Preparing for bus strike

With London Transit bus drivers set to strike on Monday, Nov. 16 at 12:01 a.m., The University of Western Ontario is urging students and employees who normally take the bus to and from campus to make alternative plans.

University administration and student leaders are continuing to work on plans in response to the potential strike. Mediation between London Transit Commission (LTC) bus drivers (Amalgamated Transit Union Local 741) and the LTC failed to produce an agreement and no further talks are scheduled.

“We remain hopeful that a transit strike will be averted, but continue to work hard on plans to help students, staff and faculty have safe commuting alternatives to get to and from campus if an agreement is not reached,” says Gitta Kulczycki, Western Vice-President (Resources and Operations).

In the event of a strike, Western will remain open and classes will continue. Students are expected to attend classes and employees will be required to report to work as usual. Alternatives for those who normally take the bus include:

Continued on page 4

Groundwork laid to improve employment equity

By Heather Travis

A recently released Employment Systems Review (ESR) lays the foundation for rectifying employment equity issues on The University of Western Ontario campus and serves as the basis for a new action plan.

Rather than ignoring the problem, Alan Weedon, Vice-Provost (Academic Planning, Policy and Faculty), says the university commissioned an ESR to identify employment barriers for members of four designated groups (women, Aboriginal Persons, persons with disabilities, and members of visible minorities).

“If you want to do something about unconscious biases, you raise it to top-of-mind. We are not interested in sweeping anything under the carpet, we want to enable the conversation so that we can develop an action plan,” he says.

Consulting firm Barbara Herr ring & Associates Inc. conducted the review from January to July. Although the focus groups and interviews with 107 faculty and staff are not comprehensive of the experiences of all employees at Western, it does provide a window into workplace gaps.

The ESR includes an assessment of recruitment; selection and hiring; training and development; promotion; retention and termination; and reasonable accommodation for possible barriers. It also provides Western with 33 recommendations for consideration.

With the review now in hand, the President’s Standing Committee on Employment Equity is collecting feedback from the university until the end of the

Continued on page 11

Employment Systems Review

In an attempt to identify employment barriers to four designated groups at Western (women, Aboriginal persons, persons with disabilities and members of visible minorities), a recently completed Employment Systems Review has provided 33 recommendations for consideration. To view the report visit uwo.ca/equity/esr.htm
AL JAZEERA MANAGING EDITOR TO SPEAK

Tony Burman, former editor-in-chief of CBC News and now managing editor of Al Jazeera English, will deliver this year’s Clissold Lecture in Journalism on Nov. 16 at 4:30 p.m. in Conron Hall. The 35-year veteran of the CBC will challenge trends in journalism with a provocative talk entitled: “Hiding from the World: The Media’s Retreat from Global News Coverage.” Burman took over at Al Jazeera’s English-language international news channel in 2008 and has led its coverage of the Israel/Gaza conflict and its developing programming from Asia, Africa and the Middle East. Al Jazeera English reaches 180 million households. Reception to follow and admission is free.

BON VOYAGE!

After decades of being located in University College 219, the Trois Pistoles French Immersion school office moved this week to the new Student Services Building, Room 3100L.

GRADS WHO INFLUENCE PUBLIC POLICY

Three Western alumni, who are also senior federal civil servants, will return to campus Nov. 18 to discuss public policy. Sponsored by Research Western, the speakers will discuss key policy issues on which they are working. They include:

■ Bob Hamilton, associate deputy minister, Environment Canada, “Developing Climate Change Policy in Canada,” NSI, 1:30-2:30 p.m., and
■ Paul Boothe, senior associate deputy minister, Industry Canada, “The Chrysler and GM Rescue,” Ivey 2R23, 2:30-3:30 p.m.

PROFS Toss TECH LIFE RING

A U.S.-based blog offers technology help to professors. ProfHacker sets out to answer questions, including providing tutorials about how to tie together teaching and software. One of the unplanned benefits may be “showing that the barrier of entry to this stuff is lower than it seems,” says co-creator Jason Jones, associate professor of English at Central Connecticut State University, in an interview with The Chronicle of Higher Education, profhacker.com.

ART AND AIDS

Professor Yong Kang, a Western Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry virologist who has developed a vaccine for HIV/AIDS, will speak at the McIntosh Gallery Nov. 17 at 12:30 p.m. on the topic: “Can we stop the HIV/AIDS epidemic?” The presentation is part of a multi-pronged effort by the McIntosh to focus attention on AIDS. The current exhibit by artist Andrew McPhail, entitled ‘All my little failures,’ deals with the artist’s personal experience with the disease. The exhibit runs until Dec. 5.

LONGHOUSE CHRISTMAS

The Museum of Archeology will hold a one-day ‘Christmas in a Longhouse’ aboriginal arts and crafts sale Nov. 22, 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Other activities include a bake sale, raffle, storytelling, games and soap tasting. Admission: $4 adult, $2 children, $10 family. Location: 1600 Attawandaron Rd, off Wonderland Road.

REX ON READING

CBC and Globe and Mail commentator Rex Murphy brings his unique presentation style to campus Nov. 19. The Faculty of Education and Joan Pedersen lecture series present: ‘Rex on Reading.’ Tickets are free at the Book Store, Books Plus, Faculty of Education, Oxford Books and the Central Public Library. 7-8 p.m., The Auditorium, Althouse Building, 1137 Western Road.

GE DONATES EQUIPMENT

GE Digital has donated protection relays, digital radios, substations communications equipment, monitoring and diagnostics software and other equipment valued at $362,000 to give students and faculty hands on experience with the latest power system protection and communications technology. The donation creates the GE Digital Energy Innovation Lab, which opens Nov. 18 in the Thompson Engineering Building.

THESE CLASSES WITHOUT QUIZZES

The popular ‘Classes without Quizzes’ lecture series for the community gets underway today (Nov. 12) with a timely lesson on the H1N1 virus. Bhagirath Singh, microbiology and immunology professor in the Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry and scientist at Robarts Research Institute looks at the science behind the H1N1 virus. As scientific director of the Institute of Infection & Immunity at Western, Singh will share information about the origins of the H1N1 virus, its impact and what you can do to stay healthy. The free class will be held at the London Public Library (Masonville Branch) from 7 until 8:30 p.m. Check out communications.uwo.ca/CWO/ for upcoming classes.
Campus vaccinations for high risk groups

By Heather Travis

The Middlesex-London Health Unit will hold its first on-campus H1N1 vaccine clinic on Saturday at the Althouse Faculty of Education Building for high-risk groups. The clinic will be held from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the gym. Parking is free.

