‘Amazing support’ for United Way

More donors giving at a record-setting level helped shatter Western’s goal.

By Paul Mayne

Western employees set their United Way fundraising goal at a record high level this year - and once again outdid themselves.

With increases in the number of donors, average donations and the number of ‘Leadership’ donors ($1,000 or more), Western has easily surpassed its goal of $350,000 by bringing in a record-breaking $375,526, the largest United Way contribution in Western’s history.

Western’s contribution to the London & Middlesex Campaign is also the largest in the city. Ford Motor Co. did raise $699,000 this year, but it is divided between the United Way campaigns in London and St. Thomas.

“Western has been on a roll in recent years,” says Western President Paul Davenport, noting the University surpassed last year’s campaign goal by a wide margin as well.

“Western has a long standing history of strong support for the United Way. We had people across the University working extremely hard to achieve this goal. It is our common belief in the importance of providing programs and supports for those in need in our community that binds us and motivates us to continually increase our fundraising goals.”

Western’s contribution to the United Way of London & Middlesex Campaign comes at a perfect time, with plans to announce the overall fundraising total on Tuesday. The goal is $6 million.

“This is an amazing gift by any standard and we’re quite taken aback by the generosity,” says Helen Connell, Executive Director of the United Way of London & Middlesex.

“We’re extremely proud of our relationship with Western. From research to fundraising and allocations, we depend on faculty, staff and students at Western for not just their generous financial assistance, but for the volunteer leadership they provide United Way and many of our funded programs.”

Gary Blazak, Director of Alumni Relations, who co-chaired this year’s campaign with Catherine Ross, Dean of the Faculty of Information and Media Studies, says hard work by more than 100 campus volunteers lifted the campaign over the top.

“What a phenomenal result,” says Blazak. “Between the volunteers and those who made a commitment to the United Way through their contribution, we’ve had simply an amazing result.”

Andrew Clendinneng, Western’s sponsored employee for the campaign, says also of note this year is the fact the number of donors increased. This year 1,345 donors gave to the campaign.

“I didn’t doubt we were going to achieve our goal, but I had no idea we’d hit ‘375’,” says Clendinneng, who adds his four-month involvement in the campaign was life-changing.

“The fact we have more donors is exciting. There are more people who now see the importance of giving to the United Way. With being so closely involved with the campaign, I completely comprehend the importance behind giving and what it means to the community”

For the third straight year, Western leads the way with 101 ‘Leadership’ donors, an increase of 17 per cent from last year and more than any other business or organization in London and Middlesex.

As the United Way Campaign winds down, the process of allocating the funds to the various agencies is just beginning.

Again, the United Way will look to Western as Joyce Garnett (Western Libraries) will lead a team of 40 volunteers who will determine the level of support member agencies will receive.

In expressing thanks, Connell reminded those gathered for the unveiling why the United Way exists.

“Because of you (Western), poverty won’t stop thousands of children from participating in sports, elderly people won’t be alone or isolated and families will have their needs filled. The gesture you made today will, throughout the next year, translate into safety, laughter, dignity and hope.”

Plan to recognize exceptional staff

By Jim Anderson

Western is looking for better ways to recognize exceptional performance by staff.

The University has created a Staff Recognition Task Force to come up with recommendations to President Paul Davenport and his Vice-Presidents on a University-wide recognition system for Western staff.

“We do a lot as an institution to recognize excellent work in teaching and research by faculty, and rightfully so,” says Les Ste. Marie, Chair of the task force. “However, we haven’t done anything similar to give the same recognition to exceptional performance by Western staff in support of the University’s mission.”

The Staff Recognition Task Force was established last August and has been busy doing background work, research and recruiting members. The task force has representatives from all staff associations and unions on campus.

“This was absolutely critical that we engage all the staff and union groups in the process,” says Ste. Marie. Manager, Media and Information Services Department, Faculty of Education, and an administrative staff representative on Western’s Board of Governors.

The task force arose out of Western’s Strategic Plan, Making Choices, as part of a recognition of the need to recruit and retain the best people in a competitive environment.

The University made a commitment to “facilitate staff development and encourage exceptional performance. The Strategic Plan states that Western will “develop an effective and visible means of recognition of exceptional performance by staff.”

The principle responsibilities are:

1) Research, design and recommend to the President and Vice-Presidents a recognition program
**Governors offer defence against political interference**

**Boards protect universities against the kind of intervention being felt at hospitals.**

**By Jim Anderson**

University boards of governors play an important role in defending university autonomy from government interference, says Western’s Board of Governors Chair Don McDougall.

Speaking to Western’s Senior Alumni Tuesday morning, McDougall addressed the subject of whether the Board can make a difference.

Western’s Board of Governors can make an important difference in defending the University’s autonomy and in the institution’s strategic direction, he said.

“It serves as the first line of defence of the independence of universities against government interference in the name of accountability,” said McDougall, noting provincial universities are autonomous from the direct intervention of government, such as hospitals experience.

He outlined the structure and roles that the Board plays in University life and the importance of recruiting outstanding members from the community.

“If you don’t have the raw material, it is hard to have a good Board of Governors,” he said.

Western’s “bicameral governing structure” of the Board and the Senate, as outlined in the University Act (1982), works to support and oversee the operations of the University. The Senate is responsible for academic policy and the Board to provide stewardship and support for the operations of the university.

McDougall said other important roles the Board can play include:

- Recruiting a good president, supporting that person with the resources to do the job, and monitoring performance;
- Ensuring adequate resources are available to support the objectives of the Strategic Plan;
- Quality Control;
- Provide leadership in the University’s links with the external community;
- The diverse composition of Board can be important in resolving controversial issues that arise from time to time and providing solutions.

The Board’s responsibility is to facilitate the Senate and the senior administration in doing their duties on behalf of the institution, McDougall noted.

“It makes a big difference if it knows its place,” he said.

He cited, as an example, the new childcare facility at Western, which was seen as an important part of Western’s staff, students, and “a vital tool in attracting professors and graduate students” to the University. He said the Board was responsible for getting the new centre moved to the top of the priority list.

The University administration was given the support to establish a committee to review providers of this service. When the issue became a controversial one in the community, the Board supported the administration and the decision of the committee in its recommendation.

There is much to be proud of at Western these days, said McDougall.

“The news at Western is very good news indeed.”

Speaking about the recent success of the University in a Globe and Mail survey of students and a Maclean’s magazine survey of recent alumni, McDougall told senior alumni that Board members “are enormously proud of our position of the University in this country and you should be too.”

McDougall said Western’s top-flight reputational ranking in the nation “didn’t just happen”; but is the cumulative effect of a team effort involving everyone in the University community – faculty, staff, students, senior administration, deans and managers.

“Reputations are built over time and the institutional reputation is bigger than any of us. It represents the work of generations of people.”

