Coming Events

DECEMBER 13 – JANUARY 2

13 // THURSDAY
THE WELLNESS SERIES
ElderCare Essentials: Coping with the Stress of Caregiving. Caregiving for your aging parent(s) can be rewarding and challenging. We are often faced with hard decisions about what is best for them and ourselves. Managing our schedule to accommodate the demands of everyday living can become stressful all on its own. Free, bring your lunch.
12:1 p.m. SSB 4210.

14 // FRIDAY
MCINTOSH GALLERY
7:30 p.m. Closing party. Forest City Gallery, 258 Richmond St.

17 // MONDAY
MCINTOSH GALLERY

19 // WEDNESDAY
MID-YEAR EXAMINATION PERIOD ENDS.

20 // THURSDAY
FIRST TERM ENDS FOR ALL FACULTIES EXCEPT DENTISTRY, EDUCATION, LAW AND MEDICINE.

24 // MONDAY
WESTERN UNIVERSITY OFFICES CLOSED

CHRISTMAS EVE

CHRIST THE KING UNIVERSITY PARISH
Christmas Eve Mass. ‘The Chapel’ at Reveral’s Windermere on the Mount (SE corner of Richmond and Windermere). Visit kings.uwo.ca/campus-ministry call 519-963-1477
7:30 p.m. 1486 Richmond St.

ST. JOHN’S CHAPEL AT HURON UNIVERSITY COLLEGE
Midnight Mass starting at 11 p.m. Members of the general public are welcome to a traditional candlelight service with carols. As the college itself will be closed, entry will be through the tower doors.
11 p.m.

25 // TUESDAY
CHRISTMAS DAY

CHRIST THE KING UNIVERSITY PARISH
10:30 a.m. 1486 Richmond St.

30 // SUNDAY
MEN’S HOCKEY
Windsor at Western.
7 p.m.

// JANUARY
1 // TUESDAY
NEW YEAR’S DAY

2 // WEDNESDAY
WESTERN OFFICES RE-OPEN
System opens classroom to everyone

BY ADELA TALBOT

PROFESSOR MARTIN ZINKE-ALLMANG’S first-year Physics class has changed drastically over the last five years. It’s not the content of his lectures. It’s not the room, his lecture style or even the students. It’s the accessibility of the lesson that’s come a long way, thanks to new software and help from Information technology Services (ITS) at Western.

Five years ago, Zinke-Allmang had a hearing-impaired student in a class that packs more than 1,000 registered students into North Campus Building 101.

“She needed to be able to do lip-reading, and that’s next to impossible in that room. We had to arrange to move that student to attend a smaller class, and this was not the choice of the student,” Zinke-Allmang said.

“So, I was very happy this year when it worked out quite differently.”

Zinke-Allmang has two hearing-impaired students this time around and has arranged a new way to present them with the same classroom experience available to the rest of the class.

As Zinke-Allmang teaches, his lectures are recorded using Blackboard Collaborate, a virtual classroom environment facilitated by ITS. On that system are his preloaded PowerPoint slides, upon which he makes notes during the lecture. Everything is recorded by the system.

For hearing-impaired students like Ashlee Banyard, the program has a closed-captioning option. This allows her designated note-taker to type the lecture verbatim, providing Banyard with a real-time transcript she follows on her laptop screen.

Once the lecture is over, Blackboard Collaborate saves the lecture in its entirety with all individual parts synced – slides, audio, notes and closed-captioning. At that point, Banyard, or any other student for that matter, can relive the lecture at a later time, exactly as it went the first time around.

“This is the first time the feature has been used in a Western classroom, said Jane Winkler of ITS, and the campus community could benefit from greater awareness of resources available to students who face challenges.

“Here’s Ashlee with challenges that most students don’t have to face, and here’s Martin, who teaches more than a thousand students at a time and he’s able to provide a service to Ashlee to get the same classroom experience as the rest,” she said.

“Although I can get the (note-take) r’s notes, when you read over them, they sometimes don’t make sense. But if I see it on the close-captioning, it’s much easier to understand because she writes everything the professor says,” Banyard said.

She said the software and closed-captioning feature could be useful in a lot of classrooms and to a lot of students, not just her.

“This is the first time the feature has been used in a Western classroom, said Jane Winkler of ITS, and the campus community could benefit from greater awareness of resources available to students who face challenges.

“Here’s Ashlee with challenges that most students don’t have to face, and here’s Martin, who teaches more than a thousand students at a time and he’s able to provide a service to Ashlee to get the same classroom experience as the rest,” she said.

Zinke-Allmang added while the benefit for students with hearing-impairment is great, the benefits of Blackboard Collaborate and its features are transferable.

“There’s a transferability to other courses – it is not really more work for the professor. It’s good for distance courses, and this idea is not entirely new. I look at my course and think this is the way to go.”

Request for Proposals for Consulting Services Leadership in Dementia Care: Options Study

The Women’s Christian Association (WCA) has set a ten-year goal to be a leader in dementia care by 2022. The WCA is seeking proposals from a consultant to assist the organization in defining what it means to be a leader in dementia care and identify options for the WCA to consider in pursuit of this goal.

The WCA is a non-denominational charitable organization of female leaders based in London, Ontario. Founded in 1874 as the Women’s Christian Association, the WCA has a long and remarkable history of providing compassionate care to the community, including the establishment of McCormick Home, Alzheimer Outreach Services, Parkwood Hospital and Wellspring London and Region.

Today, the WCA continues to oversee the operation of McCormick Home, a long-term care home for seniors, and Alzheimer Outreach Services, a program that serves individuals and their families who are coping with Alzheimer disease and related dementias.

A full description of the consultancy requirements can be obtained by contacting Steven Crawford, CEO, WCA by e-mail at stevec@wcalondon.ca or by phoning 519-432-2648 ext. 2319.