Persons eligible for the vaccine include:
- Individuals under the age of 65 with underlying medical conditions,
- Persons living in a household with children under the age of six months;
- Anyone living with someone who has problems with their immune system;
- Children between the ages of six months and less than five years of age;
- Pregnant women with underlying medical conditions or healthy women who are more than 20 weeks pregnant; and
- Health-care workers.

Bring a driver’s license or health card to the clinic for identification. More clinics are expected but dates have yet to be determined.

Check the Middlesex-London Health Unit website (healthunit.com) for the most up-to-date information on clinics and who is eligible for the vaccine. More information is also available on Western’s H1N1 microsite at communications.uwo.ca/influenza-microsite.

Data collected through Western’s online absence reporting tools indicates the number of students and campus employees staying home due to flu-like illness remains stable.

“We’ve been closely monitoring student and employee absences since early October, and we are not seeing any significant spike in the numbers of those self-reporting flu-like illness so far,” says Gitta Kulczycki, Vice-President (Resources and Operations) and chair of the university’s Emergency Operations Control Group.

On any given day, approximately 300 students are reporting absences due to flu-like illness. This is a small percentage of the 30,000 students on campus, says Kulczycki.

Unlike in the past, when reporting absences was decentralized, the new tool has helped Western monitor illness trends.

“It does give us glimpse on what those trends look like, which I would say are very stable and, relatively speaking, low in terms of people reporting influenza-like illness.”

“It appears the measures people are taking across campus to minimize the possibility of infection are making a difference, and we encourage everyone to continue with good hygiene practices, such as regular hand-washing and use of hand sanitizer, and coughing or sneezing into your sleeve,” she adds.

Director of Student Health Services Shelagh Bantock says about 10 per cent of those reporting to Student Health Services have symptoms of influenza-like illness, “which is still pretty low and very normal for this time of year.”

Although there have been five influenza-related deaths in the local area in November, a report Monday from the health unit says there appears to be a decline in influenza activity in the Middlesex-London community.

Rix ‘warm-hearted friend’ to many

Dr. Don Rix, whose donation of $2 million to The University of Western Ontario in 2005 helped create a new clinical skills learning building, died Nov. 6 at the age of 78 following a long illness.

Leaving a philanthropic legacy for a variety of programs and initiatives, he was thrilled to attend the 2005 opening of the Dr. Don Rix Clinical Skills Learning Building at the Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry, which helps medical students deal with trained ‘patients’ about their health, sensitive subjects and conduct physical exams as part of their medical training.

“I am a strong supporter of Western’s medical program that trains students in both local and regional communities,” Rix said at the time. “I feel this new facility will help students become better doctors.”

His support was instrumental in helping to create the Dr. Don Rix Protein Identification Facility at the Siebens-Drake Medical Research Institute in 2001.

“The death of Don Rix is an enormous loss for Canada,” says Schulich Dean Carol Herbert, noting he was a generous philanthropist in B.C. and Ontario, an advisor on numerous boards, a volunteer for a wide range of public institutions, and a warm-hearted friend to many.

“We think of him daily as we enter the Don Rix Clinical Skills Learning Building at Western, which is a lasting visible legacy at our university for a great Western alumnus and a great Canadian. He will be missed.”

Born in Orillia, Ont. in 1931, Rix grew up in London, where he attended London South Collegiate High School, followed by Western, where he obtained a BA in 1953 and MD in 1957.

Predeceased by his wife Eleanor in 2007, Rix is survived by his daughter Laurie and her husband Neil Macrae, his brother Robert (Bob) Rix and wife Judith, Neil’s sister Donna Macrae and her husband Bill Didur and close friends Frances Lasser and Jim Russell.

London Reads literary lunch

The 2009 London Reads winning writer William Neil Scott and finalists Joan Barfoot and Joseph Kertes kick off the new reading season with a literary lunch today (Nov. 12).

London Reads, in conjunction with Alumni Western, the Book Store at Western and the London Public Library welcome the “Wonderful” writer for the unveiling of the short-list of novels selected for the upcoming season.

The event, an expansion of a program that began several years ago as Western Reads, is being held from noon to 2 p.m. at the Lorraine Ivey Shatellworth Community Gallery, Museum London, located at 421 Ridout Street North.

Contract ratified

University of Western Ontario librarians and archivists have voted to ratify the tentative collective agreement.

The 55 members of the bargaining unit are represented by the University of Western Ontario Faculty Association (UWOFA). The previous contract, their first since organizing, expired in July.

The tentative agreement will now be presented to the Board of Governors for ratification. The next public session of the board is scheduled for Nov. 26.
Western Libraries responds to survey

By Leanne Olson

Students may notice that their favourite library is a little cleaner and quieter this fall. We’ve listened to feedback from our 2008-09 survey, in which students said:

“Many students treat the entire library as a group work/social area. Perhaps some defined ‘group work’ spaces would help this.”

“People consuming hot foods that have odour is really distracting, don’t we have a no eating policy?”

“My big issue is the noise in the library...I go to the library to get away from the noise at my apartment.”

In response, this September Western Libraries introduced Learning and Food Zones, with bright new signs displayed throughout the libraries.

Learning Zones are depicted with a traffic light image — red for silent study, yellow for quiet study, and green for the conversation-friendly zones. Food Zones are illustrated with icons of a water bottle and an apple, showing which areas are designated eating zones, food-free zones, or food-and beverage-free zones.

Catherine Wilkins, Assistant University Librarian (D.B. Weldon Library), has noticed a difference: “Students are conversational, quiet and silent for the most part as intended by the marketing campaign.”

She describes the feedback from students as positive. As we get closer to exams, we’re asking students to pay attention to their noise levels and food or drink use, and to maintain a respectful, comfortable study space for everyone.

More information about the Learning and Food Zones can be found on signs and brochures throughout the libraries, or on our website at lib.uwo.ca.

The writer is a Western librarian.

Alternative transportation

Continued from page 1

WALKING

If you live within a few kilometres of campus, consider walking. For those who have to walk at night, walk with friends and stay in well-lit areas.

