New day dawning downtown?

Western gets green light to plan downtown move

BY HEATHER TRAVIS

THE UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN Ontario has been given the green light to start preparing a comprehensive business plan for the use of City Hall and other areas of the Civic Campus, following a motion approved Tuesday night at a special London city council meeting.

Council has agreed to enter into discussions with Western regarding the university’s interests in downtown. Western must submit a business plan by March 2012, which would include details as to the potential use of the Civic Campus – City Hall, Centennial Hall and the associated parking facility.

There is currently a long-term lease agreement on Centennial House. So, while it will be part of the discussion, the timeframe for when it would be available would be different.

But before Western can move downtown, City Hall must be relocated.

The city is also asking for details on what investment requirements Western is expecting in the current facilities, as well as information about funding partners including other levels of government. The city wants Western to outline the benefits to the community as a result of this endeavor, an implementation strategy and timeline for completion.

“I am very pleased to hear that the mayor and council have confirmed their interest in bringing Western to City Hall,” says Western president Amit Chakma. “We look forward to discussing how Western will be able to play a considerable role in creating a more vibrant and prosperous London through an expanded presence in downtown. This is a tremendous opportunity to partner with the City of London and fulfill the future potential for this important location.”

This puts in motion a plan to create a presence for Western in the downtown.

“The concept is Western should have a presence in this city,” Chakma says, noting the only way the university is entertaining the idea is if a building donation is on the table.

“If the proposition from the city is we have to buy that building for $30 million or $40 million, the conversation ends immediately,” Chakma says. “Not because I don’t think it is worth investing that sort of money. No, the business plan simply does not work. How do I know? I’ve done these sorts of things many times before.

“We need to have the land and the building free of charge. We need some support for renovation, then actually the business plan works.”

DOWNTOWN // CONTINUED ON PAGE 3
Coming Events

06 // THURSDAY

Men's / Women's Cross Country
Western Mustang Open, Women's 3 p.m. Men's 3:30 p.m.

Writing Support Centre Workshop
Writing a Thesis Statement. WSS Room 3134. Register at sdc.uwo.ca/writing. 12:30 – 1:30 p.m.

Physics & Astronomy Colloquium

2011 Joanne Goodman Lecture series
John English, Distinguished Professor Emeritus, Department of History & Centre on Foreign Policy and Federalism, University of Waterloo. “Ice and Water, Can the Arctic Be Governed.” McKellar Room, UCC. 4:30 p.m. Visit: history.uwo.ca/events/joannegoodmanlectures.html

Women's Hockey
Team China at Western. Thompson Arena. 7:30 p.m.

07 // FRIDAY

Biochemistry Visiting Speaker Seminar Series
Ray Trewey, University of Michigan. “Structure and Function of Protein Methylation transferases and Demethylases.” MSB 384, 10:30 a.m.

Department of Anatomy and Cell Biology
Joanne Nash, Department of Cell & Systems Biology, the University of Toronto. “Understanding Changes in Synaptic Plasticity in the Parkinsonian Striatum.” MSB 282, 12:30 p.m.

Faculty of Education
Paivi Berg, University of Helsinki, Finland. “Researching Physical Education Ethnographically.” Faculty of Education, Room 1139. 2 – 3 p.m.

Women's / Men's Tennis
OUa finals at Western. 10 a.m.

Women's Field Hockey
Waterloo at Western. 10 a.m.

Men's Baseball
Toronto at Western. 1 & 3:30 p.m.

Modern Languages & Literatures, Hispanic Studies
Spanish Film Series. “Lista de espera” J. Tabio. 2000 Waiting List (107 mins). Cuba. SEB, room 1200. 7 p.m. All screenings are free in Spanish with English subtitles.

Men's Hockey
RMC at Western. 7:35 p.m.

08 // SATURDAY

Men's Football
Guelph at Western. 1 p.m.

Men's Baseball
McMaster at Western. 1 p.m.

Women's Hockey
Laurier at Western. 4:30 p.m.

Men's Hockey
Carlton at Western. 7:30 p.m.

09 // SUNDAY

Women's Hockey
Waterloo at Western. 2 p.m.

11 // TUESDAY

Senior Alumni Program
Richard Seemans, Department of Music Research and Composition, Western. “Dancing at Louis XV’s Court” Social Impetuses that Shaped Ballroom Dancing by Noblemen, the Conventions of Theatrical Dancing by Professionals, and the Institutions Set into Place to Nurture Both Groups of Performers. McKellar Room, UCC. 9:30 a.m.

Writing Support Centre Workshop
Writing with Clarity. WSS Room 3134. Register at sdc.uwo.ca/writing. 12:30 – 1:30 p.m.

The Department of Modern Languages & Literatures
CineClub italiano – “II Gattopardo.” (The Leopard, L. Visconti, 1963) University College, Room 84. 7:30 p.m. All screenings will be with English subtitles. Admission is free.

Western Engineering
IBM Centennial Lecture. Bruce Ross, (BSc’65) President, IBM Canada, will be discussing how humanity’s rapidly increasing ability to manage information shapes the present and our future. He will also present a rich narrative of IBM’s 100-year history. Spencer Engineering Bldg. (SEB) 1200. 10 a.m.

Blood Donor Clinic
Health Sciences Addition, Room 101. Sponsored by the Canadian Federation of Medical Students. 10 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Toastmaster’s Campus Communications
Build your confidence in public speaking. Meets every Wednesday 12 – 1 p.m. in the UCC. – check the website for specific room: cctm.freetoasthost.info. Contact Donna Moore, dmoore@uwo.ca or 851-59.

GradWrite Workshops
Be Good To Your Colon: Punctuation. WSS Room 3134. Register at sdc.uwo.ca/writing. 12:30 p.m.

GradWrite Workshops
Writing For the Outside World: Getting Published. WSS Room 3134. Register at sdc.uwo.ca/writing. 1:30 p.m.

Writing Support Centre Workshop
Writing a Book Review. WSS Room 3134. Register at sdc.uwo.ca/writing. 2:30 – 3:30 p.m.

The Department of Modern Languages & Literatures
Presenting “La Tertulia” Spanish Conversation Group. Anyone wishing to speak Spanish and meet people from different Spanish-speaking countries is welcome. Wednesdays at 12:30 p.m. UCC 117. Email tertula@uwo.ca.

Women's Field Hockey
Waterloo at Western. 10 a.m.

Western Engineering
IBM Centennial Lecture. Bruce Ross, (BSc’65) President, IBM Canada, will be discussing how humanity’s rapidly increasing ability to manage information shapes the present and our future. He will also present a rich narrative of IBM’s 100-year history. Spencer Engineering Bldg. (SEB) 1200. 10 a.m.

Blood Donor Clinic
Health Sciences Addition, Room 101. Sponsored by the Canadian Federation of Medical Students. 10 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Toastmaster’s Campus Communications
Build your confidence in public speaking. Meets every Wednesday 12 – 1 p.m. in the UCC. – check the website for specific room: cctm.freetoasthost.info. Contact Donna Moore, dmoore@uwo.ca or 851-59.

GradWrite Workshops
Be Good To Your Colon: Punctuation. WSS Room 3134. Register at sdc.uwo.ca/writing. 12:30 p.m.

GradWrite Workshops
Writing For the Outside World: Getting Published. WSS Room 3134. Register at sdc.uwo.ca/writing. 1:30 p.m.

Writing Support Centre Workshop
Writing a Book Review. WSS Room 3134. Register at sdc.uwo.ca/writing. 2:30 – 3:30 p.m.

The Department of Modern Languages & Literatures
Presenting “La Tertulia” Spanish Conversation Group. Anyone wishing to speak Spanish and meet people from different Spanish-speaking countries is welcome. Wednesdays at 12:30 p.m. UCC 117. Email tertula@uwo.ca.