The deadline for applications is January 17, 2013. 

Academics

Western Film will be closed Friday Dec. 14 to Sunday Jan. 7 2013.

MCKELLAR THEATRE
RM 290 UCC
519-661-3616

$4.99 Adults Children, Seniors and Tuesdays $3.50

CLOSED FOR THE HOLIDAYS
Western Film will be closed Friday Dec. 14 to Sunday Jan. 7 2013.

HOME OF THE WORLD’S GREATEST PANZAROTTI!

Marino’s

PIZZERIA & TAVERN
1066 Adelaide St. N. (Just south of Huron)
519-438-2004

Open until 2 a.m. nightly!

2 FOR 1 SPECIAL 2 Panzarottis with 4 toppings each $15.25

Dine In - Take Out - Delivery

Proudly serving Western University for 22 years!
CommenTary

Get with the Times, New Roman

HERE’S A LITTLE secret: I mostly judge a book by its cover — despite what I’ve been taught in school. More specifically, I judge the font used on the cover. So trust me when I say that even if a book adorned with Comic Sans is a real page-turner, I just won’t be able to take it seriously.

As you may have noticed by now, I love type. One could say I’m even a little obsessed with it. But being a graphic designer by profession, I feel I have to be. I have to pay attention to the minute details others may regard as unimportant.

I’m here to tell you type matters and has a great impact conveying messages, despite what the majority of the human population thinks. Each font embodies character, not just literally, but metaphorically.

For instance, what comes to mind when you think of, say, Comic Sans? Would you use it in your resume if applying to a high-power corporation? I don’t think so.

As of this very moment, I am typing this article up in Quicksand — one of my new favourite fonts. Quicksand’s aesthetics and ‘personality’ do not bore me — making me stare endlessly at the screen until I subconsciously log on to Facebook — only to realize I’ve lost 30 or so minutes of my precious time. QuickSand, in other words, is not Times New Roman. Times New Roman, however, is the story of my life.

As an MIT student, my daily schedule is comprised of endless essay-writing, and having to submit everything in Times New Roman doesn’t help. Over the years, I have developed a distinctive type of abhorrence for it and after doing a bit of research, I think I know why.

Times ‘New’ Roman was designed in the 1900s by a guy named Stanley Morison. Morison had designed this slightly narrow font to save space on newspapers to be printed by the archaic printing press.

Over the years, it has been changed around from Times to Times New Roman, but I honestly don’t think it’s new enough.

We have entered into a virtual age beyond the printed word — an age in which people prefer to read statistics through a high-quality infographic rather than a table created in Microsoft’s 1999 version of Excel.

But, sure, if the public wants practical, let’s create everything in black and white. Let’s all eat the same kind of food. Let’s all speak the same language. Let’s all use the same font!

We, as university-level students, should be able to express ourselves freely whether it be through the way we dress or the fonts we choose to employ into our professional writing.

Isn’t university ideally supposed to liberate us through the power of knowledge? Transform us into well-informed citizens of the world? Guide us to find our voice amongst a vague sea of perspectives?

If so, why must we be standardized through typeface?

Who exactly is the authority which commanded the academic ‘Times New Roman rule’ for the years to come?

Now, logically speaking, and setting aside all forms of designer-bias, I acknowledge some of the logical arguments which people make in regards to conforming to this typeface: “It’s easy to read.” “What if people use large, spaced-out fonts to increase page count?” “What if someone uses Wingdings?”

I acknowledge these concerns. So perhaps, if we were to compromise, I would ask that Times New Roman be revamped and manipulated in terms of its aesthetics. That it understand the needs of the constantly changing world it always talks about, and have itself a little makeover.

And then perhaps (along with many other designers) could see potential in it being implemented in more than just essays.

Meanwhile, I wish Times New Roman would just get on with the times.

Naira Ahmed is the graphics editor for Volume 106 of The Western Gazette and is currently enrolled in her third year of an Honour Spec salaryship in Media, Information and Technoculture. She loves typography, fair-trade products, and Post-it notes.

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.

The Way We Were: 1946

Contributed by Alan Noon (annoon@uwo.ca)

LONDON FREE PRESS COLLECTION OF NEGATIVES // WESTERN ARCHIVES

During the Second World War, the Physics Department conducted secret research toward the war effort in the fields of radar and communications. In March 1946, several faculty and students put this knowledge to practical use and assembled from spare parts what is believed to be the first television receiver made in London. Unfortunately, the local station CPFL-TV did not hit the airwaves for seven years.

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 ‘in memoriam’ pieces about recently deceased members of the Western community penned by other members of the Western community.

• Western News accepts opinion pieces 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. Writers may only submit once a semester.

• As an academic institution, Western News encourages lively debate, but reserves the right to edit, ask for rewrite 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 benefit from a dissenting opinion published simultaneously.
Commentary

BY ANDREW PETERSON AND LORINA NACI

Imagine that a close family member of yours was involved in a terrible car accident. The accident caused a traumatic brain injury that, despite the best efforts of physicians, has left your family member with a nebulous prognosis and severely diminished levels of consciousness. The attending neurologist explains to you that your family member has received a diagnosis of vegetative state — a disorder of consciousness characterized by cycles of wakefulness without concomitant awareness.

"Only time will tell," the neurologist explains, as you and your family struggle to cope with the consequences of this life-altering event.

Consider, now, the possibility of utilizing novel neuroimaging techniques to reveal further information about your family member’s condition.

What if you could uncover your loved one is indeed aware, despite the negative results of previous diagnostic procedures? Moreover, what if these techniques could lead to meaningful communication? How might this change their condition? Could this improve quality of life?

In light of recent breakthroughs in neuroscience, questions like these increasingly represent real clinical options for patients, families and physicians. Investigators at Western’s Brain and Mind Institute, for example, have shown innovative uses of neuroimaging techniques can reveal hidden awareness in patients with severe disorders of consciousness.