BIKING

Information on cycling in London, including bike paths throughout the city can be found at uwo.ca/cycling.

Register your bicycle with the Campus Community Police in Room 57, Stevenson-Lawson Building.

Information on keeping your bike secure on campus can be found at uwo.ca/police/bikesecurity.htm.

SHARING A RIDE

The university is developing a web portal to assist students and employees who wish to coordinate rides with others in the campus community. Information will be shared in the coming days.

Students and employees who drive to campus are encouraged to share rides with friends and colleagues who may have trouble getting to campus in the event of a strike. Those who share rides may consider sharing parking and fuel costs.

Parking spaces are available on campus. Temporary parking passes for those who don’t normally drive to campus are available for purchase through Parking Services.

Those who drive are reminded to allow for extra time as roads may be congested due to increased traffic.

“We understand the anxiety students are feeling and we want to assure them that maintaining their safety during a transit strike is our paramount concern,” says Emily Rowe, University Students’ Council president.

“As we work with university administration on contingency plans, we appreciate students’ patience and ask that their frustrations not spill over to the bus drivers.”

Western will provide regular updates to the campus community via Western’s e-mail accounts and at uwo.ca.

THE WAY WE WERE: 1971

In 1971 concrete enclosed garbage receptacles began to make their appearance around the campus. Designed to blend with the buildings, 20 of them were installed the first year. Western has since become a community leader in recycling and waste management and today there are 180 containers around the campus. In addition, several three-bin units accommodate recyclables such as plastic, paper and glass. Making her contribution in recycling and waste management and today there are 180 containers around the campus. In addition, several three-bin units accommodate recyclables such as plastic, paper and glass.
Humour, family and friends kept him going

By Johnnene Maddison (Falls)

David was the kindest, funniest person I have ever known. He was my loving husband and my dear friend, always there to encourage and support me throughout our marriage.

Dave and I met when we both worked at the Art Gallery of Windsor. He had a quirky sense of humour and people never knew if he was kidding or serious. The very first time I met him he was limping and when I asked him what was wrong, he said he had a wooden leg.

Being the trusting sort, I believed him and told our fellow employees not to mention his leg because it was wooden. He told me the truth about two weeks later that he had twisted his ankle the day we met. Amazing that I still agreed to a date, much less marriage.

David put family first above all else and was generous in his support of those he loved. Dave was very proud of our son, Michael, and was thrilled when he married our lovely daughter-in-law Kelly. Our two-year-old grandson, Braedon, brought great joy and laughter to Dave's last years.

As in all things, he handled his long illness with humour and dignity and had a way of looking on the bright side. He left us in a painless, loving and peaceful manner.

The day he died, all he could think or talk about was how I was doing.

Dave was funny, creative, affectionate, honest, trustworthy and generous.

He will be missed so much, not just by me, but by all the people he knew.

By Susan Skaith

It was in 1982 that I met one of the most special and kindmost people that I have ever known - that person was Dave Falls. He was a gentleman in the truest sense of the word - a gentle man - one of those people who never had an unkind thing to say about anyone.

I soon discovered the most important thing in Dave's life was his family. Dave positively adored his life partner and true love, Johnnene, and was extremely proud of her accomplishments as an artist, mother and educator. He was her No. 1 fan.

For the past 15 years, Dave belonged to a reading group. Keith, Jeff, Dean, Al and Roger met monthly to discuss the book they had read, to debate the finer points and select the book for the next meeting. These “brothers in books” were like true brothers to Dave.

Working with Dave was a treat as he had a great sense of humour and was always willing to offer a helping hand. Thus, we forged a bond beyond that of co-workers which was a bond of friendship.

Whenever the gallery staff went on a road trip to visit another gallery, Dave and I would always claim the back seat so we could have a cribbage tournament on the drive to and from.

As a McIntosh Gallery staff member, Dave made the Artshare program at Western popular among both university staff and faculty. He loved imparting his knowledge to people who were new to looking at art.

His wonderful sense of humour and easy way of connecting with people made them comfortable and receptive to the knowledge he had to share.

Although Dave had limited energy in the last couple of years, he always looked forward to time spent with his grandson, his weekly outings with his faithful friend Bob, the reading group, his poker nights with the men and his cribbage games with me.

Dave was many things to many people, but to me he was a wonderful friend in whom I could confide and share life's daily ups and downs. We will all miss him greatly.

‘All-stars’ align for winning seasons

For the third year in a row, the Western Mustangs football team solidified their spot in the Yates Cup, taking on the Queen's University's Golden Gaels this Saturday.

Mustang Nathan Riva set an Ontario University Athletics (OUA) single-game record for rushing attempts in the matchup against Wilfrid Laurier Golden Hawks on Nov. 7 that booked a ticket for the Mustangs’ third consecutive Yates Cup appearance.

Western travels to Richardson Stadium in Kingston Nov. 14 looking to three-peat as Yates Cup champions. To order tickets, call 519-533-2500.

Quarterback Michael Faulds, guard Matt Norman, running back Nathan Riva, wide receiver Nick Trevail and linebacker John Surla were named as OUA football first-team all-stars.

OUA second-team all-stars include tackle Josh Buttrill, receiver Nick Pasic, defensive tackle Chris Greaves, linebacker Connor Elliott and free safety Craig Butler.

Several purple and white players have been recognized for their “all-star” performances.

CROSS-COUNTRY

A trio of Mustang runners earned Ontario University Athletics (OUA) all-star honours recently.

Kyle O’Neill, Lynn Mockler and Lorelle Convery were named OUA all-stars after their performances the 2009 OUA cross-country championships hosted by the Brock Badgers in St. Catharines, Ont., on Oct. 31.

The Western Mustangs men’s and women’s cross-country teams both placed fifth at the OUA Cross-Country Championships hosted by Brock University on Oct. 31.

Both the men’s and women’s cross-country teams will be attending the Canadian Interuniversity Sport (CIS) Championships on Nov. 14 in Kingston.

More information on the Mustangs is available at westernmustangs.ca.

WOMEN’S RUGBY

Western Mustangs women’s rugby star Laura Russell, a fullback with the squad, was named as an All-Canadian by CIS. It is her second consecutive All-Canadian nod.

Winners of the OUA silver medal on Oct. 31, the Mustangs finished in sixth place at the CIS National Championships, hosted by the University of British Columbia. This is the Mustangs’ eighth straight CIS national championship.