Homecoming 2011

PHOTOS BY HEATHER TRAVIS AND PAUL MAYNE // WESTERN NEWS

Chilly temperatures didn’t keep Homecoming gathering this past weekend as thousands of alumni and current students were ‘purple and proud’ all weekend long. From honouring past alumni and dancing to the marching band during the parade, to cheering the Mustang football team on to victory and reminiscing with former classmates, Homecoming definitely lived up to the expectations – and then some.

Revisit Homecoming 2011 by viewing Western’s flickr gallery at: flickr.com/photos/alumniwestern/collections/72157627662656159/
None of this is off the table as far as London Mayor Joe Fontana is concerned.

Part of the discussions will include the possibility of donating the Civic Campus to Western. “We are talking about the whole City Hall lands, which includes the City Hall, Centennial House and Centennial Hall as a campus,” Fontana says.

“Therefore, part of the negotiations and discussions will be what the city is prepared to donate and give to Western. But we want to work with them on their business plans to see the timing, and the financial implications as we do on a going-forward basis,” he says.

“But that’s an important first step that we’ve taken to welcome the proposal and the opportunity to work with Western on them bringing their campus here.”

Fontana speaks about a significant contribution to Western in much the same way as he did with Fanshawe College. In May, London City Council agreed to provide $20 million in funding for a new downtown campus for Fanshawe.

“The hard work begins in terms of talking about timing, about financial considerations. It also means a lot of financial considerations for the City of London because we have to move,” the mayor says. “It’s got to be a win-win for everyone and it is because Western coming here is a big win for the City of London and downtown.

“This is part of a greater vision for London.”

Currently, Janice Deakin, provost and vice-president academic, is consulting with Western’s faculty deans to discuss their interests in expansion downtown.

The university is interested in creating a ‘Western Centre’ focusing on graduate education, professional programs, continuing education and service-learning activities. At present, Continuing Studies at Western, located in the Citi Plaza (formerly Galleria London), is the university’s only presence downtown.

Chakma says the downtown presence will serve as a ‘Gateway to Western.’ As the buildings are located along a main transportation route through the city, there is an opportunity to use the facility as a hub for research activities involving the community. For example, public policy and municipal government research would be a natural fit, he says.

“It is not the building that is of interest, per se, as useful as it is. It is really the location of the site,” he says.

Undergraduate programs will remain on the main campus, Chakma assures, as will graduate programs with strong ties to campus, such as those requiring lab space and regular use of campus resources.

The transfer of the property of City Hall and Centennial Hall from the City of London to Western would likely occur over a five-year time period and is dependent on numerous factors, such as Western preparing its academic plans and City Hall finding a new location.

The Centennial House apartments would be acquired at a much later date, as the city is subject to lease terms with the current tenants.

“Western’s interest in coming downtown in a significant way is not only positive and constructive for the university’s growth and future, but obviously very much impacts our growth and future,” Fontana says.

Moving Western downtown would produce significant economic value for the city, he says.

“As the mayor, I want to make London the education capital, of Canada and I think there is no doubt with Fanshawe (College) coming and Western wanting to come downtown … we think this is an incredible opportunity for both institutions.”

But a move to City Hall doesn’t come without its costs.

“The 40-year-old building requires much-needed renovations. A Jan. 27 report to council discussing renovation plans proposed for City Hall (for its current needs) estimates the cost at $25 million. That number includes the removal of asbestos and accommodating accessibility requirements,” Chakma says.

Fontana promises to provide Western “with a clean bill of health, so to speak, on the building as part of the arrangements,” meaning the asbestos removal will be completed.

“By being opportunistic, we are trying to marry what this opportunity presents with our strategic goals,” Chakma says. “We are not going to do something that cannot be supported and we need to have a solid business plan.”

The estimated cost of renovating the 170,000 square feet of space at City Hall for Western’s purposes is unknown. Much depends on which programs are relocated. The university also wants to ensure it is inheriting “clean and usable space,” meaning the asbestos is removed and the building is not stripped to its shell.

“Once we know what we want to do, we can estimate what those costs are going to be,” Chakma says. “The next stage, I would imagine that we would be seeking other sources of funding. … Clearly, we have to find more resources to adapt the building to our needs. It may so happen we may have to put some of our own money, as is the case with most of the projects.”

With London Central Secondary School neighbouring City Hall, the university sees potential in partnering with the Thames Valley District School Board (TVDSB) to offer transitional programs for international students. At the council meeting Tuesday, it was revealed TVDSB has expressed interest in the downtown education campus concept. King’s University College is also interested in a downtown campus.

“I think, in return, what the city is going to get in the long term will be worth significantly more than it is worth now,” Chakma says, citing the development of the Advanced Manufacturing Park as an example of adding value and kick-starting development of municipal-owned property.

Tap universities, such as Harvard, have experienced significant growth in professional programs, continuing studies and certificate programs, Chakma says. Likewise, Western needs to meet the growing demand for such programs.

“My prediction is we will continue to grow, not necessarily in the traditional areas,” he says. “It is prudent to be careful, but it is not wise to be hampered within the 400 acres of Western.”

Centennial Hall is also being considered as part of the package, but Chakma says “it is not in good shape for high-level performances.”

He continues, “At some point in the time, the city and the university will need to bring our thoughts together to deal with the performance theatre. I think that is the next step. It is not just us – it’s not just the university and the city – there are other stakeholders … Centennial Hall may not be the right location for that.”

A performing arts facility has been on Western’s Long-Range Space Plan for several years, championed by former Don Wright faculty of Music dean Robert Wood and former provost and vice-president academic Fred Longstaffe. However, in the 2011-12 operating and capital budget, it remained item No. 27 of 29 under the category for future consideration.

“The performance hall is No. 26 not because it is not as important as the other items above it on that list,” Chakma says, noting should funding become available for the performing arts facility, it would move up the list. “We need to be strategic and we also need to be opportunistic, and finally, of course, we also have to be realistic.”

***

Tap universities, such as Harvard, have experienced significant growth in professional programs, continuing studies and certificate programs, Chakma says. Likewise, Western needs to meet the growing demand for such programs.

“My prediction is we will continue to grow, not necessarily in the traditional areas,” he says. “It is prudent to be careful, but it is not wise to be hampered within the 400 acres of Western.”

Centennial Hall is also being considered as part of the package, but Chakma says "it is not in good shape for high-level performances."

He continues, “At some point in the time, the city and the university will need to bring our thoughts together to deal with the performance theatre. I think that is the next step. It is not just us – it’s not just the university and the city – there are other stakeholders ... Centennial Hall may not be the right location for that.”

A performing arts facility has been on Western’s Long-Range Space Plan for several years, championed by former Don Wright Faculty of Music dean Robert Wood and former provost and vice-president academic Fred Longstaffe. However, in the 2011-12 operating and capital budget, it remained item No. 27 of 29 under the category for future consideration.

“The performance hall is No. 26 not because it is not as important as the other items above it on that list,” Chakma says, noting should funding become available for the performing arts facility, it would move up the list. “We need to be strategic and we also need to be opportunistic, and finally, of course, we also have to be realistic.”

***

The estimated cost of renovating the 170,000 square feet of space at City Hall for Western’s purposes is unknown. Much depends on which programs are relocated. The university also wants to ensure it is inheriting “clean and usable space,” meaning the asbestos is removed and the building is not stripped to its shell.

“Once we know what we want to do, we can estimate what those costs are going to be,” Chakma says. “The next stage, I would imagine that we would be seeking other sources of funding. … Clearly, we have to find more resources to adapt the building to our needs. It may so happen we may have to put some of our own money, as is the case with most of the projects.”

With London Central Secondary School neighbouring City Hall, the university sees potential in partnering with the Thames Valley District School Board (TVDSB) to offer transitional programs for international students. At the council meeting Tuesday, it was revealed TVDSB has expressed interest in the downtown education campus concept. King’s University College is also interested in a downtown campus.