By placing vegetative-state patients in a functional magnetic resonance imaging (fMRI) scanner, and instructing them to imagine playing tennis or walking from room to room in their house, Western researchers have been able to detect and reliably track neural activation in distinct areas of the brain. This data has then been used as a behavioral proxy for patients who are unable to display overt (e.g., behavioral) signs of conscious awareness, such as command following.

In this way, some disorder of consciousness patients, who were previously identified as behaviorally non-responsive, have shown they can, in fact, respond to instructions by modulating their brain activity. In the most extensive study to date, four of 23 diagnosed vegetative state patients (17 per cent) willfully modulated their brain activity to verbal commands, thereby indicating that they were consciously aware.

Critically, this technique may also permit patients to meaningfully communicate with family members and physicians. Two reported vegetative-state patients, for example, have been able to successfully answer a series of autobiographical questions over repeated fMRI scanning sessions. To accomplish this, investigators coded the two imagined events — tennis imagery and spatial navigation — with the respective answers ‘yes’ or ‘no.’ Patients were then asked yes/no questions and instructed to respond by simply imagining the corresponding activity for ‘yes,’ and the alternative corresponding activity for ‘no.’

One of these patients, London, Ont., resident Scott Routley, who has been diagnosed as vegetative state for approximately 12 years, successfully answered ‘no’ to the question, “Are you in pain?”

Given Routley’s success, as well as the existence of other patients, who retain similar cognitive abilities, a natural step forward in this research program may be to permit disorder of consciousness patients to communicate medical preferences in the clinical setting. Indeed, this practical application may improve quality of life for this population, by allowing patients a voice of a sense of agency and well being lost to the initial injury.

Although the clinical application of this research is highly promising, several philosophical questions — particularly, ethical and epistemological issues — stand in the way. These questions include:

• Should information acquired from these techniques be disclosed to patients’ families?
• Will the use of neuroimaging techniques cost too much to be sustainable?
• Is it possible for any individual disorder of consciousness patient to show decision-making capacity?
• What clinically relevant questions are ethically permissible to ask?

In January 2012, members from Western’s Rotman Institute of Philosophy and the Brain and Mind Institute came together to form a collaborative research team, with the sole aim of tackling these pressing ethical and epistemological questions. The broad goal of this research project is to develop a conceptual framework that facilitates the seamless integration of brain-computer interfaces into medical practice.

Supervised by Charles Weiger, Tier 1 Canada Research Chair in Bioethics, and Adrian Owen, Canada Excellence Research Chair in Cognitive Neuroscience, this group meets regularly to find solutions to the forgoing questions, and to develop novel contributions to the burgeoning field of Neuroethics.

Of the issues identified as ethical obstacles to utilizing these neuroimaging methods in clinical practice, the assessment of decisional capacity has become a central area of research focus.

For any given patient to make medically relevant decisions, such as consenting to treatment or refusing medical intervention, it must be evident the patient can understand and reason carefully amongst the various treatment options. In doing so, the patient shows he/she sufficiently grasps the complex medical information, is able to relate it to the consequences of choosing one treatment as opposed to another, and is able to exercise his/her own, unique rationale while making a final decision.

If patients successfully exhibit these reasoning faculties, it is said they have decision-making capacity.

If, on the other hand, a patient is shown to have a neurological condition or an insufficient understanding of the medical information, it is presumed the patient’s rational faculties constitutive of decisional capacity are limited. In these cases, medical decision-making privileges may not be granted to the patient, and will likely remain in the hands of the family, or other legally authorized proxy decision makers. This ensures the best interests of the patient will be represented in the decision-making process.

Importantly, the simple limitation of communicating through ‘yes’ or ‘no’ questions poses great difficulty for unequivocal evidence of decisional capacity. This, however, is not an ethical problem that can be avoided since most medical decisions relevant to disorders of consciousness patients will require some decisional capacity, albeit in different degrees.

Herein lies one of the central philosophical obstacles for integrating these innovative neuroimaging techniques into medical practice. How can we possibly know a medical decision provided by a disorders of consciousness patient, through neuroimaging techniques, represents a well-reasoned and well-informed choice?

Answers to philosophical questions like these are exceedingly difficult.

Yet, we remain optimistic that, through ingenuity and technical progress, solutions to these problems can be worked out in the near future. For now, however, we can be certain the use of these neuroimaging techniques will complement the clinical measures used at the bedside, thereby enhancing the diagnostic accuracy in this patient group.

By developing a conceptual framework that addresses the ethical and epistemological issues raised by this research, we hope to broaden this application in ways that stand to benefit this patient group, their families, and the physicians that care for them.

Andrew Peterson is a doctoral student member of the Rotman Institute of Philosophy. He is an associate in Adrian Owen’s lab and has a special interest in the ethical and epistemological implications of using neuroimaging in the clinical setting.

Lorina Naci is a Postdoctoral Fellow at the Brain and Mind Institute. She is a member of Adrian Owen’s lab, and has a special interest in developing novel imaging paradigms that probe residual cognition and conscious awareness in patients diagnosed with disorders of consciousness.

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.
Ivey wins global alliance honour

WESTERN’S RICHARD IVEY School of Business has been named the CEMS Global Alliance School of the Year for its CEMS Masters in Management (MIM) program.

CEMS is a global alliance of 28 academic, four social and 65 corporate partners. Founded in 1998, the MIM program has been ranked in the Top 3 pre-experience masters by the Financial Times for the past eight years. After developing a base of 16 European business schools, CEMS began a process of globalization in 2008.

The program requires students to attend two academic institutions within the global alliance during the year. The award is based on a compilation of all student evaluations of all 28 business schools in the alliance. Ivey joined CEMS in 2009 as the first North American program, and its exclusive Canadian academic partner, and launched the program in 2010.

