersetplace@realstar.ca

---

**Western FILM**

MCKELLAR THEATRE

RM 290 UCC

519-661-3616

$4.99 Adults, Children, Seniors and Tuesdays $3.50

**Nov. 30 – Dec. 6, 2012**

**HOTEL TRANSYLVANIA**

Rated PG 7:00 (101 min.)

Matinees Sat., Dec. 1 & Sun., Dec. 2: 1:15 & 4:30

**ARGO**

Rated 14A-90% (120 min.)

Fridays Nov. 30 Midnight Move

SOUTH PARK Upper Lagoon and Urgo

---

**TUESDAY**

**SOMERSET PLACE – PROPERTY HIGHLIGHTS**

- Steps to Western and Ivey School of Business
- Clean, quiet, well maintained building
- Laundry room
- Close to Masonville Mall and downtown
- On bus route
- Spacious suites, most with 1.5 baths, Utilities Included!
- NEW! Outdoor BBQ area, hockey and basketball area
- On-site management

---

**LEARNING SKILLS PRESENTATION**

Christopher Lee, Writing, Rhetorics and Professional Communication, Western. “Just for Laughs” Using of Humour in the Middle Ages: 9:30 a.m. McKellar Room, UCC.

**DON WRIGHT FACULTY OF MUSIC**

Early Music Studio recital: 12:30 p.m. von Kuster Hall.

**DENTISTRY RESEARCH SEMINAR SERIES**

Eva Helmerhorst, Henry M. Goldman School of Dental Medicine, Boston University. Whole Saliva: Functions In and beyond the Oral Cavity: 12:15 p.m. DSB 00048.

**LEARNING SKILLS PRESENTATION**

Manage Test Stress: Register at sdc.uwo.ca/learning: 1:30-2:30 p.m. Western Student Services, room 3130.

---

**WEDNESDAY**

**FALL/WINTER TERM CLASSES END**

---

**DON WRIGHT FACULTY OF MUSIC**

Winter Song: 8 p.m. Paul Davenport Theatre.

---

**SOMERSET PLACE**

La Tertulia. Anyone wishing to speak Spanish is welcome. Email tertulia@uwo.ca. 12:30-1:30 p.m. International Lounge, Huron.

**LEARNING SKILLS PRESENTATION**

Writing multiple-choice tests. Register at sdc.uwo.ca/learning: 3:30-4:30 p.m. Western Student Services, room 3134.

**DON WRIGHT FACULTY OF MUSIC**

Contemporary Ensemble concert: 8 p.m. Paul Davenport Theatre.

---

**CANADIAN BLOOD DONOR CLINIC**

New donors and walk-ins welcome. Visit blood.ca. 10 a.m.-3 p.m. UCC Student Lounge.

**DON WRIGHT FACULTY OF MUSIC**

Winter Song: 8 p.m. Paul Davenport Theatre.

---

**LEARNING SKILLS PRESENTATION**

Writing multiple-choice tests. Register at sdc.uwo.ca/learning: 3:30-4:30 p.m. Western Student Services, room 3134.

**DON WRIGHT FACULTY OF MUSIC**

Contemporary Ensemble concert: 8 p.m. Paul Davenport Theatre.
Internationalization

Soochow-Western centre beams possibilities forward

BY JASON WINDERS

WESTERN CHEMISTRY PROFESSOR T.K. Sham describes it as “a new adventure” for not only Western, but for every researcher and student who will be able to work in this still-emerging field, thanks to this partnership.

This month, Western celebrated the opening of the Soochow University-Western University Centre for Synchrotron Radiation Research, located in Suzhou, Jiangsu province, China. The centre will be physically located at Soochow, although a node will be located at Western.

Led by Sham, the centre will allow Western researchers and students to explore the most detailed aspects of molecular structures leading to possible discoveries in nano-materials and devices, polymers and macro-molecules as well as innovative theories around the capabilities of synchrotron radiation.

Five departments within three Western faculties – Engineering, Science and the Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry – are supporting the initiative. Sham said colleagues from Physics & Astronomy, as well as the Robarts Research Institute, have expressed interest and may participate in the centre in the near future.

At its most basic explanation, a synchrotron light source is a source of electromagnetic radiation produced by a synchrotron, a particle accelerator that speeds electrons into a high-energy beam. This beam is then redirected into another component which converts it into light or some other form of radiation.

“There’s a lot of expensive plumbing that goes in there,” Sham said.

Synchrotron light is the brightest artificial source of X-rays, allowing the detailed study of molecular structures. Work at the Linac Coherent Light Source, located at Stanford University, led to Venkatraman Ramakrishnan, Thomas A. Steitz and Ada E. Yonath winning the Nobel Prize in Chemistry in 2009 for revealing the structure of the ribosome, for which they used synchrotron light.

But before Western – and Canada – gets there, Sham warned, a lot of groundwork needs to be done as the discipline is limited to a small group.

He said this is a “slow process” that requires networking with government officials and the science community to show the possibilities of the synchrotron research.

“This is ‘Big Science.’ It has a whole different mentality than working in a lab,” Sham said. “Society needs to understand that, needs to support that.”

But with big science comes big opportunity.

“It’s cutting edge because it is something we cannot do routinely,” he continued. “But doing this type of work will enhance the overall scientific expertise and standing of the university, even the entire country. It’s about discovery.”

As for next steps for the new centre, both universities will begin working on consolidating exchange programs and projects for students and researchers, as well as eying funding opportunities in both countries that support international collaboration.

Going forward, there will be countless opportunities for joint discovery, publishing and funding.

On the student side, Sham said there will be numerous opportunities for international collaboration and learning. Most of those, at least in the short term, centre on graduate students conducting research at Soochow. In the future, however, Sham said there are hopes to develop a graduate program for students, to be solely or jointly supervised by Western faculty, to earn a degree from both universities. He also sees opportunity for undergraduate exchange/ co-op programs.

The spark for the centre came from Sham and Soochow professor Jeff Xuhui Sun, who was a visiting graduate student and then became a post-doctoral fellow in Sham’s group at Western in the early 2000s. The pair had been working at the Canadian Light Source (CLS) in Saskatoon, Sask., for the last several years.

Official conversations started in November 2011 when J.L. Zhu, Soochow president, visited Western and first proposed the idea to Janice Deakin, Western provost and vice-president (academic). The deal was solidified in May 2012, and then sealed and celebrated in a ceremony on recent trip to Jiangsu province by a Western delegation earlier this month.