MEN’S RUGBY

After winning 24-3 against Brock University last Saturday, Western’s men’s rugby team will take on Queen’s University at Fletcher’s Field in Markham, Ont., at 2 p.m. on Nov. 14 for the OUA final.

WOMEN’S FIELD HOCKEY

Michelle Weber was named a second-team CIS All-Canadian in field hockey.

In her fifth-year in the School of Kinesiology at Western, Weber earned a fourth straight All-Canadian nomination. She was a first-team member the past two seasons.

Weber had 14 goals and 10 assists for 24 points in her final season with the Mustangs.

The Mustangs captured a bronze medal with a 3-2 come-from-behind win over the York Lions Nov. 1 at the 2009 OUA Field Hockey Championships at TD Waterhouse Stadium.

WOMEN’S SOCCER

Three Western Mustangs women’s soccer players earned OUA West all-star honours.

Erin Grand, Julianne Macaulay and Emily Maganja were all named second-team OUA West all-stars. Macaulay, a fullback, and Maganja an attacking midfielder, are both in their rookie season in the OUA.

MEN’S SOCCER

Among the 2009 OUA West men’s soccer major award winners and all-stars are four Western Mustangs men’s soccer players.

Defender Mark Bennett was named as a first-team all-star, while freshman midfielder Camilo Gonzalez and strikers Eric Amato and Mark Pocrnic were named to the second team. Amato, a rookie, and Pocrnic, a fourth-year senior, earn their first all-star nods. Pocrnic tallied a team-high four goals in the regular season, while Amato netted two.

Western took home OUA bronze following a win on Nov. 8 against Carleton.

WOMEN’S LACROSSE

The Western Mustangs women’s lacrosse team ended the Wilfrid Laurier Golden Hawks’ six-year championship streak on Nov. 1 at the 2009 Ontario University Athletics (OUA) Championship.

Western won the game 9-5 at Alumni Field in Hamilton.
United States of emergency

By Paul Mayne

Is the United States in a constant state of emergency? From health care and the economy to border security and education, our neighbour seems to jump from crisis to crisis.

These are just a few topics being touched on at an international academic conference in London Nov. 13-15, hosted by The University of Western Ontario’s Centre for American Studies (CAS) in partnership with the Canadian Association for American Studies.

Entitled ‘States of Emergency: Crisis, Panic and the Nation,’ the three-day conference features more than 100 scholars from across United States, Canada, England, and Australia, representing English, History, Political Science, Film Studies, Media Studies, and Gender and Feminist Studies.

The conference, which is also the annual meeting of the Canadian Association of American Studies, coincides with the establishment of a master’s degree in American Studies at Western and is part of a larger push from CAS to become a more visible presence in the international American Studies community.

Conference director and associate director of Western’s CAS Bryce Traister says he wants the conference to reflect the interdisciplinary profile of the university’s American Studies program.

While ‘states of emergency’ can be traced as far back as the Civil War and the American Revolution, it has been in more recent years where the prevalence of crisis states have become more commonplace.

“Certainly since 9/11, the United States has become much more of a small state of emergency — with the creation of Homeland Security, the increased border control, controversy over the detention of enemy combatants,” says Traister. “There was a face of the country, following 9/11, that I don’t think had been particularly visible in U.S. culture for some time.”

One question Traister hopes participants will contemplate is whether emergency is the exception or the norm.

“One could say today’s emergency is H1N1 and last year’s was the financial crisis,” says Traister, an associate professor in the Department of English. “We often, and perhaps increasingly, attach the language of emergency to things that really aren’t. We have this language of the drastic. One reason I think we have this dependence on drastic language of emergency is there is a perception that our governments don’t do enough, or they don’t do anything. It’s a way we can mobilize the government to make interventions.”

Two scheduled speakers with fairly broad appeal are University of Wisconsin-Madison professor Russ Castronovo, one of the top American Studies scholars, and the University of Michigan’s Bill Novak, who is undertaking the sort of interdisciplinary work the conference is trying to encourage.

With plans to publish the conference proceedings in the Canadian Review of American Studies journal next year, Traister hopes to create a greater awareness about how we invoke the language of crisis and the kind of political impact it can have.

“The short and blunt way to put it is, ‘who wins when we invoke this language?’” he says. “While ‘emergency’ exempts itself from political considerations, it remains possible to use this language of emergency or crisis for specifically and distinctly political ends.”

For more information visit http://cas.uwo.ca/CAASConference.html.
Western signs agreement in China

The University of Western Ontario has signed a Memorandum of Understanding for research and education exchange with the West China School of Medicine, Sichuan University. During a recent visit to China, Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry Dean Carol Herbert and Vice-President (Research and International Relations) Ted Hewitt met with representatives from the West China School of Medicine and West China Hospital, Sichuan University. They were accompanied by Raphael Cheung, assistant dean, Schulich’s Windsor campus; John Denstedt, chair, Department of Surgery; Victor Han, associate dean (Research), James Koropatkiewicz, director of cancer research; and Woiping Min, professor of cancer research at Schulich. Along with a campus visit of the clinical skills training, tumor telemedicine, imaging and MRI research centres, the group visited the Scientific Research Campus in the High-tech Zone of Chengdu. They also made several presentations about research and tech-transfer at Western, and spoke about the future of medical schools.

Western met with the president of Sichuan University, Professor Heping Xie, for a ceremony to sign the Memorandum of Understanding.
Honour society seeks global nursing network

By Heather Travis

The University of Western Ontario chapter of one of the world’s largest international nursing organizations inducted the highest number in its history on Sunday.

During the ceremony in the Great Hall, 79 undergraduate, graduate and nursing professionals were inducted into the Iota Omicron Chapter of Sigma Theta Tau International.

The mission of Sigma Theta Tau International is to enhance nurses’ knowledge, understanding and professional development, and to support the development of a global community of nurses who promote and influence health and health care at local, regional and global levels, as well as advance nursing science.

Baccalaureate and graduate nursing students who demonstrate excellence in nursing scholarship and leadership are invited to join the honour society.

More than 400,000 members in 86 countries have been inducted since its inception. The Western chapter, founded in 1967 by several members of Western’s Faculty of Nursing, was the first international chapter of the organization.

“The founders of Iota Omicron Chapter recognized the importance of and need to create a national climate that fostered nursing research and scholarship,” says chapter president Robin Coatsworth-Puspolky.

At the time, there were few nursing graduate programs in Canada; however across the border in the United States, where Sigma Theta Tau International was founded, the organization decided to open its membership to international chapters.

Karen Campbell, Advanced Practice Nurse at London Health Sciences Centre, was the guest speaker. She spoke on “Following Your Passion Throughout Your Career.”

Mary-Anne Andrusyszyn, director of the Arthur Labatt Family School of Nursing and past-president of the Iota Omicron Chapter, says the vision of the honour society is to create a global community of nurses.

“As one of the most distinctive organizations in professional nursing, the honour society influences and changes the health of people by engaging the intellectual capital of nurses around the globe. “By developing and building connections with diverse people and entities, nurses enable nurses to collectively and individually develop, create, use and apply their knowledge to make a difference for the greater good of people’s well being.”

The honour society offers opportunities for leadership and personal development at all levels of the organization. Members have access to nursing knowledge, evidence-based resources and publications, mentoring and career assistance, continuing education, and nursing communities and networking.

A group from the chapter is fundraising for the Central University Hospital of Kigali in Rwanda. Carroll Iwasiw, a nursing professor, is leading a project in Rwanda and Yolanda Babenko-Mould, a PhD candidate at Western, is raising awareness about the plight in Rwanda’s health care system. Iota Omicron has built a Wall of Honour in the School of Nursing to raise funds for research and scholarship of its members.

“Through our work in the chapter, we promote nursing scholarship and leadership and are proud to be members in the global community of nurses,” says Andrusyszyn. “From a personal perspective, I was touched by the power of nursing when I was inducted as a charter member.”

As part of the ceremony, Karen Ferguson, lecturer and chair of undergraduate programs, received the Alfreda Simons Kartha Award for Excellence in Nursing Education.

For more information visit uwo.ca/TheNursing/iota/.
Learning in Rwanda

Looking for answers

BY WIKTORIA KAGEN AND AAREN GRIGG

Presented with the opportunity of an internship at the National University of Rwanda, we were extremely excited but slightly overwhelmed (we were likely thinking the same thing you are - Hotel Rwanda?). After doing research, we were surprised to discover that Rwanda is an extremely safe country. Now, how to break the news to friends and family? “WHY would you be going there?” and “No, you’re not...” were common reactions.

With the genocide just 15 years ago, the tiny but densely populated east-African country has transformed itself into a peaceful and inviting place. If there were not genocides memorials everywhere, one would never know it had taken place. Rwandans have embraced their past and are allowing to help operate the orphanage.

Apart from living day-to-day in this culture, we used our two months as an opportunity to travel around East Africa. Visiting a live volcano in Congo, soaking up sun on a beach in Burundi, gorilla tracking in Rwanda, going on a camping safari in Kenya and rafting the Nile River in Uganda provided some of our memorable experiences. (Not that off-roading on a beyond-packed coach bus for 24 hours to reach these places wasn’t equally memorable!) Some frustrations associated with day-to-day life included differences in work ethic, challenges in constantly being the centre of attention, and the limited resources and options. Trying going days without eating anything but bananas or showering by candlelight.

We met many international travelers, most of them from Canada. We hung out with a lot of highly educated people doing interesting research, including a professor from Yale University, and just as many students doing service work. One young woman opened our eyes to how much potential we, as young students, can have. As a student at Dalhousie University in Halifax, her trip to Kenya inspired her to take action. She partnered with a woman in Kenya and opened up an orphanage which houses 14 children, about half infected with HIV/AIDS. Her fundraising in Canada allows her to help operate the orphanage.

That is just one of the many social efforts we saw first-hand. At Western, we are fortunate to be a part of an institution that fulfills its social responsibility and gives back to developing countries. Western's efforts are strongly focused on Rwanda. The Western Heads East program is expanding into Rwanda and the internship we went on is growing from three students this past summer to 12 student opportunities next summer.

This was one of the most enriching experiences we have ever had. We would encourage everyone to take advantage of an opportunity like this.

So many surprises

BY JULIANA CHESTERFIELD

As a white female entering into a new society in Butare, Rwanda it was like stepping into a different world. I encountered many new things and brought along a bit of my old world to share. I was up for the challenge of facing a new community – ready to learn and step out of my comfort zone - since fitting in was not going to be an option.

At first glance I saw people walking everywhere. The country has a main road, yet few cars. People are left to walk or, if they are lucky, to ride a bike. An image comes to mind of a woman carrying a large load on her head, walking with a baby strapped to her back. Clearly this woman is no longer as evident as for me it seemed odd to see two het erotsexuals walking in the street, and butting to the front of a line as rude behaviour. In contrast many local people are less accepting of homosexual behaviour. From conversations with locals I gathered Rwandan society does not enjoy some comforts we take for granted.

Being immersed in a culture that has endured such a horrific history, it was amazing to see how people and the government have been rebuilding Rwanda. A country once synonymous with genocide is now one of the safest countries on the continent. The once imposed "ethnic" division of groups is no longer as evident as the people now consider themselves first and foremost Rwandese.

The first day we went to work at the university was a bit overwhelming. The differences between the way in which business is conducted in Canada and in Rwanda were abundant and impossible to ignore. Few resources to work with and even less existing organization and direction made productivity difficult.

Spending some time in the local hospital allowed me to see the contrast of class groups in society - and the university. I was exposed to the richest and most educated people in the country – whereas the hospital beds were filled with the ill and poor. Hospital patients were generally excited to see us and hear our stories. They were happy to know that someone from the outside world cared about them.

A principle learning point for me was the extent to which individuals are shaped by their surroundings and socialization.

Given my upbringing, I viewed behaviour such as laughing and pointing at foreigners, spitting in the street, and butting to the front of a line as rude behaviour. In contrast many local people had been socialized to view behaviour as acceptable. From conversations with locals I gathered Rwandan society was far less accepting of homosexual behaviour than our own. So for me it seemed odd to see two heterosexually couples holding hands in public. I would consider to be an anomaly back home.

My goal when travelling to a new part of the world is to learn and be exposed to a different way of life. This was achieved in my time spent in Rwanda as my eyes were opend to the fact that life for millions of people around the world is not as comfortable and filled with opportunity as for many in Canada.
Some might say Elvins and Hanna Spencer have found the fountain of youth. Others claim their lively spirit, passion for exercise and active lifestyle has been the ticket to aging gracefully. Whatever it may be, the couple has a lifetime of laugh lines on their faces, but none of these give away their true age.

Looks can be deceiving and sitting with the pair for only a few minutes, listening to their conversation and friendly banter, one would never guess they are both 95 years old.

On Oct. 28, Elvins celebrated his birthday and overnight closed the one-year age gap with his wife. Hanna turns 96 on Dec. 16.

The pair participate in the combined exercise program at the Canadian Centre for Activity and Aging (CCAA) at The University of Western Ontario three times a week. As an inspiration to many in their class – some 30 years their junior – the participants rallied to give Elvins a celebration of a lifetime.

The surprise birthday party, coordinated by fellow exerciser Bob Gladwell, is an example of the close-knit CCAA community that has been keeping the couple returning for 17 years.

“This place is essential to our well-being,” says Hanna, a University of Western Ontario professor emerita (Modern Languages). “I think we are the most regular attendees.

“Having to retire after an active professional life can be a shock because suddenly one’s days are without structure,” she adds. “Apart from the obvious reward of keeping us mobile and fit, the classes help to bring back a rhythm and discipline into our life.”

Although the pair has given up driving, they are shuttled to classes by neighbours who were inspired by the Spencers to join CCAA.

“Don’t become a couch potato,” adds Elvins. “Stay active.”

Clara Fitzgerald, director of CCAA, says the Spencers are a success story of the centre, a walking testament to the benefits of exercise. They showcase how physical activity can add to quality of life.

“Once someone begins to benefit from the fitness aspect of our programs, what keeps them coming back is the social aspect,” she says.

The program is targeted to those 55 years and older. Anyone in the community interested in joining CCAA can contact 519-661-1603. A doctor’s referral is not needed.

Students interested in volunteering or work study experiences can contact CCAA for information.

Elvins and Hanna Spencer, both 95 years old, exercise three times a week at the Canadian Centre for Activity and Aging. They credit the exercise with keeping them independent and helping to forge friendships along the way.
Ginseng benefits on the rise

By Paul Mayne

With the current outbreak of influenza-like illnesses, such as H1N1, many people are trying to boost their immune systems with supplements. Ginseng is often a key ingredient, but its therapeutic use is being explored for a variety of clinical uses, plant biotechnology, processing, and commercialization of ginseng.

While traditionally used as a tonic, improving energy and the nervous system to counteract physical and mental stress, Lui says the full potential of the herb could be far reaching. "We are now realizing that it is indeed a multi-action herb," says Lui, noting its immunostimulation, anti-inflammatory, anti-oxidation, anti-angiogenesis, and anti-infective property.

"We will continue to examine other cellular mechanisms that it may have in relation to other health conditions. We expect our research will uncover new applications," Lui adds while ginseng is one of the top selling herbs, most consumers are using it as a tonic without fully understanding its potential benefits.

"The perception of risk and benefit by most consumers is not based on scientific evidence," he says. "One of our jobs is to educate the public in this matter."

With Ontario-grown ginseng accounting for more than 60 per cent of the world’s supply, Lui says the other key issue OGIRC is studying is the variability (or consistency) in the product quality of ginseng grown in this province.

"Providing proof for the medicinal effect and understanding the mechanism of action of ginseng would have limited impact on the consumers if we could not guarantee consistency in the quality of ginseng or ginseng products that are sold to the consumers," he says. "This also explains why our research is multi-disciplinary in nature, involving researchers from medicine, science, engineering, agriculture and plant biotechnology."

For more information about ongoing work at OGIRC, visit uwo.ca/physpharm/ogirc.

Review highlights barriers

Continued from page 1

The review also points to a lack of support for faculty members and researchers balancing work and family responsibilities. For example, women on maternity leave are not supported for the work required to keep an active research laboratory. With many women assuming a primary role in child-rearing, "the structure of the disciplines is really biased against their career progress," says Weeden.

Helping to address family needs through accommodation has been informally instituted by faculties, rather than implemented as a university-wide policy, he adds.

BARRIERS TO STAFF

(Aboriginal Persons, persons with disabilities and members of visible minorities)

These groups are underrepresented in professional and managerial positions. Part of this, according to the review, is the lack of external hiring for jobs, which are primarily covered by the Professional and Managerial Association.

Western’s online job application system is cited as “atypical” because it doesn’t allow for a cover letter and resume to be submitted as one document; the advertisements of jobs on Western’s website can go undetected by those unfamiliar with this recruitment channel; and there is limited outreach to encourage applications from these designated groups.

The review notes past negative experiences of Aboriginal Peoples employed at the university may be preventing some job seekers from applying to Western. Changes have been made to make the university a more welcoming environment, however Weeden says the challenge is getting the word out.

“We need to find a way to explain that to people so they don’t continue to think that they shouldn’t come to Western because it wouldn’t be welcoming.”

MOVING FORWARD

Having had the Chilly Climate report and video, as well as the subsequent Voices of Diversity video released last year pointing to issues of equity on campus, Weeden says he wasn’t surprised by the results of the review.

“For me there weren’t many surprises in here,” he says. “The purpose of holding the review is to give us some basis for deciding how to act. We asked for the review – we commissioned it – and the purpose was to get some advice on what we need to do. “I think we are doing a lot better than we were, but we can’t be complacent.”

Similarly, Larissa Bartlett, director of Equity & Human Rights Services, says the review gives Western insight into the “pulse” of the university. The recommendations offer advice for best practices and marry this with the experiences shared during the interviews.

It has been about seven years since Western’s last review. The university has made great strides to improve employment equity and a list of these accomplishments is available on the Equity & Human Rights Services website.

“Western hasn’t been sitting on it laurels doing nothing,” says Bartlett. “Every day there are people on this campus who are focused on good employment equity practices."

The complete review, including the 33 recommendations, can be viewed at www.western.ca/diversity. Those interested in providing feedback on the review can also do this through the website.

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www.londonpromusica.org
President Amit Chakma doesn’t feel University of Western Ontario’s ninth place ranking in Maclean’s properly reflects the university’s strengths, but says it points to areas needing on the radar for improvement.

Western showed slight improvement in this year’s annual Maclean’s University Ranking, moving up a spot to a three-way tie for ninth place (with Ottawa and Saskatchewan) in the medical doctoral category.

The 15 schools in this category each have a broad range of PhD programs and research, as well as medical schools.

“We shouldn’t be feeling bad about this ranking,” he says. “We learn lessons and these lessons are not unknown to us. We work at it ... and we need to tell our story better and bring people together so we are not so fragmented.”

The 19th annual Maclean’s University Rankings includes the results of 53 institutions, including affiliates and second campuses, that took part in the NSSE (National Survey of Student Engagement, 2005-2008), as well as 31 campuses surveyed for the 2008 CUSC (Canadian University Survey Consortium).

Focusing on the undergraduate experience, the rankings assess university performance on 14 indicators across six major areas: students and classes, faculty, resources, student support, library and reputation.

Chakma attributes Western’s ranking among medical doctoral schools to a lack of funding and a library and reputation.

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Chakma attributes Western’s ranking among medical doctoral schools to a lack of funding and a need to boost research intensity. Although we have made progress in terms of research revenues, others have made more progress,” he says. “We need to improve our research intensity – which we knew all along – and increasing graduate student enrolment is just part of that.

“The remaining challenge is to get our resources in order so we can invest more in terms of student services, libraries, operating budget and whatnot. If we can focus on those two areas, and if we are successful, we will gradually move up.”

Although Western topped the charts for the Globe and Mail Canadian University Report, Chakma says trying to resolve the results from Maclean’s rankings are like comparing apples and oranges.

“The two are looking at different aspects,” he says. “There are certain things in Maclean’s I pay attention to, which would be similar to our Glove ranking and that would be the reputational survey.”

“I believe what we look at is not necessarily the rankings per se, but the raw data that goes into those rankings and then see whether there are things we can do better.”

In a segment that surveys the opinions of educational, community and company leaders, CEOs and recruiters for their views on the national reputation ranking of all schools, Western finished eighth for ‘best overall,’ eighth for highest quality, ninth for most innovative and 16th for leaders of tomorrow. The university ranked high in proportion of students who graduate (79.2 per cent) and retention rate (91.1 per cent).

“I do not believe people know many of the good things we do at Western ... It is not just telling the story, it is also reaching out. When you reach out, people get to know you better,” says Chakma.

Part of the outreach is through community-building partnerships and recruiting international students, he adds.

Meanwhile, the university needs to find a way to bring its many areas, such as Robarts Research Institute and the Richard Ivey School of Business, under the umbrella of the Western “brand” to make the relationship more recognizable.

“Our problem is we are too fragmented,” he says. “We need to find an opportunity to brand ourselves.”

When asked how students would evaluate their entire educational experience, first-year students at Western ranked 8th overall, with 88 per cent answering excellent or good. With senior-year students, the university was 18th overall with an 85 per cent score.

Senior-level students at Western’s affiliate colleges ranked their schools among the very best. Huron University College ranked first in the country with 92 per cent answering excellent or good. Brescia University College (4th) and King’s University College (8th) each scored 89 per cent.

Huron Principal Ramona Lumpykin says the rankings reflect what alumni and members of the Huron community have long believed to be true. “We take enormous pride in the calibre of education we offer to our students at Huron.”

For more on the 2009 university rankings, visit macleans.ca/oncampus.
The ups and downs of research rankings

By Heather Travis

The University of Western Ontario landed in 10th place overall on Canada’s Top 50 Research Universities List 2009, released by Research Infosource Inc.

But as with any ranking based on dollar amounts, a school’s rise or fall on the list can reflect chance – such as the arrival of a big cheque before (or after) the official ‘counting’ day – as much as success in winning grant competitions.

The list measures the total research income in the 2008 fiscal year at universities across the country. In last year’s survey Western reported $238 million in research income, but experienced a 6.6-per-cent dip this year to $222.3 million, slipping from ninth place.

The top three universities were Toronto, Alberta and British Columbia.

Ted Hewitt, Vice-President (Research and International Relations), says the fluctuation has more to do with construction projects and timing on cash from major funding sources than success in securing funds.

“If you look at Western’s performance over the past several years on this index, you will see that we have fluctuated between ninth and 10th position, suggesting that we are firmly a ‘top ten’ institution in Canada in terms of research,” says Hewitt. “If you go back further than five years, you would see that we were in 11th spot, so there has been consistent improvement overall.”

Hewitt notes virtually all of the G-13 institutions fluctuate year-to-year, depending on the amount of funding received for major projects and infrastructure developments from organizations like the Canada Foundation for Innovation (CFI) and the Ontario Research Fund (ORF).

Western is second in the province – by a wide margin – for ORF and related provincial competitions and ranks seventh in Canada for CFI grants, he says. The timing of funding from these competitions influences rankings because they are largely tied to the pace of construction for major projects, such as the Biotron or the Claudette McKay-Lassonde Pavilion.

“When we have lots of construction and cash flowing from CFI, ORF and related sources, our cash flow increases and our rank goes up. As projects finish and new competitions have yet to be announced, our funding flow can go down.”

As well, Robarts Research Institute was integrated into Western during the 2007-2008 fiscal year. Through harmonizing of accounting practices, double counting of research funds was detected and eliminated, which lowered Western’s overall total.

When it comes to Western’s so-called ‘bread and butter programs’ that researchers rely on to fund daily operations, Hewitt notes the university is steadily improving its success with Tri-Council agencies (SSHRC, NSERC and CIHR). Western’s success in securing these funds is important to the recruitment of new faculty members.

Western ranks second in Ontario for Tri-Council funding. When looking at the funding per eligible researcher, Western takes second place in Canada for SSHRC funding and for NSERC Discovery awards.

“So overall, our researchers are competing well, with success rates well above the national average and this is reflected in growing Tri-Council income, especially on a per-researcher basis,” he adds.

Check researchinfoSource.com/top50.shtml

Security cards tighten access

By Paul Mayne

Campus Community Police Service (CCPS) is assuming responsibility for the security card access program.

The university is three years into a five-year program to convert all 93 buildings on campus to security card access. So far about two-thirds of the buildings have been changed from keys to individualized card access.

Over the past several years the Physical Plant Department has been at the forefront of the security card access program.

Now, with a focus on trouble shooting and centralized management of access to buildings, Campus Community Police Service has become responsible for the ongoing campus safety initiative.

CCPS director Elgin Austen says the end result is quite straightforward.

“You don’t have a card, you’re not getting in,” says Austen, adding this approach will increase the safety of the buildings and improve the comfort level of those working after hours.

“The University of Western Ontario has a long standing commitment and policy aimed at maintaining a safe campus, where individual contributions are valued. The card access program is a large part of this priority.”

Key access to buildings is being reduced and automated locking and unlocking of many external doors is already occurring. As campus police continue to harmonize the various versions of software being used, a centralized lock-down procedure in case of emergency is becoming realistic.

Austen says campus police will still work with various areas of campus to ensure success.

“Campus Police will substantially depend on Physical Plant and all partners as we move forward and focus on best practices for prompt and efficient service, he says.

As further buildings near completion, staff, faculty and students will be notified in advance of the need to obtain card access. With the help of administrative officers in the various faculties and departments, requests for card access can be handled online at www.capolice (click on Card Access). This website also has card access information, such as a trouble shooting chart to understand how alarms and hardware problems are managed.

If you have questions about the program, email cardacc@uwo.ca.
November 12
John Labatt Visual Arts Centre – “Song Show”
Guest curated by Daniela Sapegova & Kathleen Pirie Adams. Artlab. Free. All welcome. For more info call 519-661-2111 ext. 85855. Runs until November 20th.

Mcintosh Gallery Exhibitions – Andrew McPhail, Hamilton artist - “All my little failures” Runs until Dec. 5th. Primary Foundations - recent purchases for the collection – Paul Novick, Gerald Vanderhong, Jennee White and Françoise Sullivan. For gallery hours visit mcintoshs.ca. Phone 519-661-381

Department of Modern Languages and Literatures - Comparative Literature Research Forum - Duri Gangu. “Kafka and Borges: Revisiting the Parafibolic Mode” Bring your lunch and coffee mug. UC 145, 11:30 a.m.

Don Wright Faculty of Music – St. Cecilia Singers presents Homeland: A Time of Remembrance by Western alumnus T. Patrick Carrabré. von Kuster Hall, 12:30 p.m.


Western’s Centre for Research on Migration and Ethnic Relations Colloquium – Winfried Louis, School of Psychology, University of Queensland, Australia. “Understanding Attitudes to Refugees and Immigrants in Australia” Room 1010, Faculty of Education, 1 - 3 p.m.

Department of Modern Languages and Literatures - Indian Film Series “Dil Chahta Hai” (What the Heart Wants) UC 30, 6 p.m.

Classes without Quizzes - Bhagirath Singh, Scientific Director, Institute of Infection & Immunity, Western. “HIV and You” London Public Library, Masonville Branch. 7 – 8:30 p.m. (doors open 6:30 p.m.)

King’s University College – Religious Life Lecture Series - Sonia Holpern, Western. “Jewish Models in the Art of Rembrandt” Elizabeth A. “Besie” Labatt Hall. Free admission and parking. Visit kong.uwo.ca/kingsministrylectureseries. 7:30 – 9 p.m.

John Labatt Visual Art Speaker Series – Helen Reckitt, Senior Curator, Power Plant, Toronto. Art Centre, Room 100. Free admission, all welcome. Contact artlab@uwo.ca. 8 p.m.

Department of English - Mini festival of plays by Anton Chekhov’s. “The Proposal” and “Uncle Vanya.” Tickets $10 in advance. $15 at door. Carron Hall, University College 224. 8 p.m. Runs Nov 12, 13 and 14

Department of English - Workshop on writing a book with English subtitles. Free Screenings. SEB, Room 3008. 4 p.m.

Department of Psychological & Brain Sciences - Dr. Heather Travis, Western News

Men’s Hockey – UQTR at Western. 7:30 p.m.

November 14
Men’s Squash – West Sectionals, Brock at Western, (Fanshawe) 10 a.m.

Women’s Volleyball – Queens at Western. 1 p.m.

Western Heads East Fundraiser – Amazing Race campus-wide scavenger hunt to promote HIV/AIDS awareness and Western Heads East’s role in East Africa. campus-wide race will start at UUCS 1 - 4 p.m.

Men’s Squash – West Sectionals, McMaster at Western, (Fanshawe) 2:30 p.m.

Western Heads East Fundraiser – Amazing Race After Party. Saugener Mailland Residence Gym. 9 p.m. – 1 a.m. Cost: $5 in advance, $7 at door. School of Music 224. 8 p.m. Runs Nov 12, 13 and 14

Men’s Volleyball – Queen’s at Western. 3 p.m.

Men’s Hockey – Concordia at Western. 7:30 p.m.

November 15
Women’s Volleyball – Brock at Western. 1 p.m.

Don Wright Faculty of Music – The 2009 Eckhardt-Gramatté winner, Carissa Klopoushak performs a contemporary violin program, featuring works by J. S. Bach, Kreisler, and Saint-Saëns. von Kuster Hall, 9:30 a.m.

Department of Anatomy and Cell Biology – Geoff Norman, McMaster University. “Virtual Reality and Anatomy Learning.” MSB 148. 12:30 p.m.

Men’s Squash – West Sectionals, Waterloo at Western (Fanshawe) 6 p.m.

Department of French Studies – Claude Allard, University of Alberta. “French Models in the Art of Rembrandt” Elizabeth A. “Besie” Labatt Hall. Free admission and parking. Visit kong.uwo.ca/kingsministrylectureseries. 7:30 – 9 p.m.

Department of Psychological & Brain Sciences - Dr. Heather Travis, Western News

Men’s Hockey – UQTR at Western. 7:30 p.m.

November 16
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Women’s Volleyball – Queens at Western. 1 p.m.

Western Heads East Fundraiser – Amazing Race campus-wide scavenger hunt to promote HIV/AIDS awareness and Western Heads East’s role in East Africa. campus-wide race will start at UUCS 1 - 4 p.m.

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Men’s Volleyball – Queen’s at Western. 3 p.m.

Men’s Hockey – Concordia at Western. 7:30 p.m.

November 17
Women’s Volleyball – Brock at Western. 1 p.m.

Don Wright Faculty of Music – High School Honour Choir performs after a three-day workshop with conductors from the Don Wright Faculty of Music. von Kuster Hall, 3 p.m.

Oncology Grand Rounds - Department of Oncology and London Regional Cancer Program. - Inge Aivaz, Radiation Oