Suspect was ‘on the radar’

Police: No danger in serial sex offender arrest

BY ADELA TALBOT

LAST WEEK’S ARREST of a serial sex offender who spent one September evening lurking in neighbourhoods adjacent to campus raised concerns among students and organizations who believe the threat should have been made known to them early on by police.

And while such concerns are understandable, police officials want the campus community to know no women were in danger the night the suspect, 47-year-old Bradley Priestap, was allegedly on the prowl in North London. Priestap was arrested Oct. 4 after a series of break-and-enter incidents near campus.

“He wasn’t known to be in the City of London and came to our attention because of an incident in July, in the east end - nowhere near the university,” said London Deputy Police Chief of Operations Brent Shea. “That put him on the radar screen. But we still didn’t have him as a person of direct interest for anything going on in the city.”

He said police had no reason to link Priestap to a string of break-and-enters near campus reported in the early months of summer.

“If we knew there was a potential sex offender in the area, we would let the community know. At that point, it was just a string of break-and-enters.”

Since his arrest, Priestap faces 17 charges – seven for voyeurism and 10 for trespassing by night.

Shea added Priestap’s 10 offences of trespassing by night all happened in one evening, and by that time, police were aware of him and had been keeping him under close surveillance. Because of this, no one was at risk, he said.

“But the voyeurism and break-and-enter charges didn’t come through until he was arrested. Given the chronological timing of this, there wouldn’t have been any ability for us to put a (warning) out,” Shea continued.

Since Priestap’s sex-related crimes happened before 2001, his name wouldn’t have been on the national sex offender registry. This made it difficult for police to establish quickly he was staying in London because he didn’t need to report his whereabouts.

Prior to his arrest in London, Priestap faced a number of charges related to sexual crimes. He had been convicted of sexual assault, forcible confinement, breaking and entering and mischief in a 1988 attack in Perth County. Two years later, he was sentenced to six-and-a-half years for sexually assaulting a London woman whom he threatened with a fake gun before taking her to the Fanshawe Conservation area and attacking her.

Elgin Austen, Campus Community Police Service director, said London police would have warned the community had they felt it was necessary.

“In public warnings, it usually means someone has been clearly attacked. If there’s a stranger-on-stranger attack and someone’s in someone’s house, those would need to be announced. Or, if we’ve got a creeper, then we’d have a description, that would be something that would require attention,” he said.

Austen said campus police have acted on similar scenarios, even recently, when warning the Western community about an alleged sexual assault in a residence.

“What we do to protect people on campus is by providing training in residences and a card access system. Off campus we also provide info and safety tips to students in neighbourhoods adjacent to campus.”

ILLUSTRATION BY SCOTT WOODS
**Coming Events**

**OCT 11 - 17**

// THURSDAY

**MODERN LANGUAGES AND LITERATURES**

Comparative Literature Research Forum hosts Randal Pogorzelski, Classical Studies, Western. Vigilari, of Physics, University of Michigan. Constraints on the Birth Environment of the Solar System. 1:30 p.m. Physics & Astronomy, room 100.

**PHYSICS & ASTRONOMY COLOQUIUM**

Hosts Fred C. Adams, Department of Physics, University of Michigan.

**THURSDAY**

Modern Language

// THURSDAY

MODERN LANGUAGES AND LITERATURES

Comparative Literature Research Forum hosts Randal Pogorzelski, Classical Studies, Western. Vigilari, of Physics, University of Michigan. Constraints on the Birth Environment of the Solar System. 1:30 p.m. Physics & Astronomy, room 100.

**LEARNING SKILLS PRESENTATION**

Optimize Lecture Learning. 2:30 – 3:30 p.m. Western Student Services, room 3134. Register at sdc.uwo.ca/learning.

**VISUAL ARTS**

ArtLAB Gallery hosts Dave Kemp, Prototypes, experiments and carefully-considered observations. 6-8 p.m. John Labatt Visual Arts Centre. Runs until Oct. 17.

**ST. PETER’S SEMINARY**


// FRIDAY

**DON WRIGHT FACULTY OF MUSIC – THE ORGAN**

Our distinguished alumnus John Vandenbuin, among Canada’s foremost concert artists, in a recital on the Studio 18 Casavant organ. Limited seating in Studio 18, with video simulcast to von Kuster Hall. 12:30 p.m.

**EARTH SCIENCES COLOQUIUM**

Lee Davies, Fugro Airborne Surveys. Collection and Interpretation of Geodetic Data. 3:30 – 4:30 p.m. B & G, room 0153.

**WOMEN’S BASKETBALL**

York at Western. 7 p.m.

// SATURDAY

**WESTERN ENGINEERING**

Go ENG Girl is an exciting opportunity for Grade 7-10 girls across Ontario to learn more about the wonderful world of engineering. 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Claudette MacKay-Lassonde Pavilion. Visit ospe.on.ca/goenggirl.

**MEN’S FOOTBALL**

Laurier at Western. 1 p.m.

**MEN’S HOCKEY**

Brock at Western. 4 p.m.

**WOMEN’S HOCKEY**

Laurier at Western. 7 p.m.

**WOMEN’S BASKETBALL**

McGill at Western. 7 p.m.

// SUNDAY

**WOMEN’S HOCKEY**

Guelph at Western. 4 p.m.

// MONDAY

**LEARNING SKILLS PRESENTATION**

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

**THE CHINESE PROGRAM AT HURON**

Anyone wishing to speak Chinese during travel to Chinese-speaking countries is welcome. 12:30-1:30 p.m. International Lounge, Huron. Email hws18@huron.uwo.ca.

// TUESDAY

**SENIOR ALUMNI PROGRAM**

Robert G. Calley, Division of Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery. Plastic History and specialty of plastic surgery at Western including examples of specific cases. 9:30 a.m. McKellar Room, UCC.

**FARMER’S MARKET**

Every Tuesday for the fall season. 11 a.m. - 2 p.m. Oxford @ Elgin (by the McIntosh Gallery, across from Social Sciences).

// WEDNESDAY

**TOASTMASTER’S CAMPUS COMMUNICATORS**

Build your confidence in public speaking.

12:1 p.m. UCC, room 147B. Visit 9119.toastmastersclubs.org. Contact Donna Moore, dmoore@uwo.ca or 85159.

**LEARNING SKILLS PRESENTATION**

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

**LA TERTULIA**

The Department of Modern Languages and Literatures hosts La Tertulia. Anyone wishing to speak Spanish and meet people from Spanish-speaking countries is welcome. 4:30 p.m. UC 205. Email tertulial@uwo.ca.

**MEN’S HOCKEY**

Guelph at Western. 7 p.m.

**DON WRIGHT FACULTY OF MUSIC**

Russian Masters – Western’s Symphony Orchestra. Tickets available at The Grand Theatre 519-672-8800 or online at tickets.agrandtheatre.com. 8 p.m. Paul Davenport Theatre.

---

**The 19th Annual Murray Barr Lecture**

**The Department of Anatomy & Cell Biology Presents**

**Dr. Jeffrey Conn**

Lee E. Limbird Professor Pharmacology Director, Vanderbilt Center for Neuroscience Drug Discovery Vanderbilt University Medical Center

“Allosteric modulators of GPCRs as a novel approach to treatment of CNS disorders”

Thursday, October 25, 2012 at 9:30 a.m.

Auditorium A, 3rd Floor LHSC, University Campus

Coffee and Continental Breakfast Available 9-9:30 a.m.

---

**Fresh fusion sushi by day, and now a new Japanese Izakaya Bar by night.**

Check out our newly renovated second level bringing Japanese night life to London.

Savour our fresh sushi & innovative asian flavour.

**O’zen**

**Korean Japanese Cuisine**

607 Richmond Street (at Central) 519.642.2558

dine-in • take-out • delivery
Upstairs available for large groups. Catering available.