He took the opportunity to praise Western President Paul Davenport for “exceptional stewardship over the past 10 years” and his efforts in providing a strategic direction for Western.

Western is on a definite roll in the right direction, McDougall noted. He pointed to the rise in entering grade averages (now 83 per cent), efforts in attracting the best and brightest faculty and staff, increased research excellence that is now attracting $190 million in research funding annually from peer-reviewed granting councils, and a growing physical transformation involving an average of $50 million in capital works each year.

The Board Chair said Western’s current status among the big 10 universities in Canada reflects the daily efforts of its “unsung heroes” – the support staff of the University.

“They are the ones who really make the place run on a day-to-day basis,” said McDougall.

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**Focus groups set for February**

A number of employee groups are also scheduling focus groups in their own areas.

Staff from Human Resources at Western and the Department of Communications and Public Affairs have been supporting the work of the task force.

Recommendations will be presented to Davenport by this summer, says Ste. Marie. Ste. Marie also can be contacted with questions or comments at stemarie@uwo.ca or ext. 88539.
Humans wired to be good

The outpouring of help for tsunami victims was at least partly in our genes

By Jim Anderson

A study by a Western psychology professor finds that humans are essentially hardwired with a “goodness gene” to be socially responsible and kind.

“Empathy, nurturing and social responsibility are deeply embedded in the human genome,” says psychologist Philippe Rushton.

“That’s good news because it shows these altruistic traits are part of human nature. If we’re born bad, we’re also born good.”

Rushton’s paper, published in December by the prestigious Royal Society in the United Kingdom, has once again cast him in the international media limelight - this time showing there is a strong genetic contribution to human kindness.

The Financial Times, New Scientist and The Daily Telegraph in the U.K., ABC News.Com in the United States, The Toronto Star, and various television and radio stations across Canada and the U.S. have already interviewed Rushton since the study was published just before Christmas.

A lot of the media interest in this study may be because of the huge human outpouring of relief and support in the wake of the recent tsunami disaster in Southern Asia, Rushton says.

“It explains why there is such an outpouring of support and willingness to help in this disaster and others,” says Rushton, whose previous studies linking violence and intelligence with biology and race sparked much controversy internationally more than a decade ago.

In his most recent research, Rushton wanted to know if there is a genetic component to good behaviour and social responsibility.

The study compared identical twins with non-identical twins to see how much they agreed on a series of 22 questions. They were asked about statements such as “I am a person people can count on”, “It’s important to finish anything you have started”, “Cheating on income tax is as bad as stealing”, using a scale of 1 (strongly disagree) to 5 (strongly agree).

The twins came from the University of London Twin Register and involved 174 pairs of identical twins, who share all their genes and 148 pairs of non-identical twins, who share only half their genes.

“The study shows that genes account for 42 per cent of the individual differences in attitudes, while common environment accounts for 23 per cent and other factors account for the remainder.”

If identical twins agree more than non-identical twins it suggests that morality has a biological basis and is part of our evolved psychology. The answers of the identical twins were almost twice as alike as those of the non-identical twins.

The study also found that genes have a stronger influence on males than females (50 per cent to 40 per cent) while home upbringing has a stronger influence on females (40 per cent to 0), suggesting that parents may more closely watch the behaviour of their daughters than of sons.

In previous research, Rushton has shown that genes influence people’s levels of altruism and aggression – including feelings of empathy, like watching people open presents and acts of violence such as fighting with a weapon. Rushton has also demonstrated that the male sex hormone testosterone sets the level of aggression and altruism.

Rushton says this latest study joins other recent research that shows both genes and upbringing influence almost every human behaviour.

“It is especially interesting to see that this applies to moral attitudes,” he says, noting that he agrees with author George Eliot’s sentiment: “What do we live for, if it is not to make life less difficult for each other?”

Rushton says one of the biggest surprises he found from the study results is that the influence of parents may be much less than earlier thought in the socialization of their children, especially after the age of 13.

“That seems to be when their genes kick in and the influence of peers and other outside sources are much stronger in their social development,” says Rushton.

He notes that other studies of adopted children show that they tend to exhibit the traits and attitudes of their biological parents, as they grow older, despite the environment in which they are raised.

Rushton says his findings represent basically “good news for the human race.”

“It’s good news because society is not about to fall apart at the seams,” says Rushton.

“If you were to put a group of people together on a deserted island, they would begin to band together and work toward a common good. Human beings are genetically programmed to be social beings and to interrelate, by and large.”

Haines Acting Dean

Chemistry professor Roland Haines becomes Acting Dean of the Faculty of Science as of Feb. 1, 2005.

Haines will be an interim successor to Dean Fred Longstaffe, who has resigned his post Janurary 31 in order to focus on some research activities and his transition to the post of Provost on July 1.

“Roland Haines brings to the position vast experience as Associate Dean and an intimate familiarity with the operational and planning process across campus,” says Provost and Vice-President (Academic) Greg Moran. “I am looking forward to working with Roland in the final months of my term as Provost.”
The National Hockey League is scrapping for bucks instead of pucks. Terry Rice, Associate Director in Communications and Public Affairs, says the real hockey is alive and we should all go out and live it.

Reclaim our national game

There's a new TV ad for KIA cars that shows two guys contemplating the National Hockey League (NHL) lockout. They suggest to each other that since the NHL will need replacement players and they think they've got a shot. At the end of the commercial they're in a dressing room discussing how great it will be to get all kinds of free stuff when they sign to the team. It is a huge revenue source for our public broadcaster. Now, the CBC's cash cow has its own case of BSE. It's estimated the CBC will lose $20 million if the NHL season is cancelled. It already laid off 50 employees in September, another 55 jobs were cut when they closed their sports documentary division earlier last year.

But have no fear, the private broadcaster is here. The Sports Network (TSN) announced late last week it'll pick up the CBC's slack by hosting its own show called "Hockey Lives Here: Canada's Game." The show is scheduled for February 19, from noon until 6 p.m. This broadcast should fill the gap for Canada's craving more of our frozen game. But like the guys in that KIA ad, I've got a better idea for how we can reclaim our game.

On January 29 the Western Mustangs men's hockey team will play its first game ever at London's John Labatt Centre. It's going to be an exciting celebration of the game." For more than 80 years the show's popularity grew, although, the ratings always spiked when the triple-header of Canadian NHL teams matched up.

It's no secret that sports, in particular Hockey Night in Canada, is a huge revenue source for our public broadcaster. Now, the CBC's cash cow has its own case of BSE. It's estimated the CBC will lose $20 million if the NHL season is cancelled. It already laid off 50 employees in September, another 55 jobs were cut when they closed their sports documentary division earlier last year.