“I think, in return, what the city is going to get in the long term will be worth significantly more than it is worth now,” Chakma says, citing the development of the Advanced Manufacturing Park as an example of adding value and kick-starting development of municipal-owned property.

***
Letters to the Editor

// Medical school fuels Western’s legacy

On Homecoming weekend, the Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry very properly celebrated the 130th anniversary of its founding and a proud history it is, with medicine being the only course of study in continuous operation at Western (“Reflecting on medical school’s history,” Sept. 29).

The first classes were in the fall of 1881 with courses offered in medicine, arts and divinity. In 1883, the first two graduates of ‘The Western University of London, Ontario’ – our original name – were William James Roche, medicine, and Robert Franklin Sutherland, arts. They became Western’s first alumni. Both began studies at the University of Toronto, then the only publicly funded university in the province, and transferred to our fledgling, Anglican Church-sponsored university.

Roche became a member of Parliament from Manitoba and served 21 years. In 1916, he was named Western’s fourth chancellor and held that post until 1929.

Sutherland became a lawyer, later a judge, and also served as a member of both the provincial parliament and as an MP, was speaker of the House of Commons and became the first head of Canada’s civil service.

In 1885, failing enrolment and financial difficulties led to the suspension of studies in arts for the next 10 years. Studies in liberal professions continued in large universities, except those from its own Osogood Hall. For a period of time Huron College withdrew its affiliation with the struggling university. However, studies in medicine continued under the auspices of local doctors who funded the faculty and provided lectures.

Jim Etherington

// Encouraging a bit of bus courtesy

I take the No. 13 Wellington bus daily to work downtown. This route takes many students to the Western campus for their classes and, as a result, it’s particularly crowded. The front seats of the bus, which are meant for the handicapped and elderly, are often occupied by students or other commuters. On several occasions since the start of school, there has been a handicapped person riding the bus and on too many occasions she has had to ask people to move so she can sit down.

Today, a very frail elderly woman was left standing, clutching her cane while several young people sat ignoring her. Sometimes commuters are focused on their electronic devices, but that’s not always the case. Unfortunately, this has happened on several occasions.

We should not put the handicapped or elderly in a position where they have to assert themselves for seating. Please remember to be considerate and move.

Barbara Lindberg

Letters to the editor must be original letters addressed to the editor and must not be copies of letters addressed to other persons. An address and phone number should be provided. The editor reserves the right to edit or reject any letter, or abbreviate letters exceeding 300 words. Letters not published because of space constraints will appear in the next issue. Letters will be printed only if the writer’s name is included for publication. Please submit letters by e-mail by noon on Friday.

The Way We Were: 1961

For almost 40 years, the present campus fell under the jurisdiction of Middlesex County. Two stone pillars at the intersection of Huron and Richmond streets punctuated London’s northern boundary. In 1961, a massive land annexation by the city extended the boundary northwards and the Western campus officially became a part of the City of London. Left photo: View looking south on Richmond Street from Huron Street. Centre photo: The boundary markers. Right photo: Looking north on Richmond Street toward the university entrance.
First-person Field Notes

Helping others make their mark on the world

Joshua Zyss
Fourth year science student
jzyss@uwo.ca

THIS YEAR, I HAD the privilege of being the group co-ordinator for a trip to the Philippines working with Volunteer for the Visayans (VfV) for the month of May. Our group consisted of ten dedicated students who worked in rural medical clinics and participated in medical missions. They also helped with a number of other VfV projects. It is hard to find the words to describe the hardships of life here. The entire group would adapt to the environment and quickly accept the fact, in the Philippines, there is never enough money, resources or time.

Most worked at the rural medical clinics, while others helped out at the VfV centre teaching area children. One volunteer taught at a rehabilitation centre for youths who had committed offences. Thankfully, everyone found their placements to be a rewarding experience, being able to help make a positive difference in someone’s life is always fulfilling.

On May 21, the Western group participated in VfV’s 11th Annual Medical Mission, performing more than 300 free medical services for disadvantaged local communities. I mentioned in a Western News article last year, “Work abroad sparks new appreciation for life,” Sept. 16, 2010, that in the summer of 2010, Blair Smart, a medical student from Chicago, and I were volunteering in rural medical clinics. By chance we ran into The Tocotoban Dump-site and saw numerous children scavenging for enough recyclables to pay for a bowl of rice at the end of the day. We decided to do something to help these children.

So this summer, after the Western group left, we started our own project to sponsor as many children as possible to get out of the dumpsite and into the classroom. Although not an official VfV program, the organization is helping us monitor the project while we are not there. We also pay the principal teacher a wage to ensure that all the children attend school every day.

To date, we are sponsoring 18 children (12 girls and 6 boys) who formerly worked at the dumpsite full time. Now they all attend school on a daily basis.

The project provides the children with uniforms, school supplies, fees, two nutritious meals per day in the new school canteen (which we built), extra tutoring from the teachers to help get them caught up to their grade level, medical care and weekend meals and activities which are organized by local volunteers and VfV. With the extra money, we built two houses—one housing three of our sponsored children, the other housing four.

This year, I was approached by Estrella Lacambra, a teacher at the school who has helped us co-ordinate our project. She took me to visit a small shack with seven children living in it. Their mother died last year. Disease which was very preventable, their father, who works in the rice fields, comes home every three weeks for one night. He brings some of his wages home (about $30) in an attempt to support his family.

I can’t imagine seven children living alone with no adults in the house and having to look after themselves. The eldest is about 15, the youngest 4.

We have sponsored three children from this family. I noticed one of the younger girls had a bad infection on her scalp. It did not help to wash her with dirty water, or no one in the house knew what to do. I knew if she did not receive medical attention, her condition would worsen. So I took her to her private hospital.

The doctor who treated her prescribed antibiotics and told me she would have been dead in a few weeks from bacterial meningitis.

This time there was a happy ending. But the infant mortality rate in this environment is off the charts. The people have absolutely nothing.

During the last two years, I have partnered with Smart to profile these ‘dumpsite children’ in order to find sponsorship for them. We have started our own Facebook page, Children of the Dumpsite Project, containing many pictures and videos with more detailed information about our project.

Our goal is to get as many children as possible out of the dumpsite and keep them out. By providing food at the school, it makes attendance attractive to the children. Over time, they begin to absorb knowledge until they reach the point where they are all caught up and are regular school kids.

Then before they know it, they will have a high school diploma and the world will be waiting for them to make their mark.

Interested in volunteering for future trips?

Christopher Franks, VfV co-ordinator, at chris@visayans.org or visit visayans.org.
// Western seeks your thoughts on visual ID

If you haven’t had your say yet, now is the time.

Just this week, The University of Western Ontario launched its Visual Identity Review website. The site, www.ca/uwo.com/branding, seeks to gather the opinions of as many university community members as possible on Western’s current visual identity and future direction.

“This is a way of letting the broader community have a say,” says Terry Rice, Western’s director, marketing and creative services. “And for those who are just curious about what we’ve been up to, this is a great way to look and see.”

For the past year, Western faculty, staff, students and alumni have been engaged in a strategic communications review. Part of that process included identifying and discussing the seemingly endless number of logos and images used to represent various parts of the university. On that topic, numerous small-group discussions have taken place over the last few months.

But now, Western is throwing it open to the entire community.

The site features numerous items of interest:

- A brief overview of Western’s visual identity history from logos to uniforms and the places – some quite strange – each pop up across campus;
- A behind-the-scenes look at the rebranding creative process and the team members involved;
- Several ways to share your opinions: comment form, e-mail, Twitter (@westernvisid) and/or survey.

Rice says the survey may be the site’s most compelling feature.

Found on the right side of the page, under ‘Join the conversation,’ the short survey explores the participant’s connection to the university through personal feelings and visual representation.