While this centre is only a year in the making, Western’s roots in synchrotron radiation research run back generations.

Former Western professors Bill McGowan and Mike Bancroft pushed for a Canadian facility in the early 1970s, before eventually developing the Canadian Synchrotron Radiation Facility at the University of Wisconsin in Madison, Wisc., in 1975. That three-beamline facility would serve the entire Canadian synchrotron community until the opening of the CLS in 2009.

Presently, the CLS remains the only such facility in Canada; China boasts three such facilities.

Despite being located in London’s sister city in China, Nanjing University has few ties to Western. This memorandum, hopefully, will open new doors between the two universities, said Julia McMullin, Western vice-provost, international.

“We want to build on that designation (as sister cities) to create a partnership where we could turn to one another for something we wanted to do or try,” McMullin said. “We are of the opinion we need to build these ties for our students.”

PROVIDED PHOTO

Charmaine Dean, left, Western Science dean, was among a Western delegation that included four deans – Michael Strong, Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry, Brian Timney, Social Science, and Iain Scott, Law – travelling to China to celebrate the opening of the Soochow University-Western University Centre for Synchrotron Radiation Research.

Provided Photo

Soochow president, visited Western – and Canada – gets there, Sham warned, a lot of groundwork needs to be done as the discipline is limited to a small group. He said this is a “slow process” that requires networking with government officials and the science community to show the possibilities of the synchrotron research.

“This is ‘Big Science.’ It has a whole different mentality than working in a lab,” Sham said. “Society needs to understand that, needs to support that.”

But with big science comes big opportunity.

“It’s cutting edge because it is something we cannot do routinely,” he continued. “But doing this type of work will enhance the overall scientific expertise and standing of the university, even the entire country. It’s about discovery.”

As for next steps for the new centre, both universities will begin working on consolidating exchange programs and projects for students and researchers, as well as eying funding opportunities in both countries that support international collaboration.

Going forward, there will be countless opportunities for joint discovery, publishing and funding.

On the student side, Sham said there will be numerous opportunities for international collaboration and learning. Most of those, at least in the short term, centre on graduate students conducting research at Soochow. In the future, however, Sham said there are hopes to develop a graduate program for students, to be solely or jointly supervised by Western faculty, to earn a degree from both universities. He also sees opportunity for undergraduate exchange/co-op programs.

The spark for the centre came from Sham and Soochow professor Jeff Xuhui Sun, who was a visiting graduate student and then became a post-doctoral fellow in Sham’s group at Western in the early 2000s. The pair had been working at the Canadian Light Source (CLS) in Saskatoon, Sask., for the last several years.

Official conversations started in November 2011 when J.L. Zhu, Soochow president, visited Western and first proposed the idea to Janice Deakin, Western provost and vice-president (academic). The deal was solidified in May 2012, and then sealed and celebrated in a ceremony on recent trip to Jiangsu province by a Western delegation earlier this month.

While this centre is only a year in the making, Western’s roots in synchrotron radiation research run back generations.

Former Western professors Bill McGowan and Mike Bancroft pushed for a Canadian facility in the early 1970s, before eventually developing the Canadian Synchrotron Radiation Facility at the University of Wisconsin in Madison, Wisc., in 1975. That three-beamline facility would serve the entire Canadian synchrotron community until the opening of the CLS in 2009.

Presently, the CLS remains the only such facility in Canada; China boasts three such facilities.

Despite being located in London’s sister city in China, Nanjing University has few ties to Western. This memorandum, hopefully, will open new doors between the two universities, said Julia McMullin, Western vice-provost, international.

“We want to build on that designation (as sister cities) to create a partnership where we could turn to one another for something we wanted to do or try,” McMullin said. “We are of the opinion we need to build these ties for our students.”
Editor's Letter

Research study opens up long-needed workplace conversation

JASON WINDERS
Western News Editor

I never worried about this until I had a daughter. Don’t get me wrong, I was aware of the problems and helped combat them in my own way. But I never worried about it like I do now.

Nothing like knowing she is counting on me to help get the world’s act together so she can do what she wants, like I do now.

The study showed despite significant progress in the representation of women in the university research ranks, there are still gender equity challenges that must be overcome. According to Strengthening Canada’s Research Capacity: The Gender Dimension, women’s progress in Canadian universities is uneven and dependent on discipline and rank.

It is an interesting, although sadly unsurprising, study with widespread implications – and applications. The problems outlined are not just inside the gates of Canadian universities; they are everywhere. And I have no idea why they have yet to be addressed.

Reading the study, I was reminded of one of my points of pride from my previous life, editing a small, culturally conservative Southern U.S. alumni newspaper. Writers may only submit one article each time, but I brought in more female editors than any editor-in-chief in the 175-year history of the newspaper. The positive implications for the community, and for the quality of the newspaper, were immediate and deep-seated.

Of course, being true, I also lost more female editors than any other editor-in-chief in the 175-year history of my newspaper. Some were for good reasons – better pay at bigger, more prestigious newspapers. But I did not have my anxiety. The story showed despite significant progress in the representation of women in the university research ranks, there are still gender equity challenges that must be overcome.

I remember sweating over HR paperwork with more than one female editor just to get 12 weeks of paid maternity time off using a combination of sick days, vacation days and voodoo. After that time ended, the decision was tough – return to work, not quite ready, or try something else. I lost every time, and I don’t blame them.

I put a lot of this blame at the feet of generational obstruction. Too many Boomers, too far removed from raising a family or making a more humble wage, are making decisions for today’s workers based on what is good for actual employee needs. And, as those Boomers continue to hang onto the decision-making positions, desperately looking for another few years to rebuild company-sponsored nest egg, generations will never see, the workplace continues to stagnate and not reflect the needs of the current workforce.

It’s akin to my parents, who complain about the lack of young families at their church. “Why can’t we get more families at our 8 a.m. services?”

“Why not make the service later so families have more time to get ready?” “But the service has always been at 8 a.m.”

This sloping of workplace’s evolution, while not directed at, does unequally impact women.

Why, as the study points out, are companies constantly forcing people to make paid work vs. family life balance decisions? What is taking so long to get women in leadership positions to serve as role models? And, seriously, are we still dealing with a salary gap? (Of course, my previous employer solved that by paying everyone less. Sort of a “Sink or swim, walk a walk, ride a bike thing.”)