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To accommodate returning war veterans, the two wings of the Science Building were joined to make a quad. Contractor John Puthenbooth, in order to obtain a precise match with the original stone he had used in 1924, returned to the same Credit Valley quarry and cut sandstone from the same depth as the original blocks.

WHY WAIT FOR MEDIA BEFORE HELPING?

Regarding your commentary item "Tsunami Disaster. What the experts say", I agree with David Spencer's comment that the media has played a large role in raising funds for Tsunami relief, which is commendable.

However, I also believe that in many cases, the media and the victims of such a devastating disaster only pay attention to highly publicized news. A clear-cut example is the case of SARS - the outbreak was so widely broadcasted, it created widespread fear amongst citizens worldwide. In reality, the probability of someone getting hit by a car is much more likely than a person contracting and dying from SARS.

In the case of the tsunami disaster, we have an outpouring of donations going overseas, while there are children who do not even have enough money to buy lunch at school every day in our own city of London. I am not saying that we should not help the victims of such a devastating disaster if anything, it is close to home, since I am from Southeast Asia.

My point is we should not have to wait for the media to publicize terror and disaster before we take action. As mentioned by the expert panel, I hope future efforts can be directed to all causes, including funding planning that will help countries be better prepared for disaster. Charity should be on an ongoing basis, not only when the media exposes us to it.

It only takes a simple donation and opportunities to donate can be found all over campus. We should all give what we can to the relief funds, even if it is only a dollar for a blue ribbon, because every little bit means something.

I don't have to explain the impact the tsunami has had on the world, but one cannot ignore what happened because it is something that changes people. It changes one's outlook on life and forces us to rethink our priorities. Everyone and everything in life seems so much more important now and I am sure that I was not the only one affected in this way.

Cristina Cuda

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

words alone can not express my sincere gratitude for the outpouring of support and generosity by my colleagues at the Student Development Centre during the early days after the tsunami disaster that affected South Asia. My parents are originally from Sri Lanka and with the recent events we were not able to contact any family in Sri Lanka for over 13 days.

During this time the staff at the SDC opened their hearts to me and my family and gave us words of comfort and encouragement. When my brother began a collection of much needed medical supplies to take with him on a recent medical aid mission to the affected region, again my colleagues came through donating boxes of medical supplies. One even went to her church group to solicit supplies for the collection.

It is this spirit of kindness that makes working at the SDC such a wonderful place. To be surrounded by such a caring group of people is an honour. So to you, you are my colleagues... my friends.

Jana Weerasinghe

KUDOS TO WESTERN

I was reading the various articles about Western's contribu- tions to South Asia relief and must say I am very impressed with what has been organized in and around campus. The disaster is very close to many people, especially those native to the countries affected, and it is very important that we all pull together as a university community and do what we can to help.

It may only take a simple donation and opportunities to donate can be found all over campus. We should all give what we can to the relief funds, even if it is only a dollar for a blue ribbon, because every little bit means something.

I don't have to explain the impact the tsunami has had on the world but one cannot ignore what happened because it is something that changes people. It changes one's outlook on life and forces us to rethink our priorities. Everyone and everything in life seems so much more important now and I am sure that I was not the only one affected in this way.

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THANK YOU...

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Jana Weerasinghe

PREFERENTIAL FEMALE HIRING 'INSULTING'

I am writing in response to the Viewpoint article, "Equity survey results," in the article I was pointed to read that universities hire women over men simply for minority reasons. I do not understand the logic in this.

It would be an issue if minority ties with the same qualifications were being turned down repeatedly but this is not the case. Instead, we are turning more qualified white males away and thereby discriminating against them. It embarrasses me.

If I were an employer I would hire the most qualified person because I would want the best for my company. I think that many employers would feel the same way.

When we play by these equity rules, everyone loses. If we go on like this I can only imagine what kind of future we will create. Perhaps it will be a society like China's, except in which white males are undesirable and a burden to the family and society.

I do not want my nephews growing up in a society in which they can work as hard as they want to and be better qualified yet find themselves without a job while someone less qualified takes their place. It breaks my heart to think of the message that would send to them. It seems hopeless.

As a woman, I also find this personally insulting. In the future, I want to be hired for my knowledge and skills not because I am a woman. I also feel that women, and any minority, lose credibility and respect in the work force because of this policy.

This is an issue in which humans have tried to solve a problem but have instead created one of the opposite extremities."

Maria Wall
Brescia

April Chan

Western News welcomes submissions from faculty, staff and students. Submissions must be no more than 550 words and should deal with issues concerning the university and higher education. Submissions must be delivered via e-mail. The editor reserves the right to edit or reject any submission that does not comply with policy. Opinions expressed are those of the writer and do not necessarily reflect those of Western News or The University of Western Ontario.
Regeneration Monday for popular conference

By Jim Anderson

Western’s staff once again will have an opportunity to pursue professional and team development during Reading Week in February.

Western’s third annual Staff and Leadership Conference under the theme “Communicate! Relate! Create!” will be held February 21-24. Staff can register online starting January 25 at 9 a.m. Registration is free and will be accepted on a “first-come” basis.

“Over 700 staff and leaders attended last year’s conference and we’re expecting a strong registration again this year,” says Andrew Fuller, Facilitator on a “first-come” basis. Registration is free and will be accepted on a “first-come” basis.

The conference includes a series of keynote speakers, concurrent workshop sessions, various site tours of campus facilities and a town hall meeting with Western President Paul Davenport and Vice-President (Administration) Gitta Kulczycki where they can receive an update on Western’s priorities and challenges and ask questions.

Keynote speakers include:
- Dr. Tim Porter-O’Grady (Tim Porter-O’Grady Associates) speaking on “Team Leadership –Team Success” on February 22, 8:30 a.m. – 12 p.m., Social Science Centre 2050.
- Bob Gough, Assistant Director, Residence Education Programs, Dr. Gregor Reid, Professor of Microbiology and Immunology and Director of the Canadian Research and Development Centre for Probiotics, Lawson Health Research Centre and other members of Western Heads East, who are responding to the HIV/AIDS crisis in Africa, February 23 8:30 a.m. to 10 a.m., Social Science Centre 2050.

Conference participants February 22, 8:30 a.m. – 12 p.m., Social Science Centre 2050.
- Maureen Geddes, President, Cangram International, speaking on celebrating the cultural differences in our diverse community, February 23 10:30 a.m. to 12 p.m. or 3 p.m. to 4:30 p.m., SSC 2050.

Broadcaster and writer Jim Chapman on “Stories of Leadership and Lessons Learned” February 23 1-2:30 p.m., SSC 2050.
- Denise Bissommette, a writer and trainer, will offer two keynote addresses on “Rekindle the Flame: Celebrate Your Gifts and Renew Your Purpose” February 24 8:30 – 10 a.m. and “Courage – Passionate Choices, Potent Consequences” February 24 1 – 2:30 p.m. Both sessions are in SSC 2050.

“Western and You: A Town Hall Meeting” will be held on February 24 10:30 a.m. – 12 p.m. in the Great Hall, Somerville House. President Paul Davenport and Vice-President (Administration) Gitta Kulczycki will be on hand to provide an update on Western’s priorities and challenges. The session will also offer an opportunity to engage in a short facilitated dialogue with Western colleagues and generate questions for the panel of Western’s senior leaders.

The conference will also offer a series of concurrent workshop sessions on team survival experiences, parent and student transitions, street smarts for today’s workplace, getting technology to work for you and understanding Bill C-45 and health and safety accountability in the workplace.

There will also be a chance for site tours of the Serge A. Sauer Map Library, the Boundary Layer Wind Tunnel, Western’s Power Plant, and a “behind the scenes” tour of the mechanical room in the University Community Centre, and a tour of Western residences Perth Hall and Medway-Sydenham Hall.

Michael’s Garden in Somerville House also will be offering a special buffet for staff conference participants February 22, 23 and 24, 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Call ext. 84080 for reservations.

For more information on the conference and registration, go to www.uwo.ca/humanresources/conference

After graduation, where would you like to be The Apprentice?

Jen Berghoeff
Nursing ‘08

“I’m in nursing so probably one of the large metropolitan hospitals in Toronto. I could then take that knowledge to a different country, such as Africa, where there is a need for such services.”

Bryan Wang
Science ‘07

“Perhaps a big corporation such as IBM. There would be such large expectations on everyone that it would be a great learning tool. Even if the apprenticeship didn’t pay well the experience would be worthwhile.”

Larissa Bulani
Health Sciences ‘08

“Perhaps a volunteer organization overseas where help is needed the most. I’m not the corporate type who likes to sit behind a big desk and boss around. Internationally, overseas work would be more rewarding than getting the big bucks.”

Kapili Goela
Science ‘07

“Probably in a lab somewhere dealing with chemistry or pharmaceuticals; a company that would be heavy into research. That’s what I’m leaning towards, so that experience would be great.”

Philip Mabek
Student Development Centre

“I would enter a field that works with disability issues, perhaps psychological or psychiatric related disorders. Doing the same in Africa I could also include those with HIV/AIDS and helping them deal with what’s going on in their lives.”

Registration Monday for popular conference

By Paul Mayne

With more than 6,000 delegates expected for the Congress of the Humanities and Social Sciences in late May, many of Western’s faculties are gearing up to give a big welcome to the University.

The Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry plans to showcase and explore how the arts joins with medical education for a unique student learning experience.

Faculty and students interested in medical ethics, such as research and the doctor/patient relationship, will show, through a variety of humanities, how the two areas come together as one. “Western really leads the world in medical ethics and humanities,” says program coordinator and faculty member Dr. Jeff Nisker. “There are a number of ethics issues that we use the humanities to help us teach.”

Each evening during the nine-day Congress, a separate focus for exploration including theatre, painting, story-telling, music, dramatic poetry reading (spoken word), film and scholarship in medical ethics and humanities will be presented.

Nisker says some of the students’ projects have been presented nationally, with this form of teaching beginning to take hold in other curriculum courses.

“It’s a very unique and wonderful approach here at Western,” says Nisker. “With so many humanities and social science scholars to be here, it’s a great way for us to say ‘yes, we use humanities and social science in our teaching’.

Before and after each evening’s performance, which begin at 7 p.m. and run approximately 90 minutes, Congress delegates will be welcome to view artistic works and posters in the foyer of the Schulich School of Medicine.

“The students and faculty look forward to the insights of attendance of Congress 2005,” says Nisker.

The Congress of the Humanities and Social Sciences is the largest multi-disciplinary gathering of North American academics, with established researchers and scholars from more than 70 associations coming together to share their latest work.

Departments and individuals arranging special events for the Congress are encouraged to share their plans with Western News. You can do so by emailing pmayne@uwo.ca
In Profile: New Faculty

Discovered asteroid...then Western

By Armando D’Andrea

Astronomy professor Paul Wiegert refers to himself as an explorer in the broadest sense of the term. That may explain why, when he looks into the heavens, the asteroids, comets and planets are only part of what he searches for.

“Astronomy is the study of everything,” said the 37-year-old Wiegert, Western’s newest addition to the physics and astronomy faculty. “We spend a lot of time thinking about what we do, our civilization, where are we going to get something to eat. The universe, somehow, gives us a broader perspective.”

These are just the kind of comments that might lead one to think Wiegert would be more apt to be a philosophy professor than the teacher for a first-year general astronomy course.

However the just-married Wiegert, whose focus of study deals with the sources of meteors and the orbits of comets and asteroids, has always been driven to know the answer to the ‘hows’ and ‘whys’ of not only the world above us, but also all around us. He attributes this natural curiosity to growing up as the son of a mechanical engineer who was always taking things apart to see how they worked.

That thirst for discovery has fueled his journey to this new position.

After successfully completing his PhD thesis at the University of Toronto on the evolution of long-period comets in 1996 he did post-doctoral work in astronomy from serving in the Canadian Navy reserves for several summers. It is a convenient interest for Wiegert because it allows him to indulge his passion for travel and experience different people and places.

Not unlike his professional duties as an astronomer, Wiegert’s travels, which have taken him from Africa to South America to Europe on business and leisure, have enabled him to explore and learn more about the true final frontier—the human condition.

“You observe at night and then you have time during the day, if you’re not sleeping, but to go around and talk to some of the local people there,” he said. “People are people. You can easily relate to the situations of local people there.”

For example, when he looks into the heavens

“3753,” Wiegert has previously compared discovery of the asteroid to “finding a diamond in your own backyard.”

Even now, seven years later, his eyes light up at retelling the experience.

“It was pretty special when you realize you’ve learned something new that nobody else has learned before,” he said. “It’s really the excitement of discovering something new, something that nobody else has ever really realized before.”

This drive for discovery comes through on his personal Web page. While he uses it to extol his love for Dilbert and his interest in pennywhistles and harmonicas, he also invites readers to “get off your duff” and try sailing.

Wiegert’s love for sailing stems from serving in the Canadian Navy reserves for several summers. It is a convenient interest for Wiegert because it allows him to indulge his passion for travel and experience different people and places.

Not unlike his professional

Love for Dilbert and his interest in pennywhistles and harmonicas

“People are people. You can easily relate to the situations of local people there.”

10-week program

starts Jan 17-24

Attend 1-2 classes.
If you’re not hooked, we’ll give you a FULL refund.

Get active. Get fit. Get into...

Underlying the excitement of searching

Paul Mayne, Western News

Professor Paul Wiegert, seen here with a globe of Venus, has a genuine sense of curiosity when it comes to searching the heavens.
‘Fiti’ offers AIDS hope in Tanzania

Western Heads East is about to establish a novel health program based on cow milk and yogurt

By Paul Mayne

With something as simple as yogurt, Western students and graduate hope to make a huge difference in the health of residents of one African country.

Health Sciences student Cynthia Medeiros and Brian Healy (Science ‘03) left Tuesday for Mwanza, Tanzania where they will spend the next five months establishing a health program based on cow milk and yogurt production, in hopes of improving the city’s health and economic status.

Through the Western Heads East (WHE) program, the two have been learning the ins-and-outs of probiotic-based yogurt production, and how to establish a sustainable diet of the yogurt, based on the research of Dr. Gregor Reid, Director of the Canadian Research and Development Centre for Probiotics and professor of Microbiology and Immunology at Western, and Brescia University College nutrition professor Sharateh Hekmat.

A probiotic, by the generally accepted definition, is a live microbial supplement, with the major consumption by humans being in the form of dairy-based foods. Probiotics have been used therapeutically to modulate immunity, improve digestive processes, lower cholesterol, treat rheumatoid arthritis, prevent cancer, improve lactose intolerance, and prevent or reduce the effects of Crohn’s disease, IBS, diarrhea, constipation as well as urinary tract infections.

Hekmat says yogurt bought in grocery stores contains forms of bacteria which are good for the body’s intestinal track. Research has found that with additional forms of bacteria, the benefit to the body increases.

The yogurt, developed at Brescia in collaboration with Reid, is named ‘Fiti’, a Swahili term that symbolizes health and well being. It will specifically be used to help reduce infection in women and lower mortality and morbidity due to diarrhoea in children and patients with AIDS.

And the need for better health in Tanzania is strong. Approximately 550,000 men and 750,000 women in the country are living with HIV/AIDS. The population of Mwanza (420,000) is slightly larger than London and is expected to escalate to 1.4 million by 2011.

“There is so much going on in the world and there are many things we can do to help. I’m such a people person that when I saw this opportunity I knew I had to do it.”

Medeiros adds residents in Mwanza are not getting sufficient protein and nutrients and a simple program, such as probiotic-based yogurt they are introducing, will truly make a difference.

“If I can help a couple people feel better then it’s all worth it,” she says. “It makes you feel a little better knowing you’re making a difference.”

Through the Kenya Medical Research Institute, a women’s advocacy organization in Mwanza, approximately 20 to 40 families will take part in the project and learn how to continue the program once the students have returned, establishing the groundwork for their own probiotics research.

The WHE program began in 2003 and was formed by staff in Western’s Division of Housing and Ancillary Services in response to the HIV/AIDS crisis in Africa. Medeiros and Healy are the first interns to be sent to Africa.

Robert Gough, assistant director of residence education and Ancillary Services, made pre-site visit to Mwanza late last year to finalize preparations for the student’s arrival.

Gough says aside from increasing calcium and protein levels of participants by almost 50 per cent, the visit will have a great social impact as well.

“The community will be able to help each other in more ways than just through the yogurt,” he says. “Families will be able to help each other by learning techniques. Our goal has always been to create a sustainable project.”

Upon their return, Medeiros and Healy will promote education of the AIDS pandemic in Africa to the Western community and how they can get involved. The AIDS Awareness Campaign is held annually at Western in November and funds raised this year will be earmarked for specific need in Mwanza.

For more information about Western Heads East, please visit www.uwo.ca/fhs/housing/westernheadseast

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The Mission of the Middlesex-London Health Unit, a teaching health unit, is to promote wellness, prevent disease and injury, and protect the public’s health through the delivery of public health programs, services and research.
Amazing insight and failing eyesight

A new speaker series explores medical frailties and the creative process.

BY KRISTA MCFADDEN

Understanding illness through works of art is the aim of the Schulich School of Medicine’s new lecture series, “Paint & Suffering.” Western’s Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry is teaming up with faculty members from the Department of Visual Arts to give the public an opportunity to discuss evidence of illness in the artwork of Claude Monet, Vincent van Gogh, Jack Chambers and Keith Haring.

Dr. Jim Silcox, Associate Dean of Medicine and Dentistry and a member of the “Paint & Suffering” organizing committee, says the lecture series is an informal way to introduce the relationship between medicine and the arts to London’s community.

“A lot of disease and medical intervention issues surface not only in art in the formal sense, but in music and literature as well,” says Silcox. “Art is visual and easy for the public to relate to, so we thought this would be a good place to start.”

Associate Professor of Visual Arts Madeline Lennon, couldn’t agree more.

“We decided that it was very interesting to look at the kinds of stresses of the human condition and how individuals work through these issues,” says Lennon. “If you think about artists, it’s an easier way to connect with people and to understand, through their work, how we might see evidence of different kinds of stress.”

Lennon is hosting two of the four lectures, including the first discussion, on Thursday, January 27, about impressionist painter, Monet.

Along with ophthalmologist Dr. David Tingeys, Lennon will discuss the impact of Monet’s cataracts on the progression of his artwork.

“It’s amazing, he’s got to paint up close – so how do these dots and dashes and thick globs of paint translate into this vision when you move away,” asks Lennon. She says that although there is probably evidence of Monet’s cataracts in his paintings, it’s not immediately obvious to the viewer. “When you have an art historian and a physician who specializes in a particular area, then you begin to see how this might have affected the choices they make in how they produce art,” she says.

While this particular series has never been done before, medicine and dentistry’s faculty development manager, Catherine Blake, says it’s another step in the faculty’s outreach program.

“We want to open the doors of the Schulich medical school to the community and give the people of London access to university faculty,” says Blake.

The faculty offers other programs like “Meds Movies,” where the public screens medical science themed movies with physicians.

“The faculty is amazingly supportive,” says Silcox. “I think they see this as a new venture and in that sense a bit of fun because it prompts them to think in new ways about their areas of expertise and how it might relate to what has been produced (in Art).”

“It could be a bit inspiring,” says Silcox. “We’re here to tell you that people who did achieve greatness often had burdens that didn’t hold them back.”

The free series will be held on four consecutive Thursdays, beginning January 27 at 7:30 p.m. in Museum London’s lecture theatre.

The writer is a graduate student in Journalism.

Impressionist master Claude Monet painted long after he developed cataracts. At left, is a detail from a 1908 painting before the diagnosis, at right a detail from The House Seen from the Rose Garden in 1922-24 when failing vision was well entrenched.
Mustangs shoot for attendance record

BY PAUL MAYNE

Nationally seventh-ranked Western Mustangs varsity hockey team wants a shot at #1 - when it comes to attendance.

Always a large crowd when nationally fourth-ranked Lakehead Thunderwolves come to town, Western is hoping for even bigger things as the two teams face off at the John Labatt Centre (JLC) January 29. It is the first time a Canadian Interuniversity Sport (CIS) hockey game has been played at the downtown London venue.

The attendance record for a CIS hockey game is 4,500, set in the 80s by the University of Toronto during a playoff game. With the current success of both the Mustangs and Thunderwolves, along with a hockey-crazed city, organizers are hoping to eclipse the old mark.

“Our players are really excited about coming here (JLC) to play in front of a large crowd,” says Barry Martinelli, acting head coach of the Mustangs. “Playing a team the calibre of Lakehead always attracts a couple thousand (fans). We can probably double that.”

Mike Lysko, Director of Sports and Recreation Services at Western, says this should be a terrific event and a great way for Western to come to the London community.

“We’re really proud of our Mustangs hockey program and are excited about this opportunity,” says Lysko. “You have two of the top teams in Canada going head-to-head, in the best junior hockey market in Ontario – it’s going to make for some great hockey.”

Tickets for the game are $7 per person - $3 for Western students and children under 12 – and are available through the Mustang Ticket Line at 661-4077 or in person at Campus Recreation Membership Services (lower level of UCC). The University Students’ Council will also be selling tickets.

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Admission mouse click away

By Paul Mayne

Prospective Western students will be able to accept or decline admission online for the first time.

With offers of admission about to go out, Western is one of a handful of Ontario universities to test-drive the new system being offered by the Ontario Universities Application Centre (OUAC).

“It really helps the students in making their decision. They can actually see online what schools have offered them admission and the expiry date for that school.”

Lori Gribbin
Manager, Undergraduate Admissions

Ontario university applicants have been able to make online submissions for several years as part of a web-based initiative to streamline the paper burden associated with the centralized process.

The OUAC has taken the system a step farther this year by allowing applicants to certain trial universities including Western to accept or decline an offer of admission via the web.

A working group from the Guelph-based OUAC and seven universities, including Western, began testing the new system this past summer and it is now in place for all undergraduate and teacher education programs, in time for the 2005 admission year.

“It really helps the students in making their decision,” says Lori Gribbin, Manager of Undergraduate Admissions and Liaison Services at Western.

“They can actually see online what schools have offered them admission and the expiry date for that school. It saves them having to write their acceptance, mailing and hoping that it doesn’t get lost. They can see it right away (acceptance or decline).”

Gribbin says offers for the 2005-06 school year will be going out next week. Among the advantages of the new system is helping Western to observe trends, such as which students are responding first, from which region and to what faculty.

“This can help us down the road in planning with admissions,” says Gribbin, adding students are responding first, from which region and to what faculty.

The OUAC is also developing an online application systems for graduate programs, as well as part-time and internal applicants.

Western friendship hits the airwaves

By Paul Mayne

For Western graduates Liz Barrera and Makda Ghebreslassie, the next year-and-a-half of their lives will be all about fashion, makeup and hair trends, current events, entertainment, fitness and teen advice.

As one of the new hosts of the teen-based Girlz TV (Sunday’s at 9 p.m. on YTV), the best friends hit the airwaves for the first time February 6. YTV is Canada’s #1 youth network and is seen in more than eight million homes across Canada.

“I think we’re still in a state of shock,” says Barrera, who met and became best friends with Ghebreslassie while the two were attending Western. The pair just finished taping their first half-hour show.

Barrera graduated in 2003 with combined honors in Media Information and Technoculture, and English. She received a Journalism degree the following year.

Ghebreslassie graduated in 2003 in Sociology and Psychology.

From the hundreds of audition tapes that were sent in, the field was narrowed to eight. A week-long vote by viewers was set to determine the winner of the Ultimate Talent Search.

The two recall that stress-filled road in planning with admissions, saying they immediately thought of Ghebreslassie, thinking they’d be perfect.

“She called me at like 11:30 p.m. and said, ‘we gotta do this, c’mon,’” says Ghebreslassie. “So we immediately started making plans of what we were going to do for the tape, where we’d film it, and all that.”

Nicole McKechnie, supervising product of Girlz TV, says the Western alumni are joining the team mid-season and says plans are for the two to finish off the season and continue for one full season of their own, before another nation-wide search for replacements is launched.

Ghebreslassie adds being best friends has made the introduction into the world of television much easier.

“Our personalities really work great together,” she says. “We tend to balance each other out.”

Barrera says the idea behind the show is “best friends” adding the two also bring a multi-cultural feel to the show. Barrera is Asian and Ghebreslassie is African.

“Our friendship was forged in Western and continues today,” says Barrera. “Western taught us that through determination and a willingness to take risk that anything is possible.”
Protecting children aim of provincial team

By Paul Mayne

Long viewed as a rite of passage or burden children simply had to live with, bullying and violence in Ontario schools will no longer be tolerated under an aggressive new provincial program.

A $9-million initiative recently launched by the McGuinty government seeks to address physical and social safety of the thousands of elementary and secondary school students in the province.

Ray Hughes, a member of Western’s Faculty of Education and national educational coordinator with the Centre for Prevention Science (Child Youth and Family Program), located in the Western Research Park, has been appointed to a four-person team responsible for implementing new provincial standards.

Joining him are Liz Sandals, parliamentary assistant to the Minister of Community Safety and Correctional Services Minister Monte Kwinter; Stu Auty, former chair of the Ontario Safe School Task Force; and Debra Pepler, psychology professor at York University and head of the Canadian Initiative for the Prevention of Bullying.

“The topic of bullying and violence in schools has been a concern for a number of years,” says Hughes, who conducts numerous presentations on violence prevention and safe school initiatives.

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Appointed by the McGuinty government, Western’s Ray Hughes is part of a four-member Safe School Action Team expected to implement new measures across the province to promote safer schools and protect students from violence.

“It’s a complex problem that needs to get everyone involved in the process of finding solutions.”

Hughes, who is meeting every other week with his fellow team members, believes this proactive approach is the right step, though it’s not the cure all for school violence. “Setting a lofty goal of wanting to eradicate bullying is just not going to be reached,” says Hughes, who has 26 years in the education field, 19 of those as a high school teacher. “We need to focus on what we can do to assist our students in feeling safer at school.”

One such initiative is the anti-bullying hotline, which Hughes says should be in place very shortly. Students will be able to report bullying incident and receive support. As well, parents and educators will have easy access to information and prevention strategies.

“If you think you’re the only one out there getting bullied, it can become a pretty lonely world,” says Hughes, who soon hopes to teach a course at the Faculty of Education on safe schools. “The hotline, along with their parents or teachers, is an option the student can turn to.”

Province-wide safety audits will also be conducted at schools across the province for schools boards to access the safety of their schools and, if needed, apply for funding to prevent problems before they occur.

Hughes adds successful anti-bullying programs from across Ontario will be identified and put in place in every school across the province.

As well, the team will address recommendations from Justice Sydney Robbins’ report on the prevention of sexual misconduct in Ontario schools and conduct a complete review of the previous government’s Safe Schools Act.

To advertise in Western News call 661-2045 or fax 661-3921
Peter Fraser, Professor Emeritus of Applied Mathematics at Western, was born August 26, 1928 in Anecon, Ecuador (near Guayaquil) and died on December 19, 2004. He is survived by his wife Joyce, their children, Kathleen, now herself Professor in the Department of English, David, Ian, and Mary, and grandchildren.

His legacy is secure in the memories of all who knew him.

There passed a fine theoretical physicist, a great teacher and an interesting, kind and multi-talented friend of many at this University and beyond. He was truly a man of Western, having received his BSc 1950, MSc 1952 and PhD 1954 here as well as having spent his professional career at Western, first as professor in the Department of Physics beginning in 1957 and then, since 1970, in the Department of Applied Mathematics. Peter published 40 papers in atomic and molecular physics, and former students now hold senior academic positions carrying on research in the same fields. He was “one of the pioneers in positron physics” according to one distinguished former student.

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Peter Fraser

He was among the founding members of the Centre for Interdisciplinary Studies in Chemical Physics and served as acting chair of the Department of Physics (1967-69) and Department of Applied Mathematics (1972-73).

On the teaching front, Peter was an early recipient of the University Award for Excellence in Teaching, now called The Edward G. Pleva Award. Peter taught both physics and applied mathematics with equal ease and expertise; his nomination for this honour, awarded May 1986, was supported by a huge number of enthusiastic letters from students in both areas. His teaching was characterized by clarity, kindness and ingenuity.

One former student, who has become a well-known physicist professor himself, “remembers with great delight the many demonstrations Peter used to demonstrate principles of physics”. Using bits of string and wooden dowels, Peter would handcraft models of electromagnetic waves to create a picture that would stick in the minds of students long after they’d left Western. Another student, who also went on to an outstanding career in physics, related how Peter would discuss and write out a solution on some difficult point, making sure the student followed and understood all the steps. Then he’d crumple the paper and send the student off to see for himself whether he understood and could redo the development on his own.

Peter would teach patiently and carefully, always with a view to the real objective of teaching – the students’ learning and understanding.

Those were some of his professional qualifications, but what about the friend and colleague outside the university setting? Well, he certainly had a robust sense of humour: if you happened to be at, say, a “Carry On” movie when Peter was there as well, you’d soon know it from the appreciative guffaws that would echo through the theatre. If you were interested in sailing, he was a skilled sailor who could build you a boat and then show you how to sail it. Or jazz? His expertise was wide and deep, just as it was in mathematics and physics.

In sum, Peter Fraser was a fine scholar and a valued and interesting colleague. It was a delight to chat with him – there was always a note of whimsy and you always learned something from this thoughtful man. His legacy is secure in the memories of all who knew him.

The writer is a Professor Emeritus in Applied Mathematics. Recollections is a Western News feature that celebrates the life of a member of the Western community.

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Appreciation is expressed to all who respond to this advertisement, however, only those to be interviewed will be contacted.
Challenge grant builds art collection

BY PAUL MAYNE

Western’s McIntosh Gallery has once again been invited to participate in the Elizabeth L. Gordon Art Programme challenge grant for art acquisitions this year. Through the Walter & Duncan Gordon Foundation, the McIntosh will receive an initial gift of $5,000, to be followed by a further $5,000 matching challenge should the gallery raise a similar amount. That would bring the total gift to $15,000.

“Art is part of everyday life here at Western,” says Arlene Kennedy, Director of the McIntosh Gallery, adding that money could then possibly be matched by the Canadian Council for the Arts, bringing the total to $30,000.

“Over 900 artworks are located throughout public places across campus and enjoyed by students, faculty, staff and visitors alike. It is vital that the collection grow with the times to reflect the evolution of our artistic community.”

The Foundation assists public galleries in Ontario to build permanent collections through the challenge grant program. Challenge grants are designed to leverage funds for acquisitions that will strengthen collections and boosting community commitment to the importance of art. Kennedy says the McIntosh Gallery has a list of ongoing gaps in their collection, such as various movements, periods or specific artists who would be targeted with grant money.

“The whole point behind the program is to involve the community, to act as a catalyst,” says Kennedy, who is confident the $5,000 can be raised in the community. A couple of donations have already been made.

Those wishing to make a donation please call 661-3181, email akenned4@uwo.ca or go online to www.mcintoshgallery.ca. Forms can also be picked up at the McIntosh Gallery, with hours Tuesday to Thursday, 12-7 p.m. and Friday to Sunday 12-4 p.m.

Counting votes … miscounting cash

BY KRISTA MCFADDEN

Western faculty members were called upon by national and international media to offer expert commentary on a wide variety of topics. Those contacts include:

Marta Dyczok, associate professor of history and specialist on post-Communist Ukraine, has received recent media attention due to her involvement in helping oversee the Ukrainian presidential election. She has made radio appearances on the CBC Radio shows “The Current” and “As It Happens”, Radio Canada International and Canadian Radio-Canada’s “Current” and “As It Happens”.

Gordon McBean is a professor of geography and political science and research chair of the Institute for Catastrophic Loss Reduction. The media has sought his comments on disaster and response, climate change and weather and health. His recent appearances include CBC Radio’s Ontario Morning, the Toronto Star, Reader’s Digest (French version) and Wired News.

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If you use full-text scholarly journals online, you may be requested to provide feedback on the online access received via Scholars Portal provided by the Ontario Council of University Libraries (OCUL).

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☑ If you have any questions about this survey please contact the Western Libraries Scholars Portal Evaluation Team, at sportal@uwo.ca.
Financial System Upgrade

The Corporate Financial System is being upgraded to a new web based version during the latter part of January and the early part of February. The upgrade process will take almost two weeks and the system will be unavailable for entering transactions from Wednesday, January 26, 2005 at 6:30 pm until Tuesday, February 8, 2005 at approximately 9:00 am.

During the upgrade period, users will continue to have access to the current system for reporting and inquiry purposes only. All other production systems (Human Resources, Student Administration and Advancement Services) will remain available during the Financials upgrade.

Deadlines and Guidelines
In order to complete the January month-end processing and begin the upgrade, it will be necessary to adhere to the following deadlines and guidelines:

Journal Entries: The last day for entering a January journal entry is Wednesday, January 26, 2005.

Accounts Receivable Invoices: The last day for finalizing and printing January Accounts Receivable Invoices is Wednesday, January 26, 2005.

Travel Expenses: In order to receive a reimbursement cheque prior to the upgrade, Travel Expense Reports must be received in General Accounting on or before Monday, January 24, 2005. Travel Expense Reports received after this date will not be processed or reimbursed until February 8, 2005 or later.