Combining these findings with previously gathered feedback, and some planned on-the-street interviews, university officials and its lead agency, Hahn Smith Design, hope to find consensus in the new look.

The survey closes Oct. 23. A grand reveal of the new look is scheduled before the end of the year.

- JASON WINDERS

// Task force reports on history of alumni giving

The Alumni Association’s fall board meeting on Sept. 29 saw the presentation of the Alumni Association Legacy Project, the first step of the Alumni Legacy task force, formed to review the extent and nature of university support by its alumni.

The 29-page report was presented by board members Robert Collins (BA’77) and Jim Etherington (BA’61).

“For the first time, we have a detailed, collective picture of how alumni have stepped forward for their university over the years,” Etherington says.

The report shows that from May 1, 1979 marking the creation of Founders’ (Western) to April 30, 2011, $311.2 million in endowed and expendable donations have been received by Western from 32 alumni associations groups and more than 68,000 individual alumni for capital projects, academic positions, student awards, research and other programs.

Through their influence, financial support and patronage, Western alumni make critical contributions to the continued excellence of our university,” Etherington says. “We need to ensure that current students, who eventually become alumni, have an enhanced recognition and understanding of the values inherent in support of their university by its graduates.

Next steps for the task force include:
- exploring possibilities for creating a profile for the Alumni Art Collection at McIntosh Gallery;
- giving students and others ready access to the history of the alumni support for the university;
- improving alumni recognition in Alumni House; and
- developing a list of potential projects that alumni could support at Western in the future.

In approving their slate of new directors at the meeting, the board showed that, like the university, they are looking beyond Ontario to move Western onto the national and international stage.

John Moore (BA’92), president of the Canadian Association of New York, and Eleni Murgoci (BA’81), regional director for the Canadian Liver Foundation (B.C./Yukon), were appointed new directors for three-year terms (2011-2014). Historically, the association’s directors have all lived in Ontario.

Erika Moses (BA’00) and Nick Stau- bitz (BSc’06) were also appointed to the board.

- MARCIA STEYVAERT

// New fellowship announced

Sponsored by The Society for Teaching & Learning in Higher Educa- tion (STLHE) and 3M Canada, the 3M National Student Fellowship will award $5,000 to 10 full-time Canadian college and undergraduate students to recognize their outstanding leadership qualities and achievements in advancing student learning.

Don Cartwright, Western Faculty of Social Science professor emeritus, is the 3M National Teaching Fellow and co-ordinator of the 3M National Student Fellowship.

The award is open to full-time, college and undergraduate university students. Candidates must have completed at least one full-time semester of study, however, they cannot apply during the final year of their degree or diploma.

Each of the 10 winners receives a $5,000 award to be spent at the discretion of the recipient; joins other award winners (their cohort) and the program co-ordinator at the STLHE annual conference; has the opportu- nity to engage in a dialogue with their cohort on issues that matter to them; and develops, if they so choose, a collaborative project with the university’s teaching and learning at the post-secondary level.

Application deadline is Jan. 7, 2012.

For details, visit stkle.ca/3m-national-student-fellowship/.

// Western, PSAC reach tentative agreement

The University of Western Ontario and the Public Service Alliance of Canada (PSAC), representing appro- ximately 40 Post Doctoral Associates (PDAs) at the university, have reached a tentative agreement on terms of their employment conditions.

The specific terms of the agree- ment, which was reached Tuesday, remain confidential until ratification by both parties.

“Western is pleased with the deal that has been negotiated as it recog- nizes the important role that postdoc- toral associates play in the university’s academic mission, while also ensur- ing that the needs of our researchers remain paramount,” says Linda Miller, vice-president (graduate and postdoc- toral studies).

Currently, ratification is expected to take place the week of Oct. 17.

// Burruti tapped for top honour

The Chemical Institute of Canada – Canadian Green Chemistry and Engineering Network recently named Franco Burruti, Western chemical engineering professor and institute for Research and Innovation in Alternative Resources director (general), the 2011 recipient of The Ontario Green Chemistry and Engineering Individual Award.

// Info session set for Western course

All students are invited to an information session on the Rwanda culture, society and reconstruction course at 5:30 p.m. today, Oct. 6 in the University Community Centre, room 210. The session will feature first-hand accounts from organizers and former students about this unique community service learning experience.

The Department of French Stud- ies course, which started three years ago, involves a four-week international community service learning experience in Rwanda. Professor Henri Boyi is the lead instructor.

For details, contact Boyi at hboyi@ uwo.ca or Mirela Parau at mparsl@ uwo.ca.

// Ismaili named Vision fellow

Hossein Ismaili, who completed his PhD in August under chemistry pro- fessor Mark Workentin, was awarded the Vision 2020 Post Doctoral Fel- lowship (PDF) from the University of Ottawa. The PDF is worth $50,000 a year for two years.

// Shift hits stands from Western

On Oct. 1, Shift Graduate Journal of Visual and Material Culture pub- lished its fourth issue, produced by graduate students from both Western and Queen’s University. The fifth issue will be produced entirely from West- ern before beginning its transition to a new host institution in the fall of 2012. Visit shiftjournal.ca to view the edition.

// Researchers honoured for excellence

Investigators at The University of Western Ontario and St. Joseph’s Health Care London were recently selected for an award of excellence at the 15th Annual International Psycho- geriatric Association Congress in The Hague, The Netherlands.

Dr. Lisa VanBassel, physician leader for the Geriatric Psychiatry Program at Regional Mental Health Care London, attended the conference representing a group that includes Iris Guittmans and Ryan DeForge with Specialized Geriatric Services; Ann Jarvie, clinical nurse specialist, and Mark Speechley, professor, Department of Epidemiol- ogy and Biostatistics. Their poster entitled Living Theatre to Explore Long-Term Care Home Healthcare Provider Needs showcases the use of theatre as a knowledge-exchange strategy.

Only six such awards were received from more than 400 poster presenta- tions.

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.
Honours

University of Western Ontario chemical engineering professor Charles Xu was named Industrial Research Chair in Forest Biorefinery Monday, Oct. 3 at an event held at Western’s Institute for Chemicals and Fuels from Alternative Resources (ICFAF).

Xu named new forest biorefinery Chair

UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN Ontario chemical engineering professor Charles Xu was named Industrial Research Chair in Forest Biorefinery, a joint venture between Western, the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada (NSERC) and FPIinnovations. The announcement was made Monday, Oct. 3 at Western’s Institute for Chemicals and Fuels from Alternative Resources (ICFAF).

“The strength of this Chair rests not only in the advances it enables in green energy and environmental sustainability research, but in the training of highly qualified personnel who will be better prepared to meet the needs of existing and emerging commercial applications for bio-energy and forest biorefinery,” says Ted Hewitt, Western’s vice-president (research and international relations).

The Chair, valued at more than $2.5 million over five years, will create new opportunities between the forest and chemical process industries by developing new knowledge, and transferring them to the Canadian forest and chemical industry.

“NSERC wants to make Canada a country of discoverers and innovators,” says Suzanne Fortier, NSERC president. “Dr Xu is conducting leading-edge research that is creating new opportunities in forestry, one of Canada’s oldest industries. His focus on bio-based materials will open the doors for new products and lead to considerable progress in what is still a very young area of research.”

This program will also offer graduate students and a half dozen summer students unique opportunities in the broad disciplines of chemical engineering, polymer science/ engineering, fuel technology, wood science and engineering. These students will gain valuable work experience by spending time at industrial partner facilities. In addition, they will gain unique skills related to technology transfer and commercialization activities with which they will be directly involved throughout the research program.

The strong partnership between FPIinnovations and industrial partners, Samia Biobased Industrial Innovation Centre and Axlin, is a new bridge between the forest product and chemical industries that will greatly facilitate the development and implementation of new technologies and products from this research program,” says Jean Hamel, FPIinnovations vice-president.

“A successful technology implementation to industrial sites would help re-invigorate Canada’s forest and chemical processing industries by producing value added bio-products (green fuels and chemicals) from forest resources using renewable and sustainable feedstock.”

STAFF REPORT

McBean to head world science council

BY JASON WINDERS

University of Western Ontario professor Gordon McBean was named president-elect of the International Council for Science (ICSU) at the organization’s 30th General Assembly last week in Rome, Italy.

The event brought together more than 250 leading scientists from around the world to discuss and address how science can contribute to solving some of the most pressing challenges facing society.

Nominated by the International Union of Geodesy and Geophysics and the International Geographical Union, McBean will begin his term as president-elect in early 2013. He will serve under current ICSU president Yuan Tseh Lee, a Taipei professor and Nobel Prize Laureate for Chemistry 1986. McBean will assume the presidency at the 31st General Assembly in 2014.

He defeated Luciano Maiani, an Italian physicist, for the post.

McBean, a Western geographer and political science professor, is a distinguished Canadian scientist and has been recognized for his contribution to science and the scientific community. A world-renowned expert in climate change and the science and practice of disaster risk reduction, McBean is the recipient of the Order of Canada and the Order of Ontario and is a Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada. He is the Chair of the Canadian Foundation for Climate and Atmospheric Sciences and formerly an Assistant Deputy Minister in Environment Canada.

As a lead author and review editor for the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), McBean shared the Nobel Peace Prize awarded to the IPCC in 2007.

He serves as director of Western’s Policy Studies Institute for Catastrophic Loss Reduction.

Founded in 1931, the ICSU is a non-governmental organization with a global mission of national scientific bodies (121 members representing 141 countries) and International Scientific Unions (50 members). ICSU’s activities focus on three areas: planning and coordinating research, science for policy, and strengthening the universality of science.

ICSU’s mission is to strengthen international science for the benefit of society.
By Heather Travis

Staring at What looks like an abstract painting, Ed Eastaugh excitedly points to red rectangles illuminating from a blue background. The flashes of red reveal eight gravesites hidden six feet or more below the surface.

“If this is any indication, there could be 300 burials,” Eastaugh says.

An anthropology lab manager at the University of Western Ontario, Eastaugh led a survey team of archaeologists from Western and the Ontario Heritage Trust to find unmarked graves at Uncle Tom’s Cabin Historic Site in Dresden, Ont. The survey team’s first expedition was in August; they will return this fall to complete the mapping.

Born into slavery in Charles County, Md., Josiah Henson (1789-1883) escaped to Canada in 1830 after 41 years working as a slave. He was one of the founders of the Dawn Settlement and the British American Institute, a laborer’s school for other fugitive slaves, at Dresden. Henson’s name became synonymous with the central character ‘Uncle Tom’ in Harriet Beecher Stowe’s famous novel Uncle Tom’s Cabin (1852).

The Henson family cemetery located at the historic site is currently still used for interment of descendants. While 20 tombstones are visible, including the marker for Henson, whose life and homestead is the focal point of the site, many have sunken into the ground and some graves were never marked.

In order to put questions to rest about the cemetery, Eastaugh used the recently acquired ground penetrating radar (GPR) equipment, obtained by Neal Ferris, Lawson Chair of Canadian Archaeology at Western. This non-invasive equipment is part of the Canada Foundation for Innovation and Ontario Research Fund Sustainable Archaeology project.

“We were interested in establishing the degree to which they will pick up the graves,” Eastaugh says. “We are not trying to see the coffin, but the cut and backfill of the hole; it will never be the same.

“This is the perfect situation where we could test the utility of these types of instruments.”

Eastaugh walks in a 10-by-10 metre grid, strapped to a computer-like device and pulls a piece of equipment resembling a car-door opener attached to a bicycle tire. The benefit of using the GPR, rather than probing the ground for burial sites, means the historic cemetery and the graves remain undisturbed.

The survey revealed what many already suspected — there are many more graves than tombstones. For example, in a single grid at least 12 graves appeared in red on a computer screen — the same area only has four marked burials. Eastaugh thinks there might be between 200-300 graves in the cemetery.

Barb Carter knows where her parents and three siblings are buried in the family cemetery. But many of the graves, including one marked “Mother” and many more without tombstones, remain a mystery.

Carter is the great-great-granddaughter of Henson and until recent years was involved in the management of the historic site.

“I am keenly interested in the results,” Carter says. “Working at the cabin for almost 20 years and the amount of questions I would get about my genealogy, which I could not fill in, those are the reasons why I gave them permission to go ahead and do that radar.”

Carter hopes the survey will fill in gaps of her family history, which can be passed along to future generations.

While she always knew there were more graves in the cemetery than headstones based on information shared amongst the family, when she heard about the preliminary survey results she was surprised and excited.
Searching for lost souls

Eastaugh unearths history of Henson family cemetery

“I am waiting with anticipation for the results and the findings,” she says. “The cemetery was left in disarray for quite a while, nothing done to it, and any little markers that ever were there were long gone.

“This helps to make the history a little more accurate and in telling what the settlement was and how many people actually were in the vicinity of Henson setting up the institute,” she adds.

This is not the first time Eastaugh has been searching for lost graves at Uncle Tom’s Cabin.

In 2008, he conducted two close interval magnetic gradiometer surveys on the Henson and British American Institute cemeteries, with the help of Western graduate students and Timmins Martelle Heritage Consultants. While the magnetometer was able to locate some hidden anomalies, the results were ambiguous.

Dena Doroszenko, archaeologist for the Ontario Heritage Trust, which owns and operates the historic site, says the survey will provide clarity to the previous survey.

“Now we know the readings were ambiguous because there were so many people buried here,” she says. “It furthers the information that is directly related to Josiah Henson’s descendants.

“There are more burials here than people knew or assumed,” she adds, noting family genealogy research hopefully will determine who is interred in the cemetery. “We don’t want to disturb them and we want to make sure they are not disturbed in the future."

Overall, the goal is to produce a map of where family members are buried, which could be displayed at the site’s visitor’s centre.

“What I hope to get out of this is to fill in the gaps and get a firmer grasp on how extensive it was used,” says site manager Steven Cook. “My hope is Henson’s descendants will hear of this and get involved in the genealogy. Who knows who could be here?”

Last month, Eastaugh returned to Chatham-Kent to conduct a ground penetrating radar survey at Tecumseh Park in Chatham to locate the graves of four soldiers from the War of 1812 believed to be buried in the park. WND
Staff Profile

Noon celebrates a picture-perfect half century

By PAUL MAYNE

So, how long has Alan Noon been working at Western? Let’s see.

When he started, Middlesex College (only two years old) still had its ‘new building smell!’ Only 3,000 students walked the campus. And he was on his first of 10 Faculty of Science deans.

“Bishop Helmuth was a nice guy. I was here two weeks when he left,” jokes Noon, who has served seven of Western’s 10 presidents.

According to Human Resources, Noon’s half century represents one of, if not the longest, continuous service time for a Western employee. Today, he enters his 50th, and final, year at Western.

It was an intriguing time at Western in 1962 when Noon began in the Faculty of Science. The media specialist in photography says a major building boom was underway, changing the landscape almost every day.

“When I came, it was a time of great change,” says Noon, who was born in Cleethorpes, U.K., then moved to Canada at age 12. “Every time you came on campus it seemed like you needed a road map to get to work because there was a new building each time.”

For Noon, his time at Western began straight out of high school. While his intention was to become a teacher, an ongoing working relationship with Western researcher Helen Battle steered him toward the biology department.

“I first came to this building in 1959, and was a friend of Helen. One of her graduate students taught at Beek College. I was a student,” says Noon, who, with the help of a high school friend used to build frog skeletons for Battle’s research. Noon, a breeder of fish, would also supply her with fish eggs for her research.

“I basically started here right out of high school,” he says. “(Helen) intervened and asked that I come to biology and she’d teach me about histology. I wasn’t sure and said I’d think about it.”

When Noon did decide to come to the department, Battle was an sabbatical and Noon ended up getting hired in botany in the lab. A hobby photographer, Noon was approached by a faculty member to make slides for a lecture.

“I said ‘yes’, and next thing you know I was making slides for everybody. I was doing all sorts of photography in the department,” he says.

Noon witnessed Western transforming itself from its ‘city university’ to that of a more provincial one, which led to the formation of the faculties in the late 1960s.

“It was an exciting time with a lot of faculty and staff coming in and all the buildings going up,” he says, noting the demand for his services was growing and his job in science eventually spread across the whole campus.

While there were other photographic units on campus at the time – around eight or nine – they eventually disappeared over the years, leaving Noon and fellow employee Ian Craig as the only campus photo unit.

“That was a real interesting time because we worked for the entire campus and we met everybody. And that’s when I realized how deep we worked for the entire campus and we met everybody. I remember George Connell (former Western president) telling me, ‘You’ve seen more and done more than I have.’”

In 1980, Noon was hired by Western News and contributed photography for the next 14 years. Today, his presence is still seen with the popular The Way We Were photos series.

Over the years, among his work within the faculties, Noon has had some memorable photo opportunities, including prime ministers, princes, astronauts and actors. He recalls how pleasant and funny U.S. Secretary of State Henry Kissinger was, but also how some photo shoots don’t go as smooth.

“I had permission to shoot photos at a private party where (economist and author) John Kenneth Galbraith was attending,” Noon recalls. “I was shooting pictures and he looked at me and said, ‘Young man, when I put down this cup I don’t want to see you.’”

From a 4x5 Graflex camera, complete with an enormous flashgun – “which could light up Alumni Hall it was so bright” – to his present day digital Nikon, Noon enjoys the fact his job has not been the same all these years.

Contrary to popular belief, photography was Noon’s job at Western, not a hobby he incorporated into his work. His hobby is fish, in particular breeding Japanese Koi, which he plans to get more involved with when he retires next summer.

“I’ll walk away from the job with no regrets. I think I’ll miss it, sure, but there comes a time when you say ‘Okay, this is it.’”

Panasonic

At your Service...
Berta Photos Ltd.

... for your next
FAMILY PORTRAIT
GRAD PORTRAIT
710 Adelaide Street N., just south of Oxford St.
519 438-7195 or 519 438-1961

POSJ TRAVEL

15/19 OPEN HOUSE 11 AM - 6 PM
TUES. Nov 15 - Nov 2021
41A Oxford St. West
(519) 433-0800

Don’t be fooled on-line, Posh Travel offers top quality service at budget prices from right here in London.

Airline tickets - holiday packages - cruises - travel insurance - hotel & car rental - process visa to China & Vietnam & other countries.

www.poshtravelltd.com reservations@poshtravelltd.com

كانوا صيحة العصافير: مخالب وجرائم

Don't be fooled on-line. Posh Travel offers top quality service at budget prices.

41A Oxford St. West (Wharncliffe)

We offer service in English, Chinese, Hungarian, Spanish, Arabic and Russian.

Fresh sushi, or an Asian work of art?
Savour our fresh sushi & innovative Asian flavour.

O'Zen
Gourmet Japanese Cuisine

We offer service in English, Chinese, Hungarian, Spanish, Arabic and Russian.
The Only Way for a doctor-in-training to know how to give a physical exam is for them to practice. But most patients would prefer the doctors aren’t finding their feet in the hospital room.

In order to get the practice in and eliminate those first-time jitters, medical students at the Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry participate in the Patient-Centred Clinical Methods course. That’s where they meet someone like Carol Robinson, who is helping first- and second-year students get a jump on their bedside manner.

“We are people who are not sick, but rather here to portray a sick person. We can give feedback to the student. You don’t often get to do that with your own physician,” Robinson says.

Since 1997, Robinson has role-played as a patient for young medical students in the program. An amateur actor from the London area, Robinson was intrigued by the opportunity to see physicians-in-training firsthand. “It’s fascinating seeing what they know and don’t know,” she says.

Through their interactions Robinson watches the students develop poise, confidence and a sense of who they are while wearing the white coat.

She is one of close to 400 simulated patients who are employed to ‘act out’ different conditions. They are given a script with a specified condition and instructed how to respond to different questions so the students get a sense of how a patient in such a condition might act or react.

“It’s a safe learning environment for them,” says Judy McCormick, manager of the Clinical Skills Facility and Clinical Skills Learning Program. “We can give them as much help as we can and make it as safe as we can for them to learn what they need to learn without them feeling like they are being examined or evaluated.

“It takes some of the pressure off and it allows them to learn these things in a way that is conducive to their learning.”

But in order to broaden the pre-clinical experiences, the program needs diversity in its simulated patients.

Currently, the program is looking to employ people of different ethnicities to participate in the program; students need to be trained on how to interact with people of different cultures and backgrounds.

Cultural beliefs, language and religion can play a role in a person’s medical treatment. As well, some medical conditions are more prevalent in certain populations, such as people of Aboriginal, Hispanic, Asian, south Asian or African descents are at higher risk for developing diabetes.

“It’s becoming more and more important for us to be able to provide these different backgrounds to the students so they have an understanding of the community they will be treating as they get into the clinical world,” McCormick says.

All of the simulated patients are informed in advance of the requirements of the script (with the option to decline participation) and not all role-playing involves a physical exam.

“We spend a couple of years with (students) giving them the opportunity to practice dealing with different types of patient situations, in terms of communications skills, physical exam skills … before they get off to a real, clinical setting where they have to start seeing real patients,” McCormick explains.

Working with a simulated patient before moving into the clinical setting helps students get over their first-time jitters, and builds trust in the student-doctor’s expertise.

“They need to develop the comfort level so that from the patient’s perspective, the patient feels the student-doctor is confident and knows what they are doing, and feels comfortable doing what they are doing,” says Jane Graham, clinical methods co-ordinator. “Patient interviews are not something that can be taught in a classroom, but interviewing a patient is a skill that clinicians develop over time.”

Physicians need to be sensitive to cultural needs so patients are not unintentionally mistreated, Graham notes.

If the program is able to expand its simulated patient demographics, co-ordinators will be able to develop medical cases specific to those ethnicities, which would further the teaching opportunities for students.

“Giving students every opportunity we can to deal with different patients of all different communities and all walks of life is going to be valuable to them,” McCormick adds.

Interested in applying to be a simulated patient?
Contact Judy McCormick at 519.661.3748
judy.mccormick@schulich.uwo.ca
DEPARTMENT OF WOMEN’S STUDIES AND FEMINIST RESEARCH

As part of the chair selection process, external consultants will be visiting the Department of Women’s Studies and Feminist Research on Monday, October 31st and Tuesday, November 1st to speak with faculty members, staff and students. If you wish to speak with the consultants, please contact the Department of Women’s Studies and Feminist Research to arrange a time. While this invitation is directed particularly to those affiliated with the Department, participation from all members of the University community is invited during these times:

Monday, October 31st   2:30 – 4:30 p.m.
Tuesday, November 1st  9:00 – noon and 1:30-3:00 p.m.

Written submissions should be sent to Michael Milde, Acting Dean, Faculty of Arts and Humanities, 112 University College, and will be transmitted to the consultants independently and confidentially. The consultants for this review are:
Bettina Bradbury, Department of Women’s Studies, York University
Veronica Strong-Boag, Women’s Studies & Gender Studies, University of British Columbia

Comments, perspectives, and recommendations with regard to programs, teaching and scholarship, administration and governance in the Department of Women’s Studies and Feminist Research are invited as part of this review.