This study provides insight into a slice of a larger issue. But it’s a valuable read for those inside and outside academia.

I worry about being able to teach my daughter to speak up and fight for her place. Then again, I wish I didn’t have to. I wish my generation, and the handful after mine, would solve this thing before she has to worry about it.

I am not a gender theorist or workplace researcher; I am just a dad who knows the problems are too complex to boil down to quick fixes or bullet-pointed solutions. But they are scorable with implications that would positively impact millions. I have trouble picturing that many people.

So, when I read about issues like this, I think of that one little girl who, at least right now, looks to me to solve everything from spilled milk to sleepless nights.

I love that little girl so much, a better workplace is the least I owe her.

The way we were: 1972-2012

On Monday, June 4, in celebration of the 40th anniversary of the opening of the D.B. Weldon Library, the building’s time capsule opening was witnessed by many members of the library, who were also present for the original ceremony in 1972. At that time, pictured above left, Col. D.B. Weldon, centre, sealed the box under the watchful eye of Western President D.C. Williams, right, and workman Hans Noack, left. In 2012, Dan Chamberlain and Mike Mclean, Facilities Management staff, pictured above middle, supervised the removal of the box containing, amongst other things, a copy of the London Free Press, displayed by Catherine Wilkins, assistant university librarian, pictured above right.

COMMENTARY POLICY

• Western News applies a commentary label to any article written in an author’s voice expressing an opinion.
• Western News accepts opinion pieces on research, conference topics, student life and/or international experiences from faculty and staff. Limit is 400 words.
• Western News accepts an opinion piece on current events that showcase research or academic expertise of the author.
• Western News accepts letters to the editor. Limit is 250 words maximum, and accepted only from members of the Western community – faculty, staff, students and alumni. Letters must only submit one article per semester.
• As an academic institution, Western News encourages lively debate, but reserves the right to edit, ask for rewrites or reject any submission, and will outright reject those based on personal attacks or covering subjects too removed from the university community.
• Western News will offer rebuttal space on any topic, and may actively pursue a counterpoint to arguments the editor feels would be a slice of a dissenting opinion published simultaneously.

Contributed by Alan Noon (anoon@uwo.ca)
BY YASMIEN MILLS

AT 22, I found myself divorced and homeless. I had a high school diploma and a 9-month-old baby. Granted, I made some bad decisions in my youth, but I was determined to be nothing less than a role model and an inspiration to my daughter.

I wanted to make her proud.

After getting into university and applying for student loans, I then had to figure out how I was going to pay for daycare. I had no family to help; I was on my own. I could barely afford milk or a bus pass, so daycare bills were out of the question.

Luckily, my counsellor told me that I had an option to register for online classes.

Back in 1998, my online class was not much more than a correspondence course via the Internet. It was impersonal, difficult to figure out the content on my own, and confusing to navigate. (But did I ace that class?)

But I was given a miraculous opportunity—an opportunity to create a better life for me and my daughter. I had such profound gratitude and respect for this online course that saved my life by offering me my first step into the world of higher-learning.

I completed the rest of the steps in the traditional way; I went on to earn two degrees, a bachelor of arts and a bachelor of Education. Years later, while living and working in the Middle East, I decided to earn a master’s degree in Adult Education.

Again, online learning opened the door of opportunity. I earned an intercontinental master’s degree. I learned from professors in universities in Canada, Sweden, Australia and South Africa with classmates from every corner of the globe. Together, we bonded over this mystic concept of learning online.

That experience could never have been achieved in a face-to-face classroom. Had online learning not existed, our paths would most likely never have crossed. Instead, we were a community.

Most profoundly, we were all lifelong learners. We were all working full-time in concurrence with earning our degrees. We were mothers and fathers, grandmothers and wives. We were doctors and teachers, academics and businesspeople, self-employed and unemployed. We were an eclectic mix of learners from all over the world, joined initially by necessity, but before long, we agreed this medium was as precious to us as our face-to-face learning experiences.

My idea of online learning changed during those two years.

It used to be a Plan B, a necessity to turn to when face-to-face learning wasn’t possible. But, I soon realized online learning was an opportunity to learn without barriers of geography or finances; online learning alleviates a lot of costs the traditional student is burdened with, most significantly, the cost of transportation.

It was an opportunity for a working mother to better herself, and therefore, the lives of her children. To me, online learning is a savior to many.

Online learning offers a route that supersedes many barriers. I was motivated to stay involved in the field. As an educator, my first order of business was to start offering my courses as blended classes. Students responded with genuine gratitude. Their responses motivated me to continue learning more and more about online education.

Through the years, I have gained confidence as an online educator.

One year ago, I began to look for career opportunities in the field of online education. In July, I was offered a position at Western’s Continuing Studies. As the online development coordinator, it is my responsibility to ensure that Continuing Studies grows its repertoire of online courses.

For Continuing Studies, the initial turn to online learning was due to necessity. There is simply not enough physical space at Citi Plaza to house all the students that want to take our courses. In order to grow, we have to move online. But, I don’t see it as simply a necessity due to need; I see it as an opportunity to reach out to all the lifelong learners who are unable to make it to our campus. These learners can access whatever their hearts desire to learn. I am proud to be working in an area where I can truly make a difference in people’s lives.

Our aim is to create vibrant, engaging and interactive online classes that will serve as examples for the greater educational community. Our courses will be referred to as exemplars when educators are curious about how, exactly, does one teach through a computer.

Because of our ability to grow online, our enrollment is skyrocketing. Obviously, there is a lot more work to be done, but we are certainly headed in the right direction on the road to success.

Yasmiyen Mills is online development coordinator with Western’s Continuing Studies.

Opinions expressed here are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of or receive endorsement from Western News or Western University.
Academics

“WE, AS AN EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION, HAVE A RESPONSIBILITY TO ENSURE THAT INDIGENOUS STUDENTS, STAFF AND FACULTY HAVE A VOICE, BUT MORE THAN THAT, ALL STUDENTS, STAFF AND FACULTY UNDERSTAND OUR SHARED CANADIAN ANCESTRY. UNDERSTAND INDIGENOUS KNOWLEDGE AND THE CONTRIBUTIONS IT CAN MAKE TO MAJOR ISSUES OF CONTEMPORARY SOCIETY.”