Travel Advances: The last day to submit a Travel Advance request prior to the upgrade is Monday, January 24, 2005. Travel Advances will not be available during the upgrade period.

Cheque Requisitions: The last day to submit a Cheque Requisition prior to the upgrade is Monday, January 24, 2005. Cheque Requisitions will not be available during the upgrade period.

Supplier Invoices: Supplier Invoices, with payment due before February 14, 2005, received in General Accounting on or before Tuesday, January 25, 2005 will be processed and paid before the upgrade.

Purchasing Instructions: The last day for entering an On-Line Requisition is Thursday, January 27, 2005. During the upgrade period, properly authorized hard copy purchase requisitions can be used to initiate the issuance of a Purchase Order. Please remember that Visa Purchasing Cards and Low Value Purchase Orders can be used for most purchases under $1,000. In addition, all System Contracts will continue to operate normally during the upgrade period.

Central Cashier: Deposits made by the Central Cashier by Wednesday, January 26, 2005 will be posted as January transactions. The cashier will be open regular hours and will be accepting deposits during the upgrade period. All deposits made during the upgrade period will be posted as February transactions.

Petty Cash: The Central Cashier will maintain regular hours during the upgrade period. Although every effort will be made to provide uninterrupted service, reimbursement of large claims cannot be guaranteed. Reimbursements made on or before Monday, January 24, 2005 will be processed as January transactions. All reimbursements made after that date will be processed as February transactions.

Emergency Cheque Requests: During the upgrade period, only true emergency requests will be processed. Requests for emergency payment will be reviewed by the Supervisor of Accounts Payable and Travel (Randy Delanghe ext. 85497).

For additional upgrade updates and training information, please refer to our Web site:
http://www.uwo.ca/finance/people/
COMING EVENTS

January 20


Microbiology & Immunology Seminar – Frank Church, University of North Carolina. “Cut and Die: Prophageic Cascades and their Inhibitors Regulating Bacterial Coagulation” - MB. Rm. N1070, 1 pm

Physics Colloquium – James R. Drummond, University of Toronto. “Measuring Atmospheric Pollution from Space”, Physics & Astronomy, Rm. 123, 1 pm

Women's Hockey vs Laurier @ Western, 7 pm

Visitors in the Arts Speaker’s Series – Chris Thompson, Sculptor, Toronto. VAC – Rm. 100, 8 pm

January 21


Geography Speaker Series – John Ferguson, Educational Advisor, Environmental Commissioner of Ontario. SSC, Rm. 232, 2 pm

Dept. of Epidemiology & Biostatistics – Physiological Pathways Linking the Social Environment and Health in an Older Population” by Dr. Christopher Sepkaly, Princeton University. MB. Rm. 148, 2 - 3 pm

Dept. of Modern Languages & Literatures – Seminar on Transatlantic Studies, Carlos Osorio. “El National Security Archive y la recuperación de la memoria en America del Sur”, UC 205, 3 pm

January 22


Men’s & Women’s Track & Field – Don Wright Invitational @ Western am

Men’s & Women’s Basketball vs McMaster @ Western. Women’s 1 pm, Men’s 3 pm

Men’s & Women’s Volleyball vs McMaster @ Western. Women’s 6 pm, Men’s 8 pm

January 24

Physiology and Pharmacology Seminar - Cunningham Lecture. Dr. Donna Korczik, Pennsylvania State University. "Local delivery of PCK epsilon in aged rat heart: similarities to exercise-induced cardiac protection?" Dental Sciences Bldg., Rm. 2002 - 4 pm

Dept of Mathematics – "Spectral Sequences" Micheal Misamor, Western – MC, Rm. 108 3 pm

January 25

London Senior Alumni Program - Mozart’s Cosi fan tutte – A sure bet. Don Neville, Professor Emeritus, Don Wright Faculty of Music, Western. McKeller Theatre, UCC – 9:30 – 11 am

Rehabilitation Sciences Seminar – International Classification of Functioning: Exploring the relationships between driving, driving cessation, and the health and well-being of older drivers”, Elborn College, Rm. 1520C, 1 pm

Assistant Accountant

Huron University College invites applications for the position of Assistant Accountant.

Huron University College is a small, academically excellent, primarily undergraduate university institution affiliated with The University of Western Ontario. The College is located in London, Ontario, on its own campus in close proximity to UWO.

Huron has an operating budget of approximately $13 million, and a full-time faculty and staff of approximately 100.

Candidates will be expected to have a university degree in commerce. Enrolment in a Certified General Accounting or Certified Management Accountant program would be an asset. Computer experience in an accounting environment, with both Excel and Power Point experience is required. Daily duties of this position require a hands-on activity in various aspects of the accounting department, and in addition, supervision of daily accounting activity.

We are seeking a highly motivated person, who works well in a team-based environment.

Applications, due by February 4, 2005 should include a curriculum vitae, a covering letter and three references, and should be sent to: Jane Parker, Assistant to the College Administrator, Huron University College, 1349 Western Road, London, Ontario, N6G 1H1.

Huron University College values its place in an interconnected world and desires to create a diverse and equitable employment and educational environment that recognizes the inherent worth and dignity of every person.
Marcel and the Hounds at Conron Hall

BY JIM ANDERSON

A compelling drama that ventures into the depth of two tormented souls comes to Conron Hall in University College. Western’s Department of English presents Canadian playwright Michel Tremblay’s, Marcel Pursued by the Hounds, January 27-29.

Marcel, 15, has witnessed a horror and hides in the apartment of his sister Thérèse who lives in the thrall of alcohol, nightclubs, neon lights and vengeful fantasy. She’s ill equipped to meet Marcel’s needs and his flight takes him beyond the confines of la rue Dorion towards a place of childhood imagination and comfort.

Andrew Dodd plays the lead character Marcel, with Brigid Aiken as Thérèse and Fern Tepperman as Florence, their mother.

Dodd is an Original Kids alumnus who has performed at the Tom Patterson Theatre in the Stratford productions of Henry VI (2002) and Good Mother (2001). Aiken recently appeared as Mary in Juno & the Paycock (2004) and has been in supporting roles in numerous English department productions. Tepperman has appeared with London Community Players, St. Marys Community Players, Elgin Theatre Guild and Ingersoll Theatre.

The play also features a chorus of semi-mystical sisters played by Erin Deli (Mauve), Sidonie Wybourn (Violette) and Jessica Weaver (Rose).

Director Claire McCague’s recent productions include, Tremor (London Fringe Theatre Festival 2004), Intersection (London and Vancouver Fringe Festivals 2003) and a staged reading of Jericho in the Morning Light in the Wolf Performance Hall (2003). Stage Manager is Chris Shoesmith and Assistant Director Mikhail Vergara.

Performances are at 8 p.m. January 27, 28 and 29. Tickets available at the door $8/$10.

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