“The CEMS Master in Management program provides us the rare opportunity to hear feedback from students who can actually compare one school to another from their own personal experience,” said Darren Meister, director of Ivey’s MSc program. “The students who attended our program were excited by what we are doing at Ivey and the results show. Our own graduates are employed at leading firms around the world.”

NEWS AND NOTES

Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry professor Dr. Victor Han was honoured recently with the 2012 Paediatric Academic Leadership Clinician Investigator Award from the Paediatric Chairs of Canada. Han, a clinician-scientist in neonatal-perinatal medicine, is also Chair of the Division of Neonatal-Perinatal Medicine, Director of the Children’s Health Research Institute of the Lawson Health Research Institute, and the Associate Dean (Research) at Schulich.

Dr. Warren T. Blume, Western Neurology professor emeritus, has been awarded the American Epilepsy Society 2012 J. Kiffin Pengelly Excellence in Medicine Care Award. The award recognizes Blume for his contributions as an early founder and organizer of specialized treatment and professional education programs in Canada.

Western faculty and staff have an extra week to submit their feedback through the WE SPEAK survey. Originally scheduled to close on Dec. 7, the deadline has been extended through tomorrow, Dec. 14. More than 40 percent of staff and nearly 20 percent of faculty have completed the 20-minute survey.

To ensure confidentiality of your responses, the survey is being conducted by an external company, Metrics@Work. Individuals who have not completed the survey will have received an email from Metrics@Work with their unique password and login information. Contact the Western Human Resources Communication Centre (hrhelp@uwo.ca) or phone 519-661-2194 if you have any questions.

Ontario University Athletics (OUA) announced its 2013 football schedule today, detailing the path the Western Mustangs need to take as they attempt to win their 30th Yates Cup championship and seventh Vanier Cup. The Mustangs season gets started Aug. 25 on the road for a matchup with the Toronto Varsity Blues before returning home for a Labour Day showdown with the Carleton Ravens. The Ravens return to OUA football in 2013 and will be kicking off their first season in 15 years.

Other highlights of the team’s 2013 schedule include a rematch of this year’s OUA semi-final on Sept. 7 when the Mustangs face McMaster at Hamilton’s Ron Joyce Stadium in what surely will be a marquee matchup. Western then plays host to the Ottawa Gee-Gees in Week Four before heading on the road on Sept. 21 for a contest with the Laurier Golden Hawks.

On Sept. 28, Homecoming features another chapter in one of the most exciting rivalries in Canadian university sport as the Queen’s Gaels head to TD Waterhouse Stadium. The team then wraps up the regular season with a trip to Windsor to play the Lancers and a home game against York when former Mustang Michael Faulds returns as the Lions’ offensive coordinator.

The Western Mustangs cheerleading team added to their unprecedented run by winning their 27th National Cheerleading Championship on Dec. 2 at the University and Open National Cheerleading Championships in Brampton. This is the fifth straight year Western has claimed the top spot.

Competing in the College-Gate Large Co-ed Division, the 28-member Mustangs squad racked up 452 points over the two days of competition, outpacing their closest competitors by 60.2 points. Along with outscoring everyone in their own division, the Mustangs put up more points than any of the 40 teams competing during the event.

Since the inception of the Canadian Championship in 1985 the Mustangs have won all but one of the national titles, winning the crown each year from 1985-2006, 2008-12.
Big Blue meets ‘Big Purple’

PHOTO BY SHAWN SIMPSON
In April, IBM Canada, led at the time by then-president Bruce Ross, BESc’85, above, announced a landmark $65 million gift-in-kind of computers and software to Western, part of a larger $210-million Canada Research and Development Centre, which will use state-of-the-art computer infrastructure to drive innovative discoveries and bring them to market.
Joining IBM Canada (contribution $175 million) and the governments of Canada and Ontario (contributing $20 million and $15 million, respectively), Western joined the University of Toronto as a major partner in the new Ontario-based multi-million dollar computing network. The new Ontario-based computing network uses state-of-the-art cloud-computing systems to process data in research areas with significant commercialization opportunities, including infrastructure, resource management and neuroscience.

We’ve got ‘Next’

PAUL MAYNE // WESTERN NEWS
In December, six Western students from three faculties were selected as part of ‘The Next 36’ – a search for Canada’s most promising and innovative undergraduates. Pictured are, from left, Lauren Hasegawa (Faculty of Engineering); Owen Ou, Ali Jiwani and Steven Wellman (Richard Ivey School of Business); and Bianca Lopes (Faculty of Social Science). (Ivey student Mallorie Brodie is not pictured.) Along with the potential of $80,000 in developmental seed money, the students will be given the academic foundation, practical skills, role models and networks to become Canada’s next generation of entrepreneurial leaders.
Meet the new ‘U.’

PAUL MAYNE // WESTERN NEWS

In some ways, it was back to the future for Western University. In January, the university rolled out a new visual identity – and with it a ‘new’ name – top administrators said would project a more unified brand as well as better position the university on the global stage.

Chief among the changes was the adoption of Western University as the institution’s widely used moniker. The university’s official name remains The University of Western Ontario, and will continue to appear as such on diplomas and official documents. But for communication, marketing and web purposes, Western University – or, at times, simply Western – is the name.

The ‘new’ name came with a new look as Western dropped the ‘Tower Logo’ in favour of a more traditional shield, an element pulled from the university’s crest. The new logo, coupled with a custom font, is now used to present the overall university as well as other appropriate areas (e.g. faculties, departments, libraries, etc.).

The more unified brand puts the university in a better position in promoting itself on a global stage, said Terry Rice, Western’s marketing and creative services director, pictured left.
Driving the future

PHOTO BY TERRY RICE

In November, Western and the Fraunhofer Institute of Chemical Technology celebrated the launch of the Fraunhofer Project Centre for Composites Research at Western. Led by Tobias Potyra, Fraunhofer manager of operations, pictured, the facility is located at Western’s Advanced Manufacturing Park. Together, Western and Fraunhofer have begun focusing on developing lightweight composites at this testing-ground facility through full industrial-scale trials. This joint venture, the first comprehensive initiative between a Canadian university and an institute of Fraunhofer, will create a unique platform for the training of the next generation of engineers for years to come.

A major breakthrough

PAUL MAYNE // WESTERN NEWS

Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry virologist Dr. Chil-Yong Kang reached a major milestone this year in his ongoing fight against HIV/AIDS, as his preventative HIV vaccine, developed from a genetically modified killed whole virus, made significant progress with results from Phase I of human clinical trials. Patients in this first phase saw no adverse reactions. Phase II will test for immune responses in healthy individuals and will take about a year, followed by Phase III, which will test the efficacy of the vaccine and is expected to take at least three years. Following more than two decades of dedicated research, a marketable vaccine could be a possibility within five years, Kang said.
Volunteer spirit takes flight

PAUL MAYNE // WESTERN NEWS
Leesa Couper never would have imagined an injured hawk on Western’s campus would have led her to volunteer her time at a Salthaven Wildlife Rehabilitation and Education Centre. But now, four years later, the Faculty of Education staff member can be found at the Mount Brydges facility, regularly caring for everything from owls and squirrels to raccoons and hummingbirds. “I think, as volunteers, we get as much, if not more, out of it than we’re putting in,” she said.

Couper is one of thousands of Western volunteers in the community. A recent community involvement survey found 65 per cent of faculty and staff respondents volunteer with at least one group; 58 per cent volunteer with two or more groups; and 30 per cent volunteer more than 11 hours per month.
Supporting communities

ADELA TALBOT // WESTERN NEWS
Barb McQuarrie, community director for the Centre for Research and Education on Violence Against Women and Children in Western’s Faculty of Education, took on a leadership role in assembling a research team to work with the Muslim Family Resource Centre for Social Support and Integration. She is writing a manual for community mentors who are being trained at the centre, one that aims to provide better support to victims of domestic violence in London’s Muslim community.

The Games our people play

ADELA TALBOT // WESTERN NEWS
Alexandra Bruce, an Engineering student at Western, was one of four badminton players to represent Canada at the 2012 Summer Olympics in London, England. Competing for the first time in the women’s doubles event, Bruce and partner, Michelle Li, won their quarterfinal match against Australia, but would fall to Japan in the semifinals and Russia in the Bronze medal match. They would finish fourth in the event, capping a rollercoaster ride. The pair also won gold at the 2011 Pan American Games in Mexico, and took home gold at the Canadian National Championships in 2010. They won a total of nine tournaments in 2011, including gold at the 2011 Canada Winter Games in Halifax, N.S.
Eyes for design

PAUL MAYNE // WESTERN NEWS
When Western's homepage needed a fresh look, the university knew where to turn – Narmata Naguleswaran, Andrea Kim, Travis Neilans, Genevieve Moreau, Cody Boyko and Bhavin Prajapati (pictured clockwise from top left). These six Western and Fanshawe College students worked full-time with colleagues from numerous faculties, departments as well as the university's main web teams in ITS and Communications and Public Affairs, to develop pages upon pages worth of redesigned sites. "It was definitely cool," Moreau said. "Hands down this has been the best job I've had to date."
A second-year student at Huron University College, Jason Khan, was named one of Canada's Top 20 Under 20 this year. Joining him were second-year student Kelly Lovell and first-year student Brooke Harrison.

Mitch Orr, HBA, CMA, CFP, CRS
Director, Wealth Management
519-660-3230

Who's quarterbacking the management of your pension assets and retirement income?

visit www.mitchorr.com to learn what your colleagues have to say about us.

"I am a very conservative investor and I appreciated the fact that Mitch respected my wishes and never attempted to convince me that I should venture beyond my comfort zone."

One of our many happy Western clients.

Mitch Orr, HBA, CMA, CFP, CRS
Director, Wealth Management
519-660-3230
Campaign marches past halfway

PAUL MAYNE // WESTERN NEWS

Western’s fundraising campaign team, led by Susana Gajic-Bruea, associate vice-president, alumni relations and development, realizes its work is far from done. But they did take time to celebrate this past November – and deservedly so – as the campaign hit the halfway mark by surpassing $375 million (currently at $378,248,642 as of Nov. 30).

That number, interestingly enough, is more than the most recent Campaign Western (2000-04), which raised a total of $327 million.

The current campaign, launched in 2007, has set its sights on raising $750 million by 2018, with a strong focus on Western students. A total of $267 million has been earmarked for students, with $218 million planned for faculty, $163 million for programs and $102 million for infrastructure.
Research cracks into mainstream

PAUL MAYNE // WESTERN NEWS

It was a hard-boiled controversy that is still popping up in media across the country. In August, Dr. David Spence of Western’s Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry, published research that showed eating egg yolks accelerates atherosclerosis in a manner similar to smoking cigarettes. The findings certainly got a share of media attention – from television (CBC, CNN) to newspapers (L.A. Times, New York Daily News, South Asia Mail) to magazines (Cosmopolitan, Men’s Health, Time, Glamour) to the fodder of late-night comedians Jay Leno and Jimmy Kimmel.

Spence was not exactly a favourite of the poultry industry after his 2010 research challenged the notion that consumption of dietary cholesterol and egg yolks is harmless. His latest research found regular consumption of egg yolks is about two-thirds as bad as smoking when it comes to increased build-up of carotid plaque, a risk factor for stroke and heart attack. The study was published online in Atherosclerosis.

Helping hand

ADELA TALBOT // WESTERN NEWS

This year has certainly been a year of service for Bev Zupancic, projects and student financials officer in the Office of the Registrar. A team leader with Western’s Alternative Spring Break, she went to Winnipeg, Man., and worked with the Siloam Mission and Winnipeg Harvest, the largest food bank in Canada.

Passionate about helping people and committed to creating and providing the best student experience, she wanted to engage with students and help the less fortunate, as she does at home in London at the Ark Aid Mission.

Zupancic is also the 2012 Western Sponsored Employee with United Way and feels inspired to continue to help others around her.
Student Life

Competition no day at the beach for student

BY PAUL MAYNE

WINSTON WING HONG TO doesn’t hold anything back. “I try to do new things and I’m always trying to learn new things. That’s the point of living a life,” he said.

Take for example the PhD student’s extracurricular activities. While nowhere near the top of the popularity list in Canada, the Toronto native has taken to lifesaving competitions, returning from the Lifesaving World Championships held in Adelaide, South Australia, this past month.

The International Lifesaving Federation collaborates with international organizations engaged in water safety/rescue, lifeguarding activities. The organization runs the Lifesaving World Championships, called Rescue Series, every two years.

With competitions including surf ski, board paddling and surf swim, Wing Hong To’s focus was on dry land, in particular the sport of beach flags, used to practice beach sprinting and reflexes.

The competition is played by sticking a series of flags in the sand — typically short lengths of hosepipe — while competitors lie facing away (and face down) approximately 20 metres away. Upon a starting signal, they race to the flags and try to grab one. The difficulty in the sport is there are always fewer flags than competitors, similar to musical chairs.

But there’s a lot more endurance, stamina and power needed, with a round run by a national finalist taking under four seconds.

Wing Hong To has been involved in the sport for four years, learning more about it while doing his masters in sports management while at Bond University in Australia.

“When I was in Australia, the university was really Americanized, so I wanted to get into the Australian culture,” he said. “I was taking a boxing class and the trainer said I’d be good at beach running. I said ‘What is it? What do you do?’ I was a swimmer and lifeguard in Canada, but didn’t know the beach side of it.”

Competing often in Australia, Wing Hong To has missed making Canada’s national team on a pair of occasions, but only four years into the sport, representing Canada at the 2014 world championships in France is not out of the question.

“It is a very good culture, and the team I was part of was really motivated,” said the 27-year-old. “Realistically, there are a lot of better athletes coming up. While I came in third before in Canada, I’m just doing this for fun. It’s an enjoyable sport. It’s fun to be involved and see all the friends you’ve made.”

As current chair of Sport Development for Lifesaving/Sauvetage Canada, he is thrilled to see interest in the sport growing to the point where funding is available for athletes to compete internationally.

While he would never turn down the opportunity to represent Canada on a national stage, Wing Hong To realizes schooling takes priority at the moment. A PhD student in Cultural Studies of Sport and Exercise, he specializes in Comparative and International Sport and High Performance Sport.

And the recent trip to Australia has refocused him as to where he should put his time when it comes to his studies and academics.

Wing Hong To plans look at national sports policies in regards to high-performance sport, looking at the differences and similarities of various governance and political systems.

“I think there will be surprises,” he said. “Sports policy and high performance is always changing. It will be interesting to see how high-performance sports connect to sports for all. If a country focuses on high-performance sports, do they take away from the sports for all initiatives, or vice versa?”

Wing Hong To said he’s leaning toward staying in academics, as a professor or lecturer, appreciating the research and writing aspect of his current work, under supervisor and Kinesiology professor Darwin Semotuk.

“I want to make an impact in the academic world in that area. It’s a very new area, less than 20 years, so there is a lot to learn,” he said.

----------

With competitions including surf ski, board paddling and surf swim, Wing Hong To’s focus was on dry land, in particular the sport of beach flags, used to practice beach sprinting and reflexes.

We have terrific flowers and sensational market gift baskets that can be easily ordered online or by phone and delivered the same day.
// STUDENT BULLETIN

BURSARIES TO LEARN FRENCH

Western University’s Très-Piétés French Immersion School provides the best French immersion experience. Apply for an Explore Bursary before Feb. 28 at students.ca and earn one full credit while learning French and living the culture of Québec.

APPLY TO GRADUATE

Online application is now open for the February 2013 in-absenta convocation. The deadline to apply is Jan. 31, 2013. Online application opens for the June 2013 Convocation Feb. 2 and closes on March 15. There is no ceremony for Feb. and all graduate names will appear in the June convocation programs. Tickets for the June convocation will be released starting the end of May.

MID-YEAR EXAMINATIONS

The mid-year examination period is Dec. 8-19. The end of term is Dec. 20 and students are advised not to make travel plans until after this date. The preliminary examination schedule is available at student-life.uwo.ca/academic/Exams.

UNDERGRADUATE COURSE REGISTRATION DATES

Dec. 8-19: Mid-year examination period.
Jan. 7: Classes resume.

// CLASSIFIED

EDITING / PROOFREADING

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

Extensive experience proofreading/copy editing - numerous 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 IFSM University. Degree achievements: Linguistics, Anthropology, Library and Information Science. Editing in Spanish also available. Email freecopyedit@rogers.com. Phone: 519-858-1971.

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, post-docs, grad students preferred. $1750/mo + utilities. Email joey.hughes@rogers.com.

Arva - 5 minutes from Western. Executive apartments in brand new building. Perfect for faculty and mature students. $975 to $1,250. 2 bedroom suites with granite and 10 ft. ceilings – must be seen. References required. Call Rob at 519-871-3006 for your private viewing.

// ACADEME

Ernest Ho, Physiology, Functional Significance of ILK/ELMO2 Interaction with Epidermal Keratinocites, Dec. 13, MSB28, 11 a.m.

Gerardo Toledo Ramirez, Media Studies, Because I Am Not Here, Selected Second Life Based Art Case Studies: Subjectivity, Autoenpathy and Virtual World Aesthetics, Dec. 13, NCB 293, 9:30 a.m.


Audrey Kay Restorick Elford, French Studies, Interpretation of the French and Spanish Subjunctive by L1, L2, and L3 Speakers: Contexts Where Mood Can Alternate without Unergammarcity, Dec. 14, N/A.

Anita Prettenjaca, Biology, Cerebellar degeneration in harlequin mice is associated with inflammation unaltered by a phenobarbital hypnotic treatment, Dec. 14, BGS 0153, 9:30 a.m.

Gabrielle Young, Education, Examining Assistive Technology Use, Self-concept, and Motivation, as Students with Learning Disabilities Transition from a Demonstration School into Inclusive Classrooms, Dec. 14, FEB 1010, 8 a.m.

David Michl, Electrical and Computer Engineering, System of Terrain Analysis, Frequent Estimation and Path Planning for Planetary Exploration by Robot Teams, Dec. 14, TEB 234, 1 p.m.

Rainer Michael Bode, Biology, Effects of Exertion Pressure on Vanegeation and Global Gene Expression in Arabidopsis thalana, Dec. 14, B&GS 0155, 10 a.m.

Margaret A. Hanson, Chemistry, Structural Insights into Group 14 Compounds of Solid-State NMR Spectroscopy, Dec. 17, CBH 115, 9:30 a.m.

Mariam Afshin, Biomedical Engineering, Automatic Assessment of Cardiac Left Ventricular Function Via Magnetic Resonance Imaging, Dec. 17, RRI, Fisher Room 1 p.m.

Daniel Schindel, Physics, The Study of Optoelectronics in Semiconductor and Metallic Nanoparticle Hybrid Systems, Dec. 17, PAB 100, 10 a.m.

Alysha Croker, Anatomy and Cell Biology, The Role of AlphaH2C46 Cells in Breast Cancer Metastasis and Therapy Resistance, Dec. 17, MBS 282, 1 p.m.

Mariam Afshin, Biomedical Engineering, Automatic Assessment of Cardiac Left Ventricular Function Via Magnetic Resonance Imaging, Dec. 17, RRI, Fisher Room 1 p.m.

Choi-Fong Cho, Medical Biophysics, Peptide-Mediated Targeting of Angiogenesis for Molecular Imaging and Treatment of Cancer, Dec. 17, MBS 384, 9 a.m.

Poyan Hashemi Tari, Civil and Environmental Engineering, Near-Wake Flow Dynamics of a Horizontal Axis Wind Turbine, Dec. 17, BLWT 130, 1 p.m.

Porang Delouj, Civil and Environmental Engineering, Uplift and Buckling of Offshore Pipelines in Homogeneous and Layered Soils, Dec. 18, SEB 3102, 9:30 a.m.

Meghan Reame, Anatomy and Cell Biology Characterization of the Circadian Properties of Run-related Transcription Factor 2 (Runx2) and Its Role in the Suprachiasmatic Nucleus, Dec. 19, MBG 148, 1 p.m.

// CAREERS

A central website displays advertisements for all vacant academic positions. The following positions are among those advertised at uwo.ca/mypersonal/relationships/academicjobs.html. Please review, or contact the faculty, school or department directly.

FULL-TIME ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

Richard Ivey School of Business - Managerial Accounting and Control seeks candidates for a tenured Associate Professor/Professor position in the area of managerial accounting and control for appointment to begin in July 2013. The successful candidate will hold a PhD or equivalent in accounting or related discipline, and have demonstrated a strong commitment to the practice of managerial accounting and control in both research and teaching. Submission deadline is Jan. 15, 2013, although applications will be accepted until the position has been filled.

Faculty of Health Sciences - School of Physical Therapy invites applications for a full-time probationary tenure-track position at the rank of Assistant or Associate Professor, in the School of Physical Therapy (MPTh) program, the Health and Rehabilitation Sciences Graduate Program, and the Interdisciplinary Graduate Program in Neuroscience. Candidates must be Physical Therapists, hold a PhD related to neuroscience and be eligible for licensure with the College of Physiotherapists of Ontario. The deadline for submission of applications is Feb. 9, 2013. All positions are subject to budgetary approval. Applicants should have fluent written and oral communication skills in English. All qualified candidates are encouraged to apply, however, Canadian citizens and permanent residents will be given priority. Western University is committed to employment equity and welcomes applications from all qualified women and men, including visible minorities, Aboriginal people and persons with disabilities.
Western Libraries creating global space

BY ADELA TALBOT

AT A TIME when the university is ramping up its international strategy and turning its gaze outward, it is also looking in – aiming to bring the world to Western by way of renewed library spaces that will foster the sharing of diverse knowledge and culture on campus.

The Global Library Space Project, an initiative of Western Libraries, will begin with a renewal of the Allyn & Betty Taylor Library, with a pilot project of an Asian-themed space, showcasing the rich cultural heritage of the region through books, stories, artifacts and displays.

“We want our library space to be evocative of a global experience, to inspire the students of different ways of thinking, of being and of being of other heritage. We want there to be that cultural place that makes you think you’re part of a big picture here at Western,” said Sherry Foster, alumni and development officer for Western Libraries.

The ultimate goal of the project is to create a series of similar, culturally themed, learning-centered spaces that will give Western students a global experience. The updated study spaces will feature cultural displays that will encourage Western’s diverse student population a place to celebrate a multifaceted heritage.

“Western Libraries is the perfect venue to bring the world to Western. Not only can students share discovery and ideas through our learning spaces; with this new initiative, we can also share their experiences and culture,” said Joyce Garnett, university librarian.

The Global Library Space Project kicked off in November, with the first donation coming from Allan and Susanne Quan, the former having worked, for three decades, in the cataloging department of Western Libraries.

The first round of fundraising looks to raise $50,000 ($1,000 from 50 individuals). The library will then use that money to begin the structural renovations and repurposing of space in the Taylor Library.

Allan Quan, founding president of the Chinese Canadian National Council (CCNC)-London Chapter, said it was his duty to give back to Western Libraries.

Together with his wife, the former principal of the London Chinese School, a former educator at Woodland Heights Public School and former chair and president of CCNC, Quan has been an integral part of London’s Chinese-Canadian community.

The couple has given time, money and efforts to support both the Chinese community at large and the Western student population at Western.

The Chinese Students Association even named the couple honorary members.

The Chinese community in Canada and at Western is big, and there are a lot of Chinese doctors and professors here (at Western). Whenever I need something, they all get behind me and support me. I owe this (donation) to the Chinese community and the Western Libraries,” Quan said.

Western Libraries will honour Quan’s contribution – the first to the Global Library Space Project – with a commemorative bookplate.

“Having Allan step up as our first donor to this project, and in turn, being our initial honoree within Western Libraries’ International Bookplate Series is just so meaningful, given his many years of dedicated service to Western Libraries,” Garnett said.

RIOT in the streets helps patients citywide

BY CASSIE PALUMBO

The CANCER RESEARCH Society thinks only a RIOT can get the public’s attention about cancer research. And Western students are leading the charge.

Developed in 2010, the Research Information Outreach Team, or RIOT, is a volunteer-driven team challenged to help the cancer society get the word out in Elgin and Middlesex counties about the progress and promise of cancer research. The team, which boasts numerous Western PhD candidates and undergraduate students.

“The Western PhD students are chosen based on the continuum of research,” Jones said. “Each member is skilled differently – from basic science knowledge to clinical research.”

Western PhD candidates Courtney Coschi, Saman Maleki, Michael Jensen and Timothy Yeung, all trainees with the Lawson Health Research Institute, make up the core panel of the team.

“It is important to tell the public what researchers are working on, so they will continue to support this cause,” Yeung said. “We try to tell the public how cancer research benefits patients and what kind of brilliant research ideas scientists and clinicians in the London area are working on.”

“The RIOT team is an excellent tool for members of the lay community to educate themselves on both cancer and the cancer research process,” Coschi said.

The RIOT program is run through the Canadian Cancer Society, the largest non-profit backer of cancer research. The program is a self-sustaining team that meets every month and contributes creative ideas to continue the growth of cancer research information in the community. The team hopes to convey the amazing advances that have been made in the last five years and the many amazing advances are still to come.

The group coordinates articles on cancer research for a regular column in the Londoner as well as invite scientists or clinicians to write about their research in that and other publications. They facilitate a host of activities, including Bench to Bedside community presentations and a soon-to-come video series.

The team also streams news by liaising with the local Let’s Talk Science branch to try and arrange a time for RIOT to present to high school students as well as help orchestrate a viewing of RIOT’s new series of YouTube videos at London’s Relay For Life 2012.

“Everyone involved is passionate about getting information out. Due to the success, they want to reproduce this panel in different places as well,” Jones said. “We have ambitious plans to broaden the platform, especially with the launch of the video. It will let more people see that we are out here.”
Study puts defibrillator implants into ethical context

BY ADELA TALBOT

WHEN IT COMES to confronting unrelated end-of-life issues, implantable cardioverter defibrillators (ICDs) aren’t right for every patient, and may, in fact, do more harm than good.

The small, battery-powered defibrillators are increasingly implanted in individuals at risk of sudden cardiac death. However, for some patients, the devices should be turned off or left with drained batteries, according to a group of researchers led by Western’s Lorne Gula, Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics in the Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry.

In Ethical and Legal Perspective of Implantable Cardioverter Defibrillator Deactivation or Implantable Cardioverter Defibrillator Generator Replacement in the Elderly, a new paper co-authored by Gula, researchers indicate the issue becomes one of ethics when dealing with elderly patients suffering from other ailments or conditions – such as cancer – that could take their life before a cardiac arrest.

According to the paper, one in five patients with an ICD gets multiple painful shocks in the last few weeks of life. For individuals already suffering from other ailments, this takes away from the patient’s quality of life, Gula explained. ICDs are relatively common, Gula noted, and while doctors are reluctant to discuss end-of-life planning with patients who have ICDs, it is best for them to inform patients during the initial consultation about the possibility of deactivating the device.

“Patients have a right to make the final decision on their care plan and issues that involve their ICD, and most of them choose to be very involved,” he said.

“It is often the elderly patient with a new illness, since ICD implant, brings to our attention that the ICD is not something they wish to continue with. Perhaps they have received shocks in the past and the prospect of future shocks causes more anxiety than comfort in the context of a poor prognosis from other illnesses.”

What’s more, for the elderly ailing patient, the risks associated with a surgical procedure to replace the ICD battery outweigh the benefits and options available.

“Discussions around end-of-life issues are sensitive and can be challenging. It is important that the patient has time to reach a decision that best suits their outlook,” Gula said. “The ICD does give several months’ notice before battery change is required, allowing for these discussions and considerations to take place. It is up to us as physicians to facilitate this process.”

At the end, it’s the informed decision of the patient that must be respected, and a conversation doctors shouldn’t fear having.

“Opinions on goals of care and best therapeutic choices can vary within a family. This can often be overcome with communication and ensuring that the main focus is on the patient’s wishes. We encourage discussion and communication, and ultimately the instructions of the patient or their designated caregiver need to be respected,” Gula explained.

“At the end, it’s a quiet campus, wherever you look, as students are hunkering down for exams, which finish up Dec. 19. Fifth-year Biology student Marilyn Kehl was busy looking over her notes earlier this week at the D. B. Weldon Library in preparation for her exam this Saturday.