Candace Brunette
Indigenous services coordinator, Western

Making Indigenous services a part of community’s fabric

By Adela Talbot

You can say it has always been at the heart of Candace Brunette’s academic and professional lives.

“I have a lot of diverse experiences, but the centre has always remained working with Aboriginal communities. And it has evolved, over the last decade, to focus in an Aboriginal education,” said Brunette, who recently joined Western as its new Indigenous services coordinator.

A Mushkieg Cree, Brunette comes to Western from the Thames Valley District School Board, where she worked as its first-ever Aboriginal education advisor. While there, she established the First Nations Metis and Inuit (FNMI) Student Achievement Committee as well as a FNMI Parent Involvement Committee. She was instrumental in strengthening the board’s relationships with local FNMI communities.

While pursuing a degree in Aboriginal Studies at the University of Toronto, Brunette also worked in the banking sector as a diversity and planning liaison, recruiting and retaining Aboriginal employees. Shortly after, she took a post as a recruitment officer with the First Nations House at the university, later completing an MA in Education, focusing on Aboriginal arts and community, at the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education.

“The No. 1 challenge when working with Aboriginal people is to develop trust. For very real and justified reasons, there’s a lack of trust among many, not all, Aboriginal communities and people. You need to start with developing that relationship and that’s getting people at the table. Sometimes, that’s just hearing where people are coming from and hearing the needs and priorities and concerns of community members,” Brunette explained.

“There are many responsibilities that boards of education have, like universities, in closing the gap in Aboriginal student achievement, in developing relationships with Aboriginal communities, engaging Aboriginal communities and building confidence,” she added.

Since 2010, there has been a 38.2 per cent increase in Indigenous students at Western; since 2005, that number has been 115 per cent. Today, there are 387 Indigenous students enrolled at the university, and, according to Gail Hutchinson, director of the Student Development Centre, Western is above the provincial average in Indigenous student enrollment.

At Western, Brunette said, a strong foundation has been laid in connecting with FNMI students and communities, providing space and developing outreach programs. She is thrilled to take up the torch and continue the work, she said.

Brunette’s position came into existence nearly 20 years ago, charged with the responsibility of increasing the Indigenous population at Western and increasing awareness of the culture of Canada and its Indigenous people, Hutchinson explained. Since 1995, the post evolved from a half-time position with an office to a full-time position in a student-oriented cultural centre on campus, with various faculties, groups, outreach programs and initiatives working to increase and support the Indigenous population in the campus community.

“I just see that there’s a lot of potential for transformation and bringing Indigenous knowledge and consciousness to the context of academia. Academe is all about furthering our knowledge as people and I feel very strongly and believe that Indigenous knowledge has a lot to contribute to our pool of knowledge. To be part of that movement is really exciting to me. There’s a lot to build on,” Brunette noted.

Her next steps include establishing herself as the coordinator with the local community and other stakeholders as well as working with the community to determine a vision.

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

“It’s important for Indigenous students to have a safe space, to come to feel like they belong in this big institution and to seek cultural teachings and connect with the community, that’s incredibly important to recruitment, retention and advancement,” she continued.

Western has a responsibility to engage, Brunette continued, adding she hopes the university will continue to showcase its commitment to engaging with and supporting Aboriginal students and the community on campus.

“Commitment needs to happen at the highest level in our strategic plan in order for our faculties and different services across the institution to see it as a priority. I know recruitment and retention were listed as priorities, but we need to be focusing on graduate students, we need to be hiring and transforming our curriculum,” she said. “... When we look at internationalization, I see a huge opportunity to engage with that. We talk about this international focus, but why not be considering how indigenous knowledge can support us in that?”

Brunette looks forward to working with faculties and departments to support the growing representation, retention and success of Aboriginal learners and Indigenous learning environments to be more responsive to Indigenous knowledge, communities and students.

“It’s an exciting time to be here,” she said.

Adela Talbot / Western News

Candace Brunette, Western’s new Coordinator for Indigenous Services, looks forward to working with the campus community in supporting the growing representation, retention and success of Aboriginal learners as well as Indigenizing learning environments to be more responsive to Indigenous knowledge, communities and students.
We have terrific flowers and sensational market gift baskets that can be easily ordered online or by phone and delivered the same day.
Western students Beth Compton, Wilson Higashino, Svitaslau Kohut, Ed Krynak, Qian Liu, Felipe Rodrigues and Omneya El Sharnoubi have been named recipients of the 2012 Ontario Trillium Scholarships. The scholarships aim to raise the profile and prestige of Ontario universities internationally, and increase economic performance by recruiting highly educated individuals to the province.

Trillium Scholarship winners

Ed Krynak
PhD candidate, Geography

Ed Krynak loves all things matter. Matter. All things. Many things about matter. Krynak believes that we need to understand all of the relationships between matter, and how it interacts with itself and its environment. His research is focused on the development of purely computational approaches to understanding the behavior of complex chemical systems. This involves using computer simulations and computer programming and calculations.

Svitaslau Kohut: Kohut is a theoretical chemist. His research is focused on developing computer methods for approximating wave functions of molecules. He says that his research is motivated by the desire to understand the behavior of complex chemical systems and to predict physical and chemical properties of matter. Kohut has studied the molecular photodissociation of light with different wavelengths of light. He has been working with the National Research Council of Canada in several laboratories. Kohut has won several awards for his research.

Omneya El Sharnoubi
PhD candidate, Civil and Environmental Engineering

El Sharnoubi’s research focuses on the development of novel, more accurate models for simulating complex chemical systems. His work is focused on developing models that can be used for designing new materials and understanding the behavior of complex chemical systems. El Sharnoubi is also involved in developing new computational techniques for simulating the behavior of complex chemical systems. He was awarded the 2012 Ontario Trillium Scholarship for his work on developing new computational techniques for simulating the behavior of complex chemical systems.

Beth Compton
PhD candidate, Archaeology

Compton’s research is focused on the development of digital tools and techniques for analyzing archaeological data. Her work involves the development of digital tools and techniques for analyzing archaeological data. Her work involves the development of digital tools and techniques for analyzing archaeological data. Her work involves the development of digital tools and techniques for analyzing archaeological data. Her work involves the development of digital tools and techniques for analyzing archaeological data.

Wilson Higashino
PhD candidate, Software Engineering

Higashino’s research is focused on the development of new, more efficient methods for designing and implementing computer systems. His work involves the development of new, more efficient methods for designing and implementing computer systems. His work involves the development of new, more efficient methods for designing and implementing computer systems. His work involves the development of new, more efficient methods for designing and implementing computer systems.

Felipe Rodrigues
PhD candidate, Business Administration

Rodrigues’ research is focused on the development of new, more efficient methods for designing and implementing computer systems. His work involves the development of new, more efficient methods for designing and implementing computer systems. His work involves the development of new, more efficient methods for designing and implementing computer systems. His work involves the development of new, more efficient methods for designing and implementing computer systems.

Qian Liu
PhD candidate, Economics

Liu’s research is focused on the development of new, more efficient methods for designing and implementing computer systems. His work involves the development of new, more efficient methods for designing and implementing computer systems. His work involves the development of new, more efficient methods for designing and implementing computer systems. His work involves the development of new, more efficient methods for designing and implementing computer systems.
Western teams up for search-rescue improvements

BY ADELA TALBOT

WESTERN RESEARCHERS are partnering with a Toronto technology startup in developing a low-cost SAR2 radar sensor that will greatly benefit traditionally costly search-and-rescue efforts.

Sightline Innovation Inc. will collaborate with Jagath Samarabandu and Xiaobin Wang from Western’s Faculty of Engineering for their upcoming SAR2 – Search and Rescue Synthetic Aperture Radar – project. The project is funded for the initial six months with a $25,000 Engage Grant from the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada (NSERC).

The aim is to develop an inexpensive radar sensor designed to address specific challenges affecting search-and-rescue efforts at sea. These sensors can be mounted on airplanes, as well as unmanned aerial vehicles and aircraft systems such as drones) and civilian and military aircraft.

The development of this new radar sensor will benefit civilians lost at sea, whether due to a plane crash, boat or car accident, or any such incident in which search-and-rescue efforts would be needed. Being able to deploy these systems quickly and economically in these situations is the payoff, Samarabandu said, since having more systems means they are readily available.

“While (search and rescue systems) are not in constant demand, you must deploy them quickly in a search and rescue operation. They are more like fire engines in that regard,” he said.

In Canada alone, the three national Joint Rescue Coordination Centres responded to 9,280 search and rescue cases in 2009, an increase of 249 cases from 2008. Most cases occur during the summer months.

Both Sightline and Western researchers believe the project can build on Canada’s leadership in space-based search and rescue.

“Both SAR2 and preparing a proposal for an NSERC Collaborative Research and Development grant to fund the project for another three years.”

Study offers new insight into Walkerton outbreak

BY PAUL MAYNE

INDIVIDUALS AFFECTED BY a break-out of E. coli O157:H7, such as the infamous Walkerton incident more than a decade ago, display no evidence of any increase in cardiovascular disease, according to Western researchers.

The study showed no deviation between the affected community and the general population. Simply stated: E. coli did not cause any increase in cardiovascular disease.

“We expected to find a correlation, but when we did not, we were not surprised. By virtue of participating in the Walkerton study, participants received extra health care, screening and treatment for hypertension and kidney disease,” said the 25-year-old Mississauga native. “These risk factors for cardiovascular disease often go untreated in the absence of active surveillance, so diagnosis and treatment of these conditions may have been greater for Walkerton participants compared with people in the surrounding communities.”

While the study’s findings may not be a definitive conclusion, it does offer some reassurance.

“In our particular study, the Walkerton participants were followed closely by health-care professionals for years and were treated for hypertension and kidney disease, likely preventing cardiovascular disease,” she said. “Had they not had the same surveillance and treatment, it is difficult to say whether the results would have been different. Further research in this area is needed to draw any definitive conclusions.”

While uncommon for undergraduate students to play a role in a major research paper, Hizo-Abes credits her two-year involvement with SRTP for the opportunity. The program enables first- and second-year medical students to work under faculty supervision on a research project during the summer months, for two years. She worked with Western Epidemiology & Biostatistics professor Amit Garg.

“While uncommon for undergraduate students to work under faculty supervision on a research project during the summer months, for two years. She worked with Western Epidemiology & Biostatistics professor Amit Garg.”

The study offers new insight into Walkerton outbreak.
Tracking down a ride

Still freezing, standing in front of Alumni Hall, waiting for the 2 Dundas? It either came early, you’re probably thinking, or it’s running late. Well, now you can predict when that bus will arrive at your stop, thanks to London OnTime, an iOS application that tells users, to the minute, when the bus will show up. Anthony Taylor, left, who plans to continue his studies in Computer Science at Western next year, and Dan Martyn, a recent graduate of Western’s Software Engineering program, teamed up to create the app, using the London Transit Commission’s Web Watch system, that tracks locations of its buses. The app is free to download and has, in a month’s time, had more than 3,600 downloads.

Western Research is pleased to announce the following competition:

Petro-Canada Young Innovator Awards For Western and Robarts Researchers

Created by endowed donations from Petro-Canada, this program recognizes, promotes and supports the work of new researchers whose work is particularly innovative, impacts positively on the learning environment in the department in which they study, and has the potential to be of significance to society at large. The program is intended to help attract and retain bright young minds at Canadian Universities, colleges and major research institutes and to help young researchers launch their scholarly careers and enable them to carry their research forward. Eligibility is award specific. Priority is given to research related to Petro-Canada’s areas of interest.

Grant Amounts:
Western – $12,500 and Robarts – $3,500

Deadline:
RD&S Deadline - February 15, 2013

For more Funding News, please visit uwo.ca/research/

Contact:
Florence Lourdes
Internal Grants Coordinator
Research Development & Services
internalgrants@uwo.ca
519.661.2111 x84500
COUNTDOWN ON FOR STUDENT-builtin ROCKET

BY ADELA TALBOT

FOR SOME WESTERN students, the savings couldn’t come at a better time. With the holiday season around the corner, students will have more money in their pockets, thanks to The London Rocket, a new, more affordable means of travelling home.

Providing a low-cost bus service and offering a reliable, safe and inexpensive alternative to Greyhound and VIA Rail, the Rocket launched sales last month. Organizers of the project to the campus community.

He said the Rocket is a student-run initiative, modeled after a similar one at Queen’s University (a student at Queen’s is actually helping get Western’s Rocket off the ground). It’s meant to give students the option of going home more often while leaving extra cash in their wallets for other necessities of student life.

Here’s how it works: For $20, students can purchase a one-way ticket to Toronto’s Union Station, through PayPal, on the Rocket’s website – londonrocket.ca. (One-way trips to Oakville or Mississauga are $18.)