See our 1/2 price coupon in the Western Student Guide.

---

**Western Savings from The Barkery!**

Visit The Barkery, your source for healthy nutritious gourmet dog treats and accessories in London!

Come see us with this ad and buy one bag of snaps and get a second 1/2 off!

**COVENT GARDEN MARKET**

130 King Street, London, Ontario N6A 1C5

T: 519-850-9349

thebarkery@cog.net

www.thebarkery.ca

“It’s the Bark of the Town!”
Richard Ivey School of Business professor David Sparling believes Canadian agriculture policies need to shift away from farm income subsidies and focus more on investing.

Along with innovative ideas coming out of the food-processing industry, the global industry is changing as well, with high-value opportunities in China, Thailand and India. But we’re not capitalizing on that, Sparling stressed.

“There is a romantic and historical view of farming, and farmers are unbelievably good at marketing and they really push that hard,” he said. “To me, we need to think of this as a business and not a romantic view of the past, because this is a business and the really good farmers out there are great.

“I think there are people who can make very successful businesses with small farms, but what they have to do is do things differently. They have to understand they are in a different business and have to find their niche, whether it be building on the local food movement, selling direct to consumers (farmers’ market) or on-site retail stores. There are opportunities there.”

“Overall, we’re totally out of balance as to where we put our money. Governments need to invest, not just spend. To me, investing is looking at where the future opportunities are rather than just giving money broadly.”

- Richard Ivey School of Business professor David Sparling

Research

Researcher calls for rethink on farm subsidies

BY PAUL MAYNE

THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT needs to stop putting money into the past and start thinking about the future when it comes to the billions it pours into the agricultural sector every year, according to one Richard Ivey School of Business professor.

Canadian agriculture policies should shift away from farm income subsidies and focus on investing in the food industry and raising productivity, said David Sparling, an Operations Management professor and Agri-Food Innovation and Regulation Chair.

New research from Sparling and postdoctoral fellow Nicoleta Uzea shows the financial situation for Canadian farmers has improved considerably, yet the subsidies continue.

Sparling cites Agrilnvest, for example, a program which allows farmers to deposit 1.5 per cent of sales into an account (up to a maximum of $22,500 per year) and receive dollar-for-dollar matching from the government. This has since dropped to 1 per cent.

“It’s basically 100 per cent return,” Sparling said. “It’s a very perverse program because what happens is, as prices are rising, sales are rising, farm income is rising and then, or course, the government payments into this program are rising.”

In 2010-11 the government put in almost an additional $100M and will do at least that amount again this year, he added.

“I never loved it. The larger farmers tend to do very well, and that’s a few thousand farmers. There are about 10,000 now who produce half of what Canada actually produces. And then there’s the other whole group who never ever make money, because they’re part-time.”

From 2005-10 sales were up by 41 per cent, net income rose 126 per cent and the average net worth of a Canadian farm rose by $486,000, an increase of 47 per cent. Net worth increases ranged from $190,000 for farms selling less than $100,000 per year to more than $1.9 million for farms selling over $2.5 million per year.

In spite of this improved financial situation for agriculture, there seems to be little willingness at the farm organization level to support a shift from income support to investing for the future, said Sparling, who was a poultry farmer for 20 years prior to his academic career.

He noted there are different subsidies program:

Agrilnvest, which basically gives everyone the same thing, a crop insurance program with the government picking up 60 per cent of the cost of the insurance; AgriStability, which is income insurance, and once covering as much as 85 per cent, but since lowered; and AgriRecovery, if there’s a major disaster that occurs.

“So they have crop insurance, income insurance and disaster insurance, and one of the things I was arguing was what’s this other one doing and why do you need anything else? You don’t need to subsidize everything,” Sparling said.

Agricultural policy and programs today look largely as they did for the last decade-plus, he added, focused on supplementing farm income through Business Risk Management programs. Altogether, direct support payments to farmers totaled almost $2.5 billion in 2011, compared to just over $275 million for research and market development.

“Unfortunately, income support will not make Canada more productive, nor will it open new and profitable markets around the world,” Sparling said. “It is impossible to support the view that the future of the industry is best assured by continuing to spend the major portion of program payments on farm income support, particularly when farm incomes and net worth continue to rise.”

As federal, provincial and territorial governments sit down to develop the next five-year agricultural policy framework, Sparling admitted they have to look at where the future opportunities are.

That has to be taken into account, Sparling said.

In his policy brief, A Different Future for Agriculture – Six Years that Changed Agriculture 2005 – 2010, he calls for a shift away from farm-income programs to focused investment, which seeks to modernize the food industry and raise productivity along the entire food chain, from farms to food processors, rather than simply giving more money to farmers as their incomes rise.

“Overall, we’re totally out of balance as to where we put our money. Governments need to invest, not just spend. To me, investing is looking at where the future opportunities are rather than just giving money broadly,” Sparling said.

(Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada) has a certain amount of money that’s supposed to cover the entire supply chain. But 90 per cent of that goes to farmers.

“That’s probably not the best investment as a country. We need to up the whole game for the industry.”

“Overall, we’re totally out of balance as to where we put our money. Governments need to invest, not just spend. To me, investing is looking at where the future opportunities are rather than just giving money broadly.”

- Richard Ivey School of Business professor David Sparling

Are you retired or retiring soon? Find all your options.

Contact Robert Michaud, PFP Financial Planner today.

Fully mobile and flexible hours to meet your needs.

Royal Mutual Funds Inc.
96 Fanshawe Park Rd. E.
London, ON, N5X 4C5
519-494-5017 robert.michaud@rbcm.ca

V E G O U T VEGAN RESTAURANT

646 Richmond Street (just south of Pall Mall)
519.850.8688 www.vegoutrestaurant.com

We always use organic, local, fair trade ingredients when possible.

New open Sundays for Brunch!
We are Fully Licensed!

Now offering
Triassic Therapies
now offering
Rigis, Reflexology, Therapeutic Touch
219 Oxford Street West Suite 102A
(Fenton City Naturpathic Clinic)
By Appointment only
(519) 615-5090 triassic@yahoo.com
or visit www.triassictherapies.com
Customized Packages Gift Certificates
Students & Senior Discounts

PAUL MAYNE // WESTERN NEWS

Richard Ivey School of Business professor David Sparling believes Canadian agriculture policies need to shift away from farm income subsidies and focus more on investing.
Editor’s Letter

Rankings tell a deeper story about West, not just Western

JASON WINDERS
Western News Editor

W

e’ll remember as we didn’t fare well. But there is a different lesson, one more broadly about the West than Western, that needs discussed far more.

In numbers released last week, Western found itself ranked No. 226-250 by Times Higher Education magazine’s World University Rankings. That was down from 2011-12, when the university was ranked No. 201-225. (No places-specific rankings are given beyond No. 200 on the list).

Once again, the United States dominated. Led by the California Institute of Technology, U.S. institutions took seven of the Top 10 positions and 76 of the Top 200. Canada has eight universities in the Top 200, led by the University of Toronto at No. 21.

Breaking down Western’s ranking, you see room for optimism for the home team. The university saw increases in its scores related to teaching, industry income, research and citations. The only decline—oddly enough, given its prominence across campus for the last year—was in international outlook.

For a university, still in many ways in transition, there will be fluctuations. Western saw improvement, just not rapid enough to keep up with the best. But we’re just embarking on a long-range journey, and if successful, it’ll take time to show up in lagging indicators like rankings.

Overall, what you notice about these numbers is there is so little to notice about these numbers. But with pressure to crank them out annually, and given the relative blandness of these legacy-focused results (“Oh look, Harvard fell to No. 4.”), the Times needed a new narrative to sell interest outside its primary audience— university administrators.