Michael Milde
Acting Dean, Faculty of Arts and Humanities

Elizabeth Greene, assistant professor in Roman archaeology in the Department of Classical Studies, says her research shows women and children were an important part of the social structure of military settlements.
Elizabeth Greene has spent the best part of the last decade in the hills of northern England playing in the dirt. And she can’t think of a better way to earn a living.

“It’s just cool and fun digging in the dirt. It’s the best,” says Western’s new professor in Roman archaeology, (Department of Classical Studies). “I can make mud patties in the summer when I’m bored.”

While likened as the female Indiana Jones, don’t be fooled by Greene’s easygoing demeanor. Beneath, the Boston-born Greene exudes a genuine excitement in unearthing key evidence surrounding the notion families were an important part of the social structure of military settlements in the Roman west.

Located in the hills of Northumberland, Great Britain — between the modern cities of Newcastle and Carlisle — Greene has been supervising excavations at Vindolanda, which lies just south of Hadrian’s Wall. The site, situated on the original Roman frontier line of the Stanegate Road, dates to the last quarter of the first century AD.

Hadrian’s Wall was a defensive fortification in Roman Britain begun AD 122, during the rule of Emperor Hadrian. It was the first of two built across Great Britain; the second being the Antonine Wall, lesser known of the two because its physical remains are less evident today.

Countless excavated objects tell a remarkable story of a place generations of soldiers and their families called home. More than 4,000 pairs of leather shoes, many belonging to women and children, along with Roman writing tablets outlining these family relationships, have been located.

“There was a Roman military fort, and then right next to it was the settlement that was just outside of it. That was all encompassing the Roman military community,” says Greene, who earned her PhD from the University of North Carolina before coming to Western.

Thanks to anaerobic preservation on the site (meaning no oxygen gets into the soil and, therefore, no bacteria grow), little breakdown has occurred. What’s left are tonnes of whole bone, leather, textiles and wood products.

Greene’s dissertation, Women and families in auxiliary military communities of the Roman West in the 1st and 2nd centuries AD, argues families were an important part of the social structure of military settlements in the Roman west, not only in the second and third centuries — as is the current understanding — but from the earliest periods of military occupation.

“Evidence of women and children in the earliest period of occupation, right when the Roman military is con- quering and settling a new provincial region, suggests that despite popular belief women and children were travelling with military, living in temporary settlements right from the beginning to the end,” she says.

The movement of soldiers and their families by way of Roman military service is an interesting lens onto cultural change in the Roman Empire. Greene’s research, combining archaeological evidence, documentary and literary sources, illuminates the social history of the Roman world and the lives of ordinary people in Rome, Italy and the provinces.

After supervising excavations at Vindolanda for the past decade, Greene will now co-direct the Vindolanda Field School. Beginning next year, the field school runs for five weeks during the summer with a set program of daily excavation and weekly field trips.

“It’s cutting edge,” Greene says. “It’s an incredible opportunity to handle some pretty unique archaeological material. The thing with archaeology is you never know what’s around the next shovelful.”

She admits the feeling the first time she found a leather shoe was “so incredible you can’t even believe it.” She looks forward to being a part of her students’ exciting discoveries.

“The field school will explore a different area of the site, one previously unexcavated. “We think we have out there some very early forts, and hoping to find footwear in those instances as well,” she says.

While sharing a passion for teaching and research, Greene admits the love of learning — in particular her love of archaeology — keeps her motivated.

“You learn at your maximum potential when you admit to yourself that you don’t know everything,” she says.

Uncovering family ties across the ages

BY PAUL MAYNE

The thing with archeology is you never know what’s around the next shovelful.

Uncovering family ties across the ages

BY HEATHER TRAVIS

The only way reconciliation is possible for Aboriginal peoples in Canada is if there is justice, says Faculty of Education professor Rebecca Coulter.

Coulter, Aboriginal Education director at The University of Western Ontario, was invited by Ontario Lt.-Gov. David Onley to participate in the Circle of Witnesses, the first of a series of cross-cultural dialogues with the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada (TRC). The event was held in Queen’s Park in Toronto last week.

“I honestly believe that reconciliation is not possible unless we have justice,” she says. “As a historian, I think reconciliation with the past is really dependent on justice in the present and into the future,” Coulter says.

The purpose was in many ways symbolic as a start to the very difficult process that the reconciliation process will be,” she says of the event.

The lasting impact of residential schooling has affected generations of Aboriginal families, as more than 150,000 First Nations, Metis and Inuit children were placed in residential schools in Canada. Operational from the 1870s to 1996, these government-funded, church-run schools were set up to remove parental involvement in the educational, cultural and spiritual development of Aboriginal children.

The TRC was established following a class-action settlement involving former residential school students. In October 2009, former Governor General Michaelle Jean became the honorary witness and the commission is supported by First Nations communities directly.

“It may be a long process towards reconciliation, but Coulter believes evidence in recent history, such as the changes in attitudes toward and rights of women, is proof such change and shifts in consciousness are possible.

“We have to build bridges across those barriers,” she says. “That’s the only way it can work because that’s the way we are struggling toward justice.”

Coulter’s commitment is to support the TRC’s work, but also support First Nations communities directly.

“It was reiterated at the meeting that we were all expected to take on the commitment to witnessing, to sharing the stories, to guarantee that the memory would persist; that the knowledge would be sustained across the generations; and that we would work to right the wrongs,” she says.

Coulter invited to link into Circle

BY HEATHER TRAVIS

The only way reconciliation is possible for Aboriginal peoples in Canada is if there is justice, says Faculty of Education professor Rebecca Coulter.

Coulter, Aboriginal Education director at The University of Western Ontario, was invited by Ontario Lt.-Gov. David Onley to participate in the Circle of Witnesses, the first of a series of cross-cultural dialogues with the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada (TRC). The event was held in Queen’s Park in Toronto last week.

“I honestly believe that reconciliation is not possible unless we have justice,” she says. “As a historian, I think reconciliation with the past is really dependent on justice in the present and into the future,” Coulter says.

The purpose was in many ways symbolic as a start to the very difficult process that the reconciliation process will be,” she says of the event.

The lasting impact of residential schooling has affected generations of Aboriginal families, as more than 150,000 First Nations, Metis and Inuit children were placed in residential schools in Canada. Operational from the 1870s to 1996, these government-funded, church-run schools were set up to remove parental involvement in the educational, cultural and spiritual development of Aboriginal children.

The TRC was established following a class-action settlement involving former residential school students.

In October 2009, former Governor General Michaelle Jean became the honorary witness and the commission is supported by First Nations communities directly.

“It may be a long process towards reconciliation, but Coulter believes evidence in recent history, such as the changes in attitudes toward and rights of women, is proof such change and shifts in consciousness are possible.

“We have to build bridges across those barriers,” she says. “That’s the only way it can work because that’s the way we are struggling toward justice.”

Coulter’s commitment is to support the TRC’s work, but also support First Nations communities directly.

“It was reiterated at the meeting that we were all expected to take on the commitment to witnessing, to sharing the stories, to guarantee that the memory would persist; that the knowledge would be sustained across the generations; and that we would work to right the wrongs,” she says.
We have terrific flowers and sensational market gift baskets that can be easily ordered online or by phone and delivered the same day.

**CHARMING OLD NORTH CAPE COD**

$379,900

Pristine condition, renovated kitchen, elegant living & dining rooms. 2 big bedrooms, custom upstairs den/library. Inviting screened porch, deep garden, double garage, brick driveway. New Furnace and air (2010).


---

**STUDENT BULLETIN**

**Student Central**

Regular office hours are Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday: 9 a.m. - 4 p.m., Monday, Wednesday, Friday: 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.