Rocket organizers have partnered with a chartered bus line and have arranged set pickup times, on campus, during the December exam period. The trip schedule and pick-up locations are available on the website. Once a ticket is purchased, students will get a confirmation email with a boarding pass.

Taking a Greyhound bus home can cost close to $100 each way, when you consider all associated costs, including the cab fare to the station, while VIA Rail trips often exceed $100,

“Taking a Greyhound bus home can cost close to $100 each way, when you consider all associated costs, including the cab fare to the station, while VIA Rail trips often exceed $100.”

Greater Toronto Area (GTA) for the December exam period.

Second-year Political Science student Brett Heron and second-year Neuroscience student Nancy Li introduced the project to the campus community.

He said the Rocket is a student-run initiative, modeled after a similar one at Queen’s University (a student at Queen’s is actually helping get Western’s Rocket off the ground). It’s meant to give students the option of going home more often while leaving extra cash in their wallets for other necessities of student life.

Here’s how it works: For $20, students can purchase a one-way ticket to Toronto’s Union Station, through PayPal, on the Rocket’s website – londonrocket.ca. (One-way trips to Oakville or Mississauga are $18.)

Rocket organizers have partnered with a chartered bus line and have arranged set pickup times, on campus, during the December exam period. The trip schedule and pick-up locations are available on the website. Once a ticket is purchased, students will get a confirmation email with a boarding pass.

Taking a Greyhound bus home can cost close to $100 each way, when you consider all associated costs, including the cab fare to the station, while VIA Rail trips often exceed $100,

“Taking a Greyhound bus home can cost close to $100 each way, when you consider all associated costs, including the cab fare to the station, while VIA Rail trips often exceed $100.”

Greater Toronto Area (GTA) for the December exam period.

Second-year Political Science student Brett Heron and second-year Neuroscience student Nancy Li introduced the project to the campus community.

He said the Rocket is a student-run initiative, modeled after a similar one at Queen’s University (a student at Queen’s is actually helping get Western’s Rocket off the ground). It’s meant to give students the option of going home more often while leaving extra cash in their wallets for other necessities of student life.

Here’s how it works: For $20, students can purchase a one-way ticket to Toronto’s Union Station, through PayPal, on the Rocket’s website – londonrocket.ca. (One-way trips to Oakville or Mississauga are $18.)

Rocket organizers have partnered with a chartered bus line and have arranged set pickup times, on campus, during the December exam period. The trip schedule and pick-up locations are available on the website. Once a ticket is purchased, students will get a confirmation email with a boarding pass.

Taking a Greyhound bus home can cost close to $100 each way, when you consider all associated costs, including the cab fare to the station, while VIA Rail trips often exceed $100,

“Taking a Greyhound bus home can cost close to $100 each way, when you consider all associated costs, including the cab fare to the station, while VIA Rail trips often exceed $100.”

Greater Toronto Area (GTA) for the December exam period.

Second-year Political Science student Brett Heron and second-year Neuroscience student Nancy Li introduced the project to the campus community.

He said the Rocket is a student-run initiative, modeled after a similar one at Queen’s University (a student at Queen’s is actually helping get Western’s Rocket off the ground). It’s meant to give students the option of going home more often while leaving extra cash in their wallets for other necessities of student life.

Here’s how it works: For $20, students can purchase a one-way ticket to Toronto’s Union Station, through PayPal, on the Rocket’s website – londonrocket.ca. (One-way trips to Oakville or Mississauga are $18.)

Rocket organizers have partnered with a chartered bus line and have arranged set pickup times, on campus, during the December exam period. The trip schedule and pick-up locations are available on the website. Once a ticket is purchased, students will get a confirmation email with a boarding pass.

Taking a Greyhound bus home can cost close to $100 each way, when you consider all associated costs, including the cab fare to the station, while VIA Rail trips often exceed $100,

“Taking a Greyhound bus home can cost close to $100 each way, when you consider all associated costs, including the cab fare to the station, while VIA Rail trips often exceed $100.”

Greater Toronto Area (GTA) for the December exam period.

Second-year Political Science student Brett Heron and second-year Neuroscience student Nancy Li introduced the project to the campus community.

He said the Rocket is a student-run initiative, modeled after a similar one at Queen’s University (a student at Queen’s is actually helping get Western’s Rocket off the ground). It’s meant to give students the option of going home more often while leaving extra cash in their wallets for other necessities of student life.

Here’s how it works: For $20, students can purchase a one-way ticket to Toronto’s Union Station, through PayPal, on the Rocket’s website – londonrocket.ca. (One-way trips to Oakville or Mississauga are $18.)

Rocket organizers have partnered with a chartered bus line and have arranged set pickup times, on campus, during the December exam period. The trip schedule and pick-up locations are available on the website. Once a ticket is purchased, students will get a confirmation email with a boarding pass.

Taking a Greyhound bus home can cost close to $100 each way, when you consider all associated costs, including the cab fare to the station, while VIA Rail trips often exceed $100,

“Taking a Greyhound bus home can cost close to $100 each way, when you consider all associated costs, including the cab fare to the station, while VIA Rail trips often exceed $100.”

Greater Toronto Area (GTA) for the December exam period.

Second-year Political Science student Brett Heron and second-year Neuroscience student Nancy Li introduced the project to the campus community.

He said the Rocket is a student-run initiative, modeled after a similar one at Queen’s University (a student at Queen’s is actually helping get Western’s Rocket off the ground). It’s meant to give students the option of going home more often while leaving extra cash in their wallets for other necessities of student life.

Here’s how it works: For $20, students can purchase a one-way ticket to Toronto’s Union Station, through PayPal, on the Rocket’s website – londonrocket.ca. (One-way trips to Oakville or Mississauga are $18.)

Rocket organizers have partnered with a chartered bus line and have arranged set pickup times, on campus, during the December exam period. The trip schedule and pick-up locations are available on the website. Once a ticket is purchased, students will get a confirmation email with a boarding pass.

Taking a Greyhound bus home can cost close to $100 each way, when you consider all associated costs, including the cab fare to the station, while VIA Rail trips often exceed $100,
Academics

Meme campaign puts theory into play

BY ADELA TALBOT

It was far from typical end-of-term essay assignment.

Students in Kane Faucher’s Brief History of Social Networking class were charged with creating a fictitious viral campaign – something along the lines of ‘LOL Cats’ – using social networking tools to engage a specific audience.

“I wanted to provide students an opportunity for unbridled creativity in terms of innovating the experience and making it, partially, a vocational assignment,” Faucher explained. He said the project was meant to teach students how to work effectively as a group, and how to effectively communicate in a digital environment.

“This was an experiment. Students in MIT (Media, Information & Technology culture) especially are given a lot of theory, a lot of opportunity to write essays and do substantial research. But they rarely have the opportunity to apply that research so this balance between theory and praxis was part of the essence of this campaign project,” he continued.

Faucher divided the class into two groups, or ‘firms,’ delegating specific tasks to students, asking some to work on the creative aspect of their meme campaign while others were responsible for analyzing its success.

For one of the groups, the final project became a meme campaign titled, ‘Sh*t People Instagram,’ a project that took a satirical approach to the overly posted pictures of Starbucks cups, pets, food and foliage, frequently found on the photo-sharing site.

“’We sat down and tried to come up with things that were funny and relatable,’ said Alina Popa, the group’s campaign manager. She said this was an approach that would engage their target audience of individuals in the 18-24 age group.

Group members selected clichéd photos they found on Instagram, using them to create their own memes which they shared on social network sites such as Twitter and Facebook. To measure the campaign’s reach, they used Sprout Social, a social media management tool created for businesses to help them engage their audience.

The campaign was successful in reaching individuals across the country with a slightly larger female audience, Popa said. Even though the project is complete, and the group isn’t adding new memes regularly, people are still ‘liking’ the group’s Facebook page and engaging online.

While not comparable to the traditional academic essay, the meme campaign required the time, thought and commitment, adding an element of fun for the students.

“It was constant work, being on all of the (social network) accounts every single day. There was stuff that worked and stuff that didn’t work and things we had to change, but it was a fun thing to create,” Popa said.

Classmate Jennifer Krpan said the project taught students how to engage and use social media and networking tools to promote something and engage the general public.

“’I thought it was a great way to incorporate all the knowledge we gained in MIT classes, and just incorporate skills and know how to use these (marketing) techniques,” she said. “It gave us tools we can take forward and use.’”

The students did very well in both creating and developing innovative and engaging campaigns, Faucher said, noting the second group created an equally successful meme, the iPhone X, looking at Apple’s continuous upgrading of the iPhone.

“I don’t impress easy, I’m too cynical for that, but I was absolutely impressed with what my ‘firms’ were able to produce,” Faucher said.

Memes, like these two, were used to engage an audience as part of a campaign project titled Sh*t People Instagram, submitted in Kane Faucher’s Brief History of Social Networking class. Students took a satirical approach to the overly posted pictures of Starbucks cups, pets, food and foliage, frequently found on the photo-sharing site.
Acne + Accutane = Inflammatory Bowel Disease?

Acutane, a drug used for patients with severe acne, has been associated with causing Inflammatory Bowel Disease, Crohn’s Disease and Colitis.

Legate & Associates LLP and Harrison Pensa LLP have joined forces to accept clients who have been diagnosed with Inflammatory Bowel Disease, Crohn’s Disease or Colitis, as a result of their experience with Accutane or its generic equivalents.

Contact us for a free consultation 1-888-557-0447 or info@accutanelawsuit.ca

Please visit us online accutanelawsuit.ca

Santiago Kalinowski, Hispanic Studies, El modelo de autorización del relato en la historiografía medieval castellana: la escritura y lo real en la cronística alfonso, Nov. 30, UC 224A, 12:30 p.m.

Walid Mnif, Applied Mathematics, Incomplete Market Models of Carbon Emissions Markets, Nov. 30, MC 107, 10:30 a.m.

Mohammad Amin Zanami, Electrical and Computer Engineering, Protection and Control of Active Distribution Networks and Microgrids, Nov. 30, TEB 234, 11 a.m.

Michael J. Kanuer, Pharmacology and Toxicology, The Role of Drug Transporters in Drug-Induced Myopathy, Dec. 3, MSB 282, 9:30 a.m.

Michèle Barbeau, Anatomy and Cell Biology, Translational Distances in An Online Histology Laboratory Course, Dec. 3, MSB 384, 9 a.m.

Geoffrey Alonso Power, Kinesiology, Neuromuscular Function Following Lengthening Contractions, Dec. 4, TBA, 12:30 p.m.

Nicolas Fillion, Philosophy, The Reasonable Effectiveness of Mathematics in the Natural Sciences, Dec. 4, Svn 1140, 3:30 p.m.

Mohammed Norouzi Banis, Mechanical and Materials Engineering, Controlled Synthesis of One Dimensional Nanostructured Materials and Their Applications as Catalyst Supports in Proton Exchange Membrane Fuel Cells, Dec. 5, SEB 3102, 1:30 p.m.

Melissa Stachel, Anthropology, Somali Children and Youth’s Experiences in Educational Spaces in North America: Reconstructing Identities and Negotiating the Past in the Present, Dec. 5, SSC 5220, 10:30 a.m.

// ACADEMIE

PHD LECTURES

Muhammad Raza, Sociology, Social and Human Capital: The Determinants of Economic Integration of South Asian Immigrants in Canada, Nov. 29, SSC 9420, 9 a.m.

Haley Sapers, Geology/Planetary Science, Characterization of novel chondisals in meteorite impact glass from the Ries impact structure, Germany, Nov. 29, M&GS 1084, 1 p.m.

// CLASSIFIED

EDITING / PROOFREADING

Professional proofreading and copy editing - Extensive experience with PhD theses, reports, and proposals. See hughesassociates.ca for further information. Member of the Professional Writer’s Association and the Editors’ Association of Canada. 519-433-0896. Email joey.hughes@rogers.com.

Extensive experience proofreading/copy editing - masters/PhD theses, academic papers to be published, proposal writing, and application writing. Former Essay Writing and ESL instructor with a focus on grammar, former faculty member for ITESM University. Degree achievements: Linguistics, Anthropology, Library and Information Science. Editing in Spanish also available. Email: imcarroll@gmail.com. Phone: 519 858-1971.

CHRISTMAS BAZAAR

Sat. Dec. 1, St. Luke’s (Broughdale) AWC will be holding their annual Old Fashioned Christmas Bazaar & Silent Auction between 12 and 3 p.m. A chili lunch will be available for purchase. Tea room. Jewellery, treasure table, books, preserves and Christmas baking plus many other items. Enter off Bernard Ave. Parking on Mayfair, Bernard and Raymond. Free admission.