So, the magazine settled on pimping this set as Asia’s coming out party.

“The story of the rankings is the shift from the West to the East,” said Phil Baty, Times Higher Education Rankings editor. “The U.S., U.K. have always dominated these rankings, and they still do in terms of numbers. But what we’re seeing is tremendous upward movement from the leading universities in China, Korea, Hong Kong, Singapore. And actually, the U.S. institutions have taken, as a whole, quite a substantial hit and so have the U.K.s and so have Canada’s.”

“And they still do in terms of numbers”? In what other way do you dominate rankings?

Certainly, Asian institutions are improving, rising an average of 12 spots. But China has only two institutions—Peking University (No. 46) and Tsinghua University (No. 30)—in the Top 200. That’s one fewer than Ontario. Hong Kong adds another four to that list. Yes, Peking rose three spots over last year, but is nine spots down from two years ago.

Outside of Asia, Brazil’s top institution, University of Sao Paulo (No. 158), rose 20 places; three Indian universities may break into the Top 200 next year. Meanwhile, Top 200 U.K. universities slipped, on average, nearly seven spots; 51 of those 76 U.S. institutions slid as well.

Interesting trend? Maybe. Doomsday for the West? Far from it. Harvard fell two spots—No. 2 to No. 4. Does that mean Harvard is 100 percent worse today than last year? Absolutely not.

Watching the annual ebb and flow of university rankings, like they were weekly U.S. college football team standings, is a silly pursuit. To sell this as a balance of power beginning to tilt, that might be premature, if not a bit hyperbolic.

Yes, the Top 10 may look a bit different in less than a generation. Let’s hope so, in fact. But to me, this list isn’t about great Asian gains; it’s about Western (heminse, not university) losses.

If you need a reminder of what role investment—both financial and cultural—plays in institutions of higher learning, these rankings serve as a grand reminder.

Baty somewhat agrees. “(Asia) is putting a lot of money into their universities there. The U.K. is facing austerity measures, the U.S. has had some real issues with austerity in the great public-funded institutions. So I think there is no doubt we’ll see a continuing trend of Asia rising. The Western elites, the old guard, can really afford not to rest on their laurels.”

But this is about more than just money; it’s about the value of a university. Many non-Western nations are starting to see the societal value of creating their own superior university systems, just as Western institutions started successfully selling themselves short.

In the face of pressure—be it from a nervous public who doesn’t always understand the value of a university degree—governments looking to make an example of the public sector—universities need to stand up for what universities represent. Quit apologizing for not being something else.

That’s a truth for all to take to heart. No matter where you rank.

Events

Western looks to expand partnerships with Africa

BY JOANNA QUINN

ON THURSDAY, OCT. 18, Western will host a number of its African partners from universities and governments across the African continent, along with leaders from government, funding agencies, research partners and other universities across Canada.

True Partnerships with Africa is a one-day symposium hosted by Western’s Africa Institute. The meeting is intended to both showcase Western’s engagement in Africa and open up much bigger questions related to how the work being done there could be done better.

Over the course of the day, attendees will explore what a true partnership with African colleagues looks like, think about different dimensions of risk management, and engage in dialogue about how the changing face of Africa is likewise changing Western’s involvement there.

Ambassadors and high commissioners from at least five of Western’s partner countries, including Kenya, Lesotho, Namibia, Tanzania and Uganda, will be in attendance, as will representatives from Western’s university partners in Ghana, Kenya, Rwanda and Uganda.

It’s a unique moment for us to connect with our African partners. We have the opportunity to learn from them, and to partner with them to improve the quality of the work we do in a way that is both functional and supportive.

We also want to engage our colleagues at Western and our friends and neighbours in the London community. Among the featured events open to both communities include a book launch with H.E. Mathaba Tsipa, High Commissioner from Lesotho, 11 a.m. Wednesday, Oct. 17 in SSC 9420; True Partnerships with Africa 8:30 a.m.-4 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 18 in the Great Hall, Sommerville House; and a film screening, The Wooden Camera, 4-6 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 18 (McKellar Room, UCC).

Western is home to more than 350 faculty, staff and students who work in Africa. Their work ranges widely across disciplines, and involves every faculty on campus. Many of the projects in which they are involved will be on display at the Oct. 18 conference.

Surrounding the conference are a number of other events, including the launch of the book, Strengthening Local Actors: The Path to Decentralizing Education: Kenya, Lesotho, Uganda.

For information and registration, visit theafrica institute.uwo.ca.

Joanna Quinn is the director of the Africa Institute.
What do job losses, agricultural subsidies and seals have in common?

Editor’s note: The following was submitted by Amy Wood, a fourth-year King’s University College Political Science/Social Justice and Peace Studies student. Here, she discusses her recent experiences at the World Trade Organization Public Forum held in Geneva.

After 11 years of negotiations, the Doha Round of World Trade Organization (WTO) expansion is at a crossroads with questions of legitimacy and relevance at the centre of the trade regime itself. Since 1995, the WTO has been “opening trade for the benefit of all,” hosting negotiations to spur global implementation of free trade. The current round, the Doha Development Agenda, was launched in 2001 to lower trade barriers while bringing developing countries into the fold.

On Sept. 23-26, 500ish (a far cry from the generous 1,500 their website touts) members of civil society convened under the banner of multilateralism at the annual WTO Public Forum. I arrived in Geneva with eager intentions of collecting research on the role of non-government organizations in trade, and a relatively open-mind.

Little did I realize how open it would have to be to wrap around the forecast for the future direction of global trade.

The Doha Round of negotiations is stalled (openly discussed for the first time by the WTO Secretariat), and with it, all hopes of a single undertaking on agriculture. This would have required a commitment to sustainable development from countries heavily propped up by agricultural subsidies.

Canada missed that bullet, escaping its colonial past. However, the Canadian financial services sector at great cost to municipal governments and the current trade deficit with Europe. Yet, Prime Minister Harper is adamant about pushing a deal by December (ironic given that we are now challenging the EU’s ban on seal products which will, most likely cost more than the annual value of the seal hunt and will likely not make the EU any happier with us).

Canadians have little to gain and a lot to lose from the agreement.

Just a couple highlights: The investor-to-state dispute settlement process potentially undermines health and environmental regulation, protects investors in ways that could cost the government tens of millions in fines and will transfer even more power to corporate interests with fewer rules about transparency and accountability.

This is the frightening direction of trade, but it has been packaged in shiny new wrapping to be swallowed once more by developed and developing countries alike. When it didn’t go down so well the first time, evidenced by countries clinging to those dreaded protectionist measures, it was time to rewrite the trade vocabulary. Nonsensical words such as ‘insourcing’ and ‘reindustrialization’ splash their way across policy papers to suggest a new dimension of trade that will benefit everyone, everywhere, all of the time.

Sounds too good to be true? That’s because it is.

The story goes that trade can lessen the effects of the economic crisis by generating growth, which, in turn, leads to job creation. This makes sense except for one small problem. How do you integrate domestic and labor policies with trade policy so that more trade effectively leads to more jobs? It is the role of governments to put in place the right measures for job creation and income distribution.

Given London has one of the highest unemployment rates in the country, and the memory of Caterpillar is still fresh, I would suggest more attention should be given to this question before leaping into bed with aficionados of the global value chain (GVC). A superior way to recalculate trade flows, through a phenomena called GVCs, was perhaps the most concerning aspect of the new fangled lingo used at the WTO Public Forum.

Who is the target audience for this sexy making measure?

Canada’s small- and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs). Although they comprise a small percentage of overall trade, the government has chosen to direct their pitch to SMEs, “as a means for boosting firms’ global competitiveness, profitability and long-term sustainability.” It sounds well and good until you read the fine print.