**OSAP Pick-Up**

OSAP loan funding is available for pick-up from the Western Student Services Building. Students must present their Social Insurance Card and a valid government-issued Photo ID to pick-up their loans. Visit registrar.uwo.ca for details.

**Alternative Spring Break**

Are you interested in engaging in community service work - locally, or across the globe? The Student Success Centre and Western Residence Life are pleased to offer staff and faculty at Western the opportunity to be involved in Alternative Spring Break 2012 Information about the program and applications can be found at job.uwo.ca

---

**UPLAND HILLS/NEW STONEYBROOK AREA**

NEW LISTING $449,900.00

Walking distance to Jack Chambers school and Virginia Park; four bedroom executive ranch fully finished basement level with walkout/3pc bath; home features tray ceiling in Great room/gas fireplace and loads of windows; gorgeous yard; private study with cathedral ceiling/transom windows and french doors; separate diningroom with butlers door and accent pillars and hardwood flooring; huge master bedroom with Spce ensuite and jetted tub/separate shower/walkin-closet; granny suite with kitchen and two spacious bedrooms/livingroom/loft area

---

**Retire With Dignity**

“Fee-based investment consulting and asset management for portfolios in excess of $500,000.”

**Mitch Orr, HBA, CMA, CFP, CRS**

Director, Wealth Management

519-660-3230

---

**BLOOMERS**

130 KING STREET, LONDON

TOLL FREE 1 800 234/hyphen.cap6652

Shop online: bloomers.ca

bloomersatthemarket

---

**WHO’S TAKING YOU TO THE AIRPORT?**

Providing a safe, reliable ride to or from Toronto Pearson International Airport & Detroit Metro Airport to London, Sarnia & other centres

**Robert**

Airbus

**BOOK ONLINE AT**

www.robertq.com or call 519-673-6004 1-800-265-4948

---

**ACADEME**

**PhD Lectures**

Maxim Sefirovic, Biochemistry, Material and Fetal Plasma Protein Changes in Fetal Growth Restriction, Oct. 6, MSB 384, 1:30 p.m.

Daina Mazatis, Business Administration, The CEO Effect: A Longitudinal, Multi-Level Analysis of the Relationship Between Executive Orientation and Corporate Social Strategy, Oct. 7, Room 2967 Ivey, 10:30 a.m.

---

**Edith Groccino in EL TEATRO DE CALDERON UN ANALISIS DESDE LAS HUMANIDADES DIGITALES, Oct. 7, UC 224A, 9 a.m.**

---

**Classified**

**Editing / Proofreading**

Professional Proofreading and Copy Editing - Extensive experience with PhD theses, reports, and proposals. See www.hughesassociates.ca for further information. Member of the Professional Writer’s Association and the Editors’ Association of Canada. Telephone: 519-433-6986. E-mail: joeyhughes@rogers.com

---

**Shuttle Service**

Going to St. Catharines/Niagara? Do  The Shuttle! Twice as fast as the train or bus! Thursdays, Fridays and Sundays. PASSAGE $44 each way. 2.5 hours or less. Direct! Reservations required: www.niagarashuttle.com

---

**For Rent**


For Classifieds, call 519-661-2045 or send email to advertising@uwo.ca. Rates: faculty, staff and students - $15, others and services/commercial ads - $20. Beyond 25 words, please add 50 cents per word. Payment must accompany ads. Submit by 9 a.m, Thursdays to Western student recreation building. No refunds. Visit www.uwo.ca/classifieds for more information.

---

**Access W. News**

**Advertising**

For rates and information, contact advertising@uwo.ca.

---

**Coming Events**

Seminars, sporting events, lectures and cultural events for the coming week. Send submissions at least two weeks in advance to correg@uwo.ca. Events may also be posted on the online events calendar at www.uwo.ca

---

**Faculty & Staff**

Have you presented a scientific paper, earned a milestone appointment or published a new book? newseditor@uwo.ca.

Letter to the Editor

Offer praise, criticism or a fresh take on the news, or any aspect of campus life. Up to 300 words. newseditor@uwo.ca

---

**More? Visit us online**

communications.uwo.ca

/western_news
Graduate students, Western retirees work out the neuromuscular system

BY AGNES CHICK

THERE’S NO DOUBT about it. Exercise is like medicine for aging Canadians.

Thanks to a team of graduate students at Western’s Canadian Centre for Activity and Aging (CCAA) Neuromuscular Lab, the Research Retirement Association (RRRA) can tailor their fitness program not only to strengthen muscle control but help reduce fatigue in old age.

Supervised by Drs. Charles Rice and Anthony Vandervoort, graduate students from the School of Kinesiology are on a mission to understand the workings of the neuromuscular system. By conducting various models such as fatigue and aging, the team is collecting data that will show how age and activity influence human motor control and function.

Geoffrey Power, a fourth-year PhD student, focuses his research on the effect of fatigue and muscle damage on short-term velocity-dependent power loss and recovery in young and old men and women.

“Our most recent line of studies investigates what we call velocity dependent fatigue,” says Power, who completed his undergraduate and master’s degree at Memorial University of Newfoundland before coming to Western to begin his doctoral studies.

“As an individual ages, they get slower and the muscle contractile properties, such as force, power and velocity, get slower. We found that if we stress those individuals with fast movements, they’re in fact more fatigable than younger adults. Our lab has shown that older adults are more fatigable when they are stressed with everyday tasks, but now we’re showing that with fast contractions.”

Although the neuromuscular lab group studies kinesiology, each graduate student must conduct three to four unique studies as part of their doctoral studies. Different methods are used to investigate how nerves and muscles interact to produce force and velocity. Some examples of the studies that have taken place include research on plantar flexor muscles of the foot, knee-extensive projects, and research on plantar flexor muscles. Power stresses the importance of RRRA members volunteering their time towards research. “Everything we do we pretty much use participants from the RRA. In order to improve quality of life and longevity, we want to know the mechanisms behind aging. As an adult gets older they lose muscle mass which directly relates to strength and velocity loss. We want to know what kind of programs we can tailor to increase that strength and velocity in order to maintain some sort of functional level for everyday tasks.”

By having an active group from the RRRA to compare with active young adults, Power says they are able to get more insight on the actual mechanisms that they wouldn’t find with a sedentary group.

The RRRA and the Ladies Retirement Research Association (LRRA) are groups of retired men and women who wish to maintain a healthy lifestyle. During the winter months, the group meets Monday, Wednesday and Friday at either TD Waterhouse Stadium or Thompson Arena. A series of warm-up exercises, walking, and cool-down periods are led by qualified instructors from the kinesiology program.

The RRRA was founded in 1981 by cardiologist Dr. Peter Rechnitzer, along with Drs. David Cunningham and John Howard. In 1978, Rechnitzer conducted a four-year study program to monitor the benefits of exercising for aging Canadians. The program was so effective that some of the original participants are still part of the program.

For more information, contact Harrison at 519-686-0551.
A round at Western

FEW TODAY REMEMBER that between 1924 and 1960 The University of Western Ontario shared its property with The London Hunt and Country Club, an 18-hole golf course that wended its way between the buildings and along both sides of the Thames River.

While it has been more than 50 years since Western heard a 7-iron whip up a mound of freshly cut grass, Western News wondered what it would like if you were to golf the course today. Thanks to the help of Western Mustangs women’s golf team member Danielle Szela, you can wonder no more.

This past month, Western News reporter Paul Mayne joined the second-year Health Sciences student as she ‘played’ the 18 holes of the former London Hunt and Country Club.

Hole No. 4
375 yards
Par 4

The pedestrian crosswalk along Perth Drive – in front of the John Labatt Visual Building – proved to be challenging for Szela as she chipped toward the Staging Building with her third shot. Thankfully, the crosswalk signals were in order as this traffic-stopping shot put her on the green in four, where she putt for bogey.

Score: 5
Thru 4 holes: +1

PAUL MAYNE // WESTERN NEWS