FOR RENT

Old North - 3 bedroom, 1 bathroom house. Open concept main floor, hardwood floors, finished basement, gas fireplace, kitchen fit for a chef, low-maintenance backyard. Faculty/staff postdocs/grad students preferred. $1750/mo + utilities. Email scott.schaffer@uwo.ca.

Arva - 5 minutes from Western - Executing apartments in brand new building. Perfect for faculty and mature students. $975 to $1,250, 2 bedroom suites with grantees and 10 ft ceilings – must be seen. References required. Call Rob at 519-871-5006 for your private viewing.

For classifieds, call 519-661-2045 or email to advertise@uwo.ca. Rates: Faculty, staff and students are $15, others and services/commercial ads are $20. Beyond 35 words, please add 50 cents per word. Payment must accompany ads. Submit by 9 a.m., Thursdays. No refunds. Visit classifieds online at communications.uwo.ca/com/classifieds_menu/

// STUDENT BULLETIN

BURSARIES TO LEARN FRENCH

Western University’s Trois-Pistoles French Immersion School provides the best French immersion experience. Apply for an Explore Bursary before Feb. 28 at myexplore.ca and earn one full credit for an Explore Bursary before Feb. 28.

VERSATILE PHD

A new web-based resource for graduate students and postdoctoral scholars. Join a supportive web-based community where you can get advice from PhDs and ABDs working outside the academia. See authentic, successful resumes and ABDs working outside the academe.

FROM TRADE SHOWS TO WEDDINGS, THIS PROGRAM OFFERS THE UNIQUE OPPORTUNITIES TO...

// EVENTS MANAGEMENT

POSTGRADUATE CERTIFICATE

From trade shows to weddings to cultural festivals, this program offers the unique skills you need to launch your career as an event coordinator, account representative, corporate meeting planner or many other exciting career opportunities.

HUMBER

The Business School

business.humber.ca/postgrad

// MEDICAL

SUFFERING AREAS OF THE BODY & THE IMPLICATIONS OF IBD ON DAILY LIFE

Asian women are twice as likely to suffer from Inflammatory Bowel Disease (IBD) as men, and ethnic groups have varying susceptibilities. Dr. Ayse Dik and Dr. Ali Hamidi will discuss gender-related aspects of the condition, how IBD affects the younger population and areas that need more research.

November 29, 2012

4:00 to 5:00 p.m.

Western Career Central, UWSA Ballroom

Participants can register at www.eventbrite.ca under the event "IBD Talk: IBD & Gender.

// RESOURCE

See authentic, successful resumes and ABDs working outside the academe.

See at www.legateassociates.ca to learn more about our clients. We are only accepting cases for women who have received Accutane and have been diagnosed with Inflammatory Bowel Disease, Crohn’s Disease or Colitis.

At your Service...

Berta Photos & Video

Since 1999

210 Adelaide St. W. - just south of University St.
519 438-7195 or 519 438-1961

... for your next FAMILY PORTRAIT

GRAD PORTRAIT

// END
Where there's a will

Senator Roméo Dallaire delivered the 2012 Claude and Elaine Pensa Lecture in Human Rights at Western Law Friday. A senior fellow at the Montreal Institute for Genocide and Human Rights Studies, and co-director of the institute’s Will to Intervene Project, Dallaire spoke to an overflow crowd on the need to advocate for human rights worldwide.

United Way offers student a lifeline

BY PAUL MAYNE

IT’S SAFE TO say the helping hand of a United Way of London & Middlesex-funded agency made a huge difference in the life of Western Nursing student Valerie Christie. “We can only guess where I’d be (without them),” said the 22-year-old Ontario native. “But I am very confident in saying I would not be here.”

Heading off to Dalhousie University five years ago to study Kinesiology, Christie was looking forward to her time at school. With a passion for running, she was also anticipating being part of the track team.

“Running was my way of dealing with everything in life – good or bad,” said Christie, who made the team without a problem.

But an early injury put her running on hold. Eager to get back, she was sent for X-rays, an MRI and went through physiotherapy. While doctors could find no specific injury, Christie was not getting any better and the frustration of not being able to run was setting in.

“They ended up saying it was some psychosomatic thing and they never quite figured it out,” she said. “It was really frustrating for me. I couldn’t run and things just began to get worse at school.”

Christie would soon quit school and return to Ontario. Landing in London, she tried to go to school for nursing, but couldn’t make that happen. She was diagnosed with posttraumatic stress disorder.

Then, last September, Christie attempted suicide. While in hospital, she dealt with multiple seizures and, at one point, was in a coma for four days.

For the next few months, Christie would find herself landing in and out of hospital, not able to work, and homeless. With friends in the city, she would couch surf, not knowing each night where she would be sleeping.

Getting back to her love of running, a major therapeutic outlet for her, Christie began training for triathlons with a local coach.

“She became aware of the fact I was couch surfing and knew about a local organization and had me check them out,” she said.

Youth Opportunities Unlimited (YOU), a United Way-funded agency, helps at-risk, transient and street youth access basic services and offers a safe resource centre, informal counselling and support.

They were able to get Christie into the Cornerstone, which offers housing services designed to meet the needs of at-risk youth.

“I had bad health-care experiences, with a lot of nurses kind-of treating me like I’m not a human being because of my mental illness, because of the stigma around suicide,” she said. “But then there have been a couple nurses who have been awesome and so helpful.”

“I think nursing is the best profession to help people. It is a personal relationship. I want to be nurse so that other people don’t have to go through the experience like I did.”

Western’s United Way Campaign

Campaign has raised $506,327 of the University’s $727,000 goal for 2012. Visit unitedway.uwo.ca for details.

Western News | November 29, 2012 | 15
Holiday Sale
December 4th, 5th, 6th & 7th

20% off Clothing
20% off Hats, Mitts & Scarves
20% off Backpacks
10% off Giftware
20% off General Books
50% off Sale Books (red sticker only)
50% off Calendars
20% off School Supplies
FREE Gift Wrapping 11 – 4 pm

Enter to win an Asus Nexus 7 and more

* Holiday sale discounts apply to regular priced merchandise only. Excludes textbooks, medical books, special orders & custom orders

www.bookstore.uwo.ca