The limited resources of SMEs and the operational requirements necessary to take advantage of the ‘added value’ could leave them lagging, uncompetitive and more vulnerable to stormy markets. It takes little brainpower to understand the beneficiaries are big industry, multilateral corporations that are already deeply embedded into the supply chain and have the necessary transnational mobility and capital flows. This leaves the question, where do Canadians fit into the global value chain?

In sum, Canadians should be deeply troubled, or at least very confused. If you can sort through the rhetoric and muddled statistics you are left with more questions than answers, halves that do not add up to a whole, and a whole lot of drift. At the end of the day, Canadians need to think critically about the future of trade, what it means for citizens, and who will be left behind.

Amy Wood is in her fourth year of Political Science/Social Justice and Peace Studies at King’s University College at Western. To view photos from Wood’s trip, visit tiny.cc/ko2n2w.

‘WHO’ ARE YOU?
The Doha Round is the latest round of trade negotiations among the WTO membership. Its aim is to achieve major reform of the international trading system through the introduction of lower trade barriers and revised trade rules. The work program covers about 20 areas of trade. The round is also known semi-officially as the Doha Development Agenda as a fundamental objective is to improve the trading prospects of developing countries.

The round was officially launched at the WTO’s Fourth Ministerial Conference in Doha, Qatar, in November 2001. The Doha Ministerial Declaration provided the mandate for the negotiations, including on agriculture, services, and an intellectual property topic, which began earlier.

In Doha, ministers also approved a decision on how to address the problems developing countries face in implementing the current WTO agreements.
The Faculty of Information and Media Studies is pleased to honour the recipients of the

Dean's Awards for Excellence in Teaching

2012

The Dean's Awards recognize outstanding contributions to the academic development of students in the Faculty of Information and Media Studies.

Paul Benedetti
Ajit Pyati
Dean's Award for Excellence in Teaching

Michael Daubs
Dean's Award for Excellence in Part-Time Teaching

In memoriam: Lisa Zeitz, 1956-2012

BY BRYCE TRAISTER

DR. LISA ZEITZ, who died Saturday, joined the Department of English on July 1, 1989. She held a PhD from Queen's University, an MA from the University of Virginia and a BA from Queen's University. Her specialty was Restoration and 18th century English literature, with a particular interest in religious and intellectual history, narrative technique and landscape aesthetics.

Before joining Western's faculty, Lisa held a Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada (SSHRC) Postdoctoral Fellowship at the University of Toronto, and won the highly prestigious Polanyi prize in 1989. She published articles in the journals Nineteenth-Century Literature, Eighteenth-Century Life, Studies in English Literature and many others.

Her work has been characterized as "shrewd, sophisticated, and completely up to date ... her writing is uniformly lucid and vigorous." These qualities also characterize Lisa's work in the classroom.

Over the years, students have written enthusiastic letters of praise:

"She is, quite simply, one of the most outstanding and dedicated teachers I have ever encountered." "(She is) a consistently inspiring, passionate, professional and innovative scholar and teacher whose commitment to her work in all its various facets affects students both academically and personally."

Lisa's commitment to her students, especially at the undergraduate level, earned her accolades not merely on account of her dedication, but also on account of the demanding, rigorous and intellectually honest expectations she had for all of her students. Nobody ever got a free ride in her courses, and every grade her students earned was a true mark of achievement.

As a colleague, Lisa was a champion for the department and its faculty, to say nothing of the students at Western. One of the staunchest defenders of a degree in English, she steadfastly maintained her commitment to small classes, close engagement with both text and students and rigorous assessment of student work. Colleagues who strayed too creatively in these areas could rest assured they would be hearing sharply from Lisa.

But she always corrected us, with principled arguments and wonderful humour. She was, quite simply, one of the wittiest people around, always ready with the quick reply and the self-deprecating comment. She had the gift of finding the absurd in the ordinary, the hilarity amidst the gravitas; and the unlikely comedy within even awful circumstances.

We have missed her for too long in the classrooms, in the journals, in the halls of the Humanities building, and in the minds of her students. Nobody ever got a free ride in her courses, and every grade her students earned was a true mark of achievement.

As a colleague, Lisa was a champion for the department and its faculty, to say nothing of the students at Western. One of the staunchest defenders of a degree in English, she steadfastly maintained her commitment to small classes, close engagement with both text and students and rigorous assessment of student work. Colleagues who strayed too creatively in these areas could rest assured they would be hearing sharply from Lisa.

But she always corrected us, with principled arguments and wonderful humour. She was, quite simply, one of the wittiest people around, always ready with the quick reply and the self-deprecating comment. She had the gift of finding the absurd in the ordinary, the hilarity amidst the gravitas; and the unlikely comedy within even awful circumstances.

We have missed her for too long in the classrooms, in the journals, in the halls of the Humanities building, and in the minds of her students. Nobody ever got a free ride in her courses, and every grade her students earned was a true mark of achievement.

As a colleague, Lisa was a champion for the department and its faculty, to say nothing of the students at Western. One of the staunchest defenders of a degree in English, she steadfastly maintained her commitment to small classes, close engagement with both text and students and rigorous assessment of student work. Colleagues who strayed too creatively in these areas could rest assured they would be hearing sharply from Lisa.

But she always corrected us, with principled arguments and wonderful humour. She was, quite simply, one of the wittiest people around, always ready with the quick reply and the self-deprecating comment. She had the gift of finding the absurd in the ordinary, the hilarity amidst the gravitas; and the unlikely comedy within even awful circumstances.

We have missed her for too long in the classrooms, in the journals, in the halls of the Humanities building, and in the minds of her students. Nobody ever got a free ride in her courses, and every grade her students earned was a true mark of achievement.

As a colleague, Lisa was a champion for the department and its faculty, to say nothing of the students at Western. One of the staunchest defenders of a degree in English, she steadfastly maintained her commitment to small classes, close engagement with both text and students and rigorous assessment of student work. Colleagues who strayed too creatively in these areas could rest assured they would be hearing sharply from Lisa. But she always corrected us, with principled arguments and wonderful humour. She was, quite simply, one of the wittiest people around, always ready with the quick reply and the self-deprecating comment. She had the gift of finding the absurd in the ordinary, the hilarity amidst the gravitas; and the unlikely comedy within even awful circumstances.

We have missed her for too long in the classrooms, in the journals, in the halls of the Humanities building, and in the minds of her students. Nobody ever got a free ride in her courses, and every grade her students earned was a true mark of achievement.

As a colleague, Lisa was a champion for the department and its faculty, to say nothing of the students at Western. One of the staunchest defenders of a degree in English, she steadfastly maintained her commitment to small classes, close engagement with both text and students and rigorous assessment of student work. Colleagues who strayed too creatively in these areas could rest assured they would be hearing sharply from Lisa. But she always corrected us, with principled arguments and wonderful humour. She was, quite simply, one of the wittiest people around, always ready with the quick reply and the self-deprecating comment. She had the gift of finding the absurd in the ordinary, the hilarity amidst the gravitas; and the unlikely comedy within even awful circumstances.

We have missed her for too long in the classrooms, in the journals, in the halls of the Humanities building, and in the minds of her students. Nobody ever got a free ride in her courses, and every grade her students earned was a true mark of achievement.
A cartographer’s guide to the galaxy (or, at least, Mars)

Martian atlas maps what we know about the Red Planet … so far

BY JASON WINDERS

FOR THIS SELF-DESCRIBED ‘Child of Apollo,’ there was no question where he would land one day.

Philip Stooke vividly remembers the impression left on him as a teenag boy watching Apollo astronauts walk on the moon. Stooke, a Western planetary cartographer, would continue that interest in the extraterrestrial – first a hobby, now a career.


Stooke, a member of Western’s Centre for Planetary Science and Exploration, previously released The International Atlas of Lunar Exploration. Both atlases, as well as his forthcoming The International Atlas of Mars Exploration – Spirit to Curiosity, 2004 to 2014, were published by Cambridge University Press.

His work follows in the great tradition of explorers who, admittedly, may have had their feet (and ambitions) planted a little more firmly on the terra firma.

“It’s not unlike an atlas of Canadian Arctic exploration with detailed maps of all the explorers’ routes, what they did at each stop, reproductions of the maps they used, and so on,” said Stooke, a professor cross-appointed in Geography and Physics & Astronomy. “This kind of representation has never been done before.”

Following the same successful pattern as his moon book, Stooke set out to bring clarity to Mars’ body of knowledge – collecting diffused facts between the same covers.

“There’s lots of information out there, but it’s scattered all over the place. What I wanted to do was bring it all together in one convenient reference work,” he said.

While researching the moon book, Stooke found himself buried in obscure archives and libraries, pulling out little-seen (or never-seen) information. Researching the Mars book, while requiring the same amount of digging, was not the same chore as the important findings came during the Computer Age. That allowed for more time in front of the computer, rather than digging through boxes of forgotten paper files.

While little he discovered surprised him, although much of what he unearthed is never-before seen by most people, he was able to “solve some puzzles” regarding the Red Planet.

For example, he likes to reference a 1971 Soviet space probe that took photos of the Martian surface. Only two, poor-quality photos were ever published, although neither pictured location had been identified. It was a mystery for the last four decades. Until Stooke came along.

“I’m kind of solving a little puzzle there,” he said. “It’s not earth-shaking, but it’s interesting. It’s a challenge.”

He describes the book’s presentation as approachable, if still academic – listing missions and events in chronological order, providing readers with an easy-to-follow history of the planet’s exploration. And while you might not curl up with the atlas at night, Stooke would like to see it as a reference work in as many libraries as possible.

“There’s been a lot of focus on Mars in recent years. Especially right now, we have this brand new big rover driving around, sending back pictures every day,” he said. “There’s a lot happening with Mars right now. And this book provides background on what’s happening right now as well as looking ahead to some rather remote future where people might go to Mars.”

NASA landed the space probe Curiosity in Mars’ Gale Crater on Aug. 6. Since, the rover has been collecting massive amounts of data on climate and geology, as well as sending back some of the most spectacular images ever seen from Earth’s most popular neighbour.

Not one to miss an opportunity to be a part of the excitement, Stooke has been tracking the rover online, using the daily pictures sent back to compile a real-time map of the rover’s activities. You can read – and see – his work at unmannedspaceflight.com under the thread MSL Route Map.

Stooke knows his book may fuel the public’s fascination and has left room for possible future missions.

“Some puzzles” regarding the Red Planet… so far. The story of Mars exploration will continue. And if it happens, you can rest assured it makes the next book.

he experienced as a teen watching the Apollo mission.

“I guess the public fascination is based on the idea it’s possible things lived there. It’s the one place in the solar system where you might have had life,” Stooke said. “We don’t know for sure that’s the case. But it’s the one possibility.”

Thinking of applying to Graduate School?

Need more extra-curricular experience?

Volunteer!

The London and District Distress Centre is currently seeking new Call Volunteers. If you are interested in providing a warm, listening ear to individuals in the community who are feeling worried, overwhelmed, sad, scared, or in a crisis, call us now at 519-667-6710, or visit www.londondistresscentre.com. Crisis intervention training provided.
PhD student explores landscapes closer to self

BY PAUL MAYNE

BE IT AS an architect, artist or graphic designer, Edgar Yanez Zapata finds himself focused on the relationship between art and urban space, or what he calls "labatories for the arts."

While the physical location can't help but affect his work, it's the 'inner self' that makes his work come alive.

"That's the idea behind why I call this show Inner Thresholds," said Yanez Zapata, who is in his third year of pursuing his PhD in Hispanic Studies in the Department of Modern Languages and Literatures at Western. His work is now on display at the Spencer Gallery in the D. B. Weldon Library until the end of the month.

"Inner landscapes are those landscapes that are part of your mind. I can be on Dundas Street and I can paint it there. Or I can be in The States or South Africa, or paint South Africa in Venezuela. Those are not Canadian or Venezuelan landscapes anymore; they are my landscapes, it's the memory and the place in which you put all the fragments of history you've experienced, it is because you are also part of the history of the city you are in. When you paint you try to express things that are in your mind."

Born and raised in San Fernando de Apure, Venezuela, Yanez Zapata knew in his teens he was attracted to the world of art and architecture.

"My dad shared with me the world of architecture and I simply began drawing cities and buildings with a lot of detail," said Yanez Zapata, whose favourite artists include Hieronymus Bosch and Rembrandt.

"When you mix in all the things - your culture, your background, your expectations, your education - everything is there in the painting in some way."

He would graduate as an architect in 1986 from Central University in Caracas, Venezuela, and begin teaching courses at Jose Maria Vargas University in Caracas. Later, Yanez Zapata's skills would take him to the School of Art and Graphic Design of the Faculty of Art at Universidad de Los Andes and the School of Architecture of Simon Bolivar University, where he would be appointed head of the Department of Visual Arts and, a year later, head of the Department of Graphic Design. Add to that his passion for foreign languages, which led him to study Brazilian Portuguese and English, Yanez Zapata now teaches Portuguese at Western.

"It's been a great experience; it's one of the things I've liked the most about being here, the teaching," he said. During his masters in fine arts work, Yanez Zapata also taught at Northern Illinois University. He chose Western's Faculty of Arts & Humanities, which he said is a "pretty open program. You need to work hard, but they take you seriously if they see you have promise."

Since 2010, he has lived in London with his wife, Sonia Bravo, and two children, Maria and Daniel. The city continues to impress him with its diversity.

"You can be on the bus and hear 10 different languages. And having all the students from so many different backgrounds to teach has been a really great experience. In The States, it is just Americans in the class. But here, you have Africans, Asians," he said. "It really adds to the experience."

His studies at Western are allowing him to research the connections between cities, people and communications, in particular, Latin American cities.

"It's not just research about language, but how language can, in terms of communications, help to develop cities, whether physically or in the mind," he said.

After two years in Canada, the country has even found its way into his work.

"You're never the same artist. You are always adding things to your experience. It's also about improving, the more you incorporate things into your experiences the more you are actually improving," Yanez Zapata said. "Maybe not so much in a technical way, but in your creativity. The more things you bring to your experiences as an artist, it will show improvement in your work."

STEP OVER THE 'THRESHOLD'

Western PhD student Edgar Yanez Zapata's show, Inner Thresholds, is on display at the Spencer Gallery in the D. B. Weldon Library until the end of the month. Visit his website, edgaryanez-artdesign.com.
Western rank dips in Times results

Another set of rankings, another disappointment for Western.

In the numbers released last week, Western was ranked No. 226-250 by the Times Higher Education magazine’s World University Rankings. That ranking was down from 2011-12, when the university found itself ranked No. 201-225. (No specific rankings are given beyond No. 200 on the list.)

The California Institute of Technology took the top spot, followed by the University of Oxford, Stanford University, Harvard University and Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

Canada has three universities in the Top 50, with the University of Toronto at No. 21, University of British Columbia at No. 30 and McGill University at No. 34. University of Montreal (No. 84), McMaster University (No. 88), University of Alberta (No. 121), University of Ottawa (No. 171) and University of Victoria (196) round out Canada’s representation in the Top 200.

Breaking down its ranking, Western saw a slight uptick in most of the scores used by the Times. The university saw increases related to teaching (39.4 in 2012-13/38.8 in 2011-12), industry income (37.2/34.3) and citations (44.8/38.3). The only decline was in international outlook (51.3/55.7).

View the rankings at timeshighereducation.co.uk/world-university-rankings.

The Times rankings are the university’s second setback in as many months. In September, Western found itself ranked No. 173 in the 2012-13 QS World University Rankings of the top 200 global university. That number is down from No. 157 in 2011-12. It was the university’s lowest ranking in five years.

NEws and notes

The Western-based research of Adrian Owen, surrounding his pioneering work in cognitive neuroscience, has hit the small screen as a plot for the new Bravo series Perception. Owen has generated widespread international attention for his work that demonstrates that some patients in a vegetative state may not only have cognitive thoughts, but can also communicate.

The American-based crime drama television series stars Canadian-born Eric McCormack as a neuropyschiatrist who assists the FBI on some of their most complex cases. The show used the idea of Owen’s research in one of their most recent episodes. Watch a clip at tinyurl.com/Boqd3k.

Having already competed at the 2008 Beijing Paralympic Games – and aiming to make podium at the 2016 Paralympic Games in Brazil – fourth-year Western student Jacqueline Rennebohm may not accomplish this without some help.

Visually impaired, Rennebohm is assisted by a guide runner in training and competition. But since her most recent guide has graduated, she has not been able to compete. The guide’s role is to orally give her directions and commands, either in a training session or race.

“I do not let my disability restrict me and my dreams,” Rennebohm said. “I have dreams of walking with a degree in my hand, and another to bathe the podium in red, white and gold on the world stage of sport. I won’t let what seems to be limitations stop me.”

If you’d be interested in helping Rennebohm, you can contact her at jrennebohm@uwo.ca. For more details and to learn a bit about Rennebohm, go to jacqueline.renebohm.ca.

Western alumna Andrea Canning has made the leap to NBC’s Dateline as a correspondent. The Psychology graduate joins the newsmagazine’s team, and will also contribute to others areas included Today and NBC Nightly News.

Canning makes the move from ABC News, where she worked for eight years as a correspondent covering the White House, Congress, Supreme Court and Iraq War.

Western students Marc Monachese (Microbiology & Immunology) and Jean Macklaim (Biochemistry) can now add ‘organizing an international conference’ to their resumes. As president and executive committee member, respectively, of the Students and Fellows Association (SFA) of the International Scientific Association for Probiotics and Prebiotics (ISAPP), the pair organized a three-day conference in Cork, Ireland, including hotel arrangements, acquiring and distributing funding, organizing a program that included six keynote speakers, producing posters and arranging social activities. Thirty-two students from North and South America, Europe and Asia attended.

Western’s Dr. Gregor Reid, Past President of ISAPP established the SFA three years ago and has seen its membership rise from 12 to more than 170.

It was a banner weekend for the Western Mustangs women’s softball team as they captured their second straight CCSA National Championship, defeating Durham College 10-2 on Monday afternoon in Regina.

“This team is comprised of a truly amazing group of young women,” said Western head coach Pete Lemon. “They are best friends, they have a great deal of fun and they can certainly play this game.”

On their way to claiming another national championship, the Mustangs outscored opposition 213-26 this season and prior to their 4-1 loss to Durham this year, the Mustangs winning streak had stretched three seasons.

Kara Stirling was named tournament MVP, going 2-0 with a 2.10 ERA, one shut out, and 17 strikeouts over 10 innings. Joining Stirling on the tournament award winners list were Tricia Mackay, Tara Cress, and Stacie Cox, all named to the tournament all-star team.

Psychology professor Philippe Rushton, 69, died Tuesday, Oct. 2 at Victoria Hospital Palliative Care Ward after a battle with cancer. In the late-1980s, the controversial professor sparked a heated debate over academic freedom at universities with his research into racial difference.
Autumn Convocation takes place at 10:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. on Thursday, October 25 and on Friday, October 26. Members of Faculty, Senate, the Board of Governors and Emeritus/a Professors/Librarians/Archivists are invited to take part in the Academic Procession. Full information on joining the academic procession (including order of ceremony, honorary degree recipients, assembly and regalia) may be found on the Senate Website:
http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/senate/academic_procession.pdf

Alumni

“I’m doing it (creating a scholarship) because I can, but also because I really would never have had the life I had had it not been for this experience. I would love to see other people have the same opportunity,”
- Bill Mara

University, alumnus traded gateways to success

BY PAUL MAYNE

For thousands of graduates, Western helped create a solid foundation for their future.

For Bill Mara, HBA’56, he helped construct a solid foundation for Western.

In 1953, Mara, a Western business student at the time, was looking to get a little extra cash in his pocket. He signed up to help construct the massive pillars along Richmond Street – actually called the Jeffrey Memorial Gates, but affectionately known as the Richmond Gates.

“I was back from a summer of training cadets (University Navy Training Division) and was looking for some extra money,” the 80-year-old Mara said. “I had worked construction before and there was a construction company that was building these gates. The only other job in town was building Victoria Hospital, but that was like eight stories and I was terrified of heights. So I signed myself up for the gates.”

Mara worked for close to a month as a mason’s helper by mixing the mortar. He specifically remembers helping to build the south pillar.

“The job I could do was the gates, but after a month they took me off that and sent me to Victoria Hospital and, of course, I found myself eight-stories high,” laughed Mara, who also drove a cab while at Western.

Born and raised in Sarnia, Mara moved to Lambeth at age 10. He remembers his two-room elementary schoolhouse, and one-room continuation school. As the first male in his family to graduate high school, let alone attend university, Mara set his sights on Western.

“My dad was the one who wasn’t sold on university. He was more of a hard-work type of guy,” Mara said. “I wasn’t afraid of hard work. I didn’t know what I wanted to do, but I knew what I didn’t want to do – factory work, construction. My dad told me, ‘If you go to Western, you’re on your own financially.’ I was angry at that time, but he told me, ‘If you go to Western, you’re on your own financially.’ I was angry at that time, but he told me, ‘If you go to Western, you’re on your own financially. I was angry at that time, but he told me, ‘If you go to Western, you’re on your own financially.’ I was angry at that time, but he told me, ‘If you go to Western, you’re on your own financially.’

Mara went on to have a successful business career turning around failing companies, before becoming his own boss with the purchase of a Michigan-based home health-care business.

“I had an absolutely wonderful career. Every my poorest days were better than anything I could ever dream happen to me,” he said. “It was never work. I can’t believe I could make a living at this. I was having so much fun that I’d do it for nothing.”

At Western, Mara met his wife of 56 years, Diana, in the first class he attended. It was in Conron Hall, where the students were seated alphabetically.

“I knew a guy named Don McArthur. He and I were sitting pretty much together, except there was a girl sitting between us by the name of Diana Mills,” Mara said with a smile. “We were having a coffee after class and he said to me, ‘Did anyone ever tell you that you have the prettiest blue eyes?’ I was like, ‘What the . . . ?’ He said, ‘No, Diana Mills, she said you had nice eyes.’

“And I told Don, ‘Well, Diana Mills is rather well-constructed herself.’

After a handful of phone calls, she finally agreed to go out with him and, as Mara puts it, ‘we’ve hung around together ever since.’

Mara admits he’d come back to classes at Western in a heartbeat. But that might not be in the cards. So, he has decided to do the next best thing. Through Foundation Western, he is establishing a scholarship for the Richard Ivey School of Business.

“I’m doing it because I can, but also because I really would never have had the life I had, had it not been for this experience. I would love to see other people have the same opportunity,” Mara said. “I want the people who are recipients to feel they have some moral obligation to do unto others as has been done unto them. That’s why I think people like me should step up.”

“The important thing is not a name on a building, but the ability to prepare the students for success upon graduation. It wasn’t a hard choice for me.”

Diabetes Update Day 2012

**Date:** Wednesday, November 14, 2012.
**Time:** 8:15 a.m. - 4:15 p.m.
**Location:** Best Western Lamplighter Inn, 591 Wellington Road London, ON

**Keynote Speaker:** Bernard Zinman
CM, MD, FRCP, FACP
“Can we Achieve Clinically-Relevant Glycaemic Control in People with Type 2 Diabetes with Currently Available Therapies?”
**Research**

**Professor makes family connection in obesity battle**

**BY ADELA TALBOT**

**AS ALARMING AS it was, it didn’t come as a surprise to Shauna Burke.**

The recent Statistics Canada report showing one third of Canadian children are either overweight or obese is symptomatic of a serious, public health concern, said the Health Sciences professor.

While she had worked previously to address childhood obesity by targeting the children themselves, Burke has honed her attention and efforts to working with parents and caregivers to develop a sustainable approach to dealing with the issue.

“We do need to develop strategies that will be effective. That’s the impetus for the focus on families. By involving families, by changing environments, by targeting that, hopefully, we are also creating long-term changes that will be sustainable for children,” said Burke, who teaches in the School of Health Studies at Western.

In previous years, Burke was the lead researcher for the Children’s Health and Activity Modification Program (CHAMP), an intervention lifestyle approach funded by the Lawson Foundation for obese children at risk of Type 2 diabetes.

The program offered a camp-based format for obese children and their families. Children attended during the week and parents would come on weekends for family-based sessions.

While participation in the program yielded positive outcomes, such as a lower body mass index (BMI), as well as increased muscular mass and vitality, researchers found two things following two summers of running CHAMP: Some parents wanted increased participation, but their attendance was significantly lower when compared to that of the children.

“Literature supports that a family-based approach is the most effective. With CHAMP, the family piece wasn’t as strong as we would have liked it to be. So we thought, maybe we’re approaching this wrong,” Burke said.

And that’s what kick-started CHAMP Fami-lies – an intervention program that will work with obese children by targeting their caregivers.

“I felt from the start a family-based approach was going to be integral. Parents serve as role models for their children; the health behaviours children see are the ones they often model. The environment in which the children live is really crucial in determining and supporting the health of the child,” Burke said.

“With eat-less-move-more programs, it’s not as effective. It’s easy to take a child out of their environment and see behaviour change. That’s not surprising. What’s important is this idea of sustainability when the child goes home,” she said.

“We see a lot of short-term changes. Where we’ve been failing is in creating programs that ensure changes last beyond duration of the program. This is a promising approach.”

The new approach is all about empowering families to make the right choices and supporting one another in maintaining healthy habits, Burke continued.

Grant applications have been filed and Burke is gearing up for two focus groups with caregivers.

“With eat-less-move-more programs, it’s was about blame; it’s about empowering families and giving them the tools they need to make healthy choices and serve as positive role models for life. Any family can benefit from this,” Burke said.

**STUDENT URGES LONDON TO ‘GET MOVING’**

Kristen Roglasky, a master’s student in Kinesiology at Western, has partnered with Special Olympics London and fitness organizations such as YMCA London and the Hutton House to commemorate International Fitness Day on Oct. 13.

Roglasky helped organize Move It London!, a day introducing different forms of fitness to individuals who may not currently be involved in sport or fitness.

“We want to show people that fitness can be fun, free and accessible,” Roglasky explained.

Set to run all day Saturday, the morning activities will take place in London’s BMO Dome while the afternoon activities will take place in Gibbon’s Park. Everyone is welcome.

“We’re hoping we can get the community behind this initiative and make it an annual event where Londoners can come together to demonstrate the importance of fitness,” Roglasky said.
Western News | October 11, 2012

Colour me autumn

With fall making its presence known on campus, and the acres of bushes and trees now creating a kaleidoscope of colours, it’s one more reason to solidify why Western has become known for having one of, if not the most, beautiful campuses in Canada.

New school rethinks arts and humanities education

BY ADELA TALBOT

NEXT FALL, WESTERN will welcome 25 undergraduate students to its new School for Advanced Studies in the Arts and Humanities (SASAH), a unique-to-Canada program offering what organizers call an elite liberal arts education.

“There was an impetus and the idea, floating around the faculty, to revisit the liberal arts model at a time when the disciplines are increasingly fragmented and separated from one another,” said Joel Faflak, the school’s director and professor of English at Western. “The school came from the idea of putting the arts and humanities front and center; it’s a flagship for the arts and humanities.”

The program will provide students with interdisciplinary study options, new language skills, experiential learning, interaction with new technologies as well as international travel and exchange options.

With appointed teaching fellows from the Faculty of Arts & Humanities, the school will be housed in the D.B. Weldon Library and offer a standalone curriculum.

Faflak explained potential candidates, who apply directly to the program, will be screened based on a portfolio showcasing exemplary academic work, community engagement and extracurricular activities.

Classes will include team teaching from the school’s fellows. Students will learn also by engaging in the community – in museums, with community organizations and other cultural institutions. The fourth-year capstone course will include international travel and exchange opportunities.

“The experiential part, people don’t tend to associate with the arts and humanities. We’re trying to raise the profile and concentrate on some of the things we do best,” said Michael Milde, Arts & Humanities dean.

Faflak agrees. “We’re not just training academics – we’re training a broad range of students to do a lot of different things, and that can’t be a bad thing,” he said.

Students will graduate with a double major – one from the school, another from an existing program within the faculty.

“We won’t be a professional school or program; that’s not what we want to do. We want to do is get the idea across that educating the imagination, educating students in the work of culture, has always been a vital necessity. We want to have (students) think about their work and its impact on them as citizens and the world at large,” Faflak said.

“It’s not just about people getting their degrees in English or Visual Arts. It’s about broadening the purpose of a liberal arts education, which is vital, especially in this moment in time, the way the globe is going. We need creative thinkers, imaginative thinkers and arts and humanities is, quite frankly, one of the best places to do that kind of training.”

EDUCATING IMAGINATIONS

Visit Western’s new School for Advanced Studies in the Arts and Humanities (SASAH) at its website: www.uwo.ca/arts/SASAH.
Welcome to your London Home
the convenience of Apartment Living!
Blossom Gate offers you varied floorplans in either our existing lowrise and highrise buildings. OR choose one of our newer highrise buildings - rent varies accordingly.

- 1/2 block to shopping centre
- On-site variety store
- Direct bus to downtown & Western Campus

To receive admission applications: Medicine, Oct. 15, Ivey 1N05. 10 a.m.

STUDENT CENTRAL
IN-PERSON HOURS
Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday from 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. Wednesday from 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

AUTUMN GRADUATION
Autumn Convocation Information has been sent out to all students who applied to graduate for the Autumn. 
Online autumn convocation tickets will be available at convocation.uwo.ca starting Oct. 11. Visit convocation.uwo.ca for more information.

STUDENT CENTRAL HELPLINE HOURS
Monday-Friday from 9 a.m.-4 p.m. 519-661-2100.

ALTERNATIVE SPRING BREAK
Are you interested in engaging in community service work – locally, or across the globe? The Student Success Centre and Western Residences Life are pleased to offer staff and faculty at Western the opportunity to be involved in Alternative Spring Break 2013. Information about the program and applications can be found at asb.uwo.ca.

SDC PSYCHOLOGICAL SERVICES
Get stress? Check out a variety of free multi-week psychological skill-development groups and psycho-educational lectures on such topics as: managing anxiety and stress, regulating emotions, and dealing with thesis stress. Space is limited. Registration required. Check out sdc.uwo.ca/student for more information.

UNDERGRADUATE COURSE REGISTRATION DATES
Oct. 15: Deadline to apply for relief against a final grade in a Spring/Summer Distance Studies course. Last day to receive admission applications: Medicine for 2013.
Oct. 22: First day of first-semester second quarter (R) courses (Kin).
Oct. 25-26: Autumn Convocation.
Oct. 26: Last day to add a first-term second quarter (R) course (Kin).

// ACADEME

PHD LECTURES
Chrys Martin, Kinesiology, Exploration of Three-dimensional Morphometrics of the Hip Joint and Reconstructive Technologies, Oct. 11, TBA. 9:30 a.m.
Matthew Maxwell-Smith, Psychology, The When (and How) of Intergroup Competition and Discrimination: Distinguishing the Contributions of Competitive Perceptions and Motivations, Oct. 12, SSC 9420. 1:30 p.m.
Mark Joll, Theory and Criticism, City Limits: A Psychoanalyst of Urbanism and Everyday Life, Oct. 12, N/A.
Mahmoud Meckkey El Sharnouby, Civil and Environmental Engineering, Monotonic and Cyclic Behaviour of Steel Fibre-Reinforced and FRP-Steel Fibre-Reinforced Helical Pile Ducts, Oct. 15, SEB 3102. 9 a.m.
Michael Wood, Business Administration, Organizational Perceptions and Responses to the Natural Environment, Oct. 15, Ivey 1N05. 10 a.m.

Daniel A. Costa, Chemical and Biochemical Engineering, Calcium Phosphate-Based Resorbable Biomaterials for Bone Regeneration, Oct. 16, TEB 434. 10 a.m.
Akshaya Kumar Moharan, Electrical and Computer Engineering, Subsyncronous Resonance in Wind Farms, Oct. 18, TEB 234. 9 a.m.

FACULTY & STAFF

Dr. C.A. Venesossof, professor emeritus (French), recently published a biographical study of Madame de Maintenon, the woman Louis XIV married ‘secretly’ in 1683, and who became the most famous courtesan without a crown. Right Madame de Maintenon, sans retouches, Tubingen, Bibliol 17, Narr Verlag, 2012.

Professors Peter Libbott and J.D. Han of King’s University College were invited to present a paper in the International Workshop Outward and Upward Mobilities: Families from South Korea in a Transnational Era, which was held on Sept. 27-28 at York University. Their paper, Immigration and Student Migration, focuses on an increasing integration between student migration and Korean immigration, and explores an emerging ‘statistical grey zone’ about non-traditional migrants straddling between short-term educational migration and permanent immigration. The international workshop was sponsored by the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada, and others. In the workshop, 22 presenters dealt with the theoretical framework of transnationalism of migration, Korean education migration to Canada and to the world, the survey results of the mental health issues of the accompanying families of Korean students, and so forth. They also have agreed to strengthen the research networking and international collaboration.

APPOINTMENTS

Shelley P. McKellar, Hannah Chair, History of Medicine, Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry, July 1, 2012, June 30, 2017.

The Way We Were: 1949

Contributed by Alan Noon (noon@uwo.ca)

Beginning in 1948, Anatomy professor Murray Barr and graduate student Ewart George Bertram began to study changes in the structure of cells following increased nerve activity. Their work led to the discovery of the sex chromatin body, which later to be renamed the Barr Body. Professor Barr (1908-95) received numerous honours during his lifetime including a nomination for a Nobel Prize. Bertram, left, is photographed with Barr conferring in the lab at the South Street Medical School shortly before the announcement of their discovery.
Academics

Conversation develops in wake of Wente controversy

BY ADELA TALBOT

SPARKED BY CONTROVERSY surrounding Globe and Mail columnist Margaret Wente, discussions about plagiarism are popping up across campus—particularly, and not surprisingly, in journalism classes.

But for Western professor Romayne Smith Fullerton, Wente’s recently exposed gaffes are symptomatic of a problem that goes far beyond plagiarism. Smith Fullerton appeared on a recent installment of TVO’s The Agenda with Steve Paikin, discussing truth in modern journalism, with other professionals in the field.

“Kelly McBride of The Poynter Institute (for Media Studies) called the problem a ‘crisis in originality.’ I would add to that. I think it’s a crisis in thinking,” said Smith Fullerton, who teaches in Western’s graduate journalism program. “How is it that we educate students to actually be thinkers, and independent thinkers, in journalism classes? That’s a difficult thing to do.

“The vast majority of the system is really all about downplaying originality, conforming to rules, conforming your ideas and not using the first person.”

The habits modern journalism programs must teach—the basics of reporting, if you will—don’t encourage independent thinking, she continued. It is difficult, as is, to balance the necessities of academic rigor and practical reporting skills in intensive journalism programs such as Western’s.

“We have to teach this institutionalized stuff, but we don’t have as much room to explore and make students think originally,” Smith Fullerton said, noting this issue doesn’t just affect journalism students.

“It’s a problem right across the board, and it’s a problem in undergraduate degrees. (Original) thinking is a leap and it’s not asked for earlier.”

The solution, at least for journalism students and those working in the field, is simple. The technology that helps locate other sources and articles, the very technology that helps others catch an act of plagiarism, can be put to a good use, Smith Fullerton said. Instead of citing and re-writing the original source, just refer to it and provide a hyperlink. It’s easy and transparent.

“Build on what’s there. Add your voice and make it clear what has gone before. The other solutions require a genuine commitment to come up with new models of learning and new models of journalism,” she said.

Paul Benedetti, coordinator of Western’s journalism program, added technological advances have led to a new way of reporting.

“A new kind of writing is emerging because everything is available. ‘Patch writing’ is trolling around and getting two or three articles and stitching graphs together loosely,” he explained, adding certain challenges arise when teaching students plagiarism in a journalism classroom.

“We do presume students are familiar with plagiarism rules from their undergrad experience. But we don’t take that for granted,” he said. “Because plagiarism in journalism is a cardinal sin, we give them a heads up (during orientation) that it’s a serious problem in the profession and in the graduate program.”

It’s necessary early on to note the differences between plagiarism in journalism and academic writing, Benedetti continued. He stressed attribution, while omitting citations and footnotes, tends to be a stumbling block for some.

“We don’t cite and footnote and that puts students in a quandary. There’s real confusion and worry on the students’ part in first term. We work by example and by trial and error,” he said.

That said, Benedetti is thankful cases of plagiarism have been rare in the program—only two in more than a decade.

“One was classic plagiarism. The student lifted chunks of material, paragraph-sized chunks, sentences from another source, without rewriting it. The student had a certain way of writing and the voice here was different,” Benedetti said, adding the student had also forgotten to change the font when copy and pasting.

The other instance, in which a student fabricated interviews and details for a story, wasn’t plagiarism per se. In both cases, the students left the program.

Plagiarism—defined by the university as an act or instance of copying, stealing or appropriating another’s words, work or ideas and passing them off as one’s own—is just one of nine scholastic offences set out by the university. Others include cheating on an exam and resubmitting work for which credit was assigned in another class.

A 2010-11 report submitted to Senate noted roughly 200 instances of academic offences on campus, 150 of which were cases of plagiarism, said John Doerkksen, Western’s vice-provost (academic programs and students). His office is still preparing the report for the previous academic year.

Consequences for all scholastic offences vary and range from a warning, a failing grade on the assignment, a failing grade in the course or an expulsion.
Shuffling in the season

With temperatures dropping along with the leaves, students are sporting warmer duds and rain boots on campus.

The Academic Integrity Survey at Western

Students, faculty members, teaching assistants...

Please help Western understand your perspective on academic misconduct and how we can support our culture of integrity

Check your Western e-mail in October for more information!

Be part of this Canadian wide survey conducted through Rutgers University in New Jersey

Your ANONYMOUS responses are needed!

Questions? Contact: Dr. Ken N. Meadows, Teaching and Learning Services; kmeadow2@uwo.ca

Help protect the integrity of Western’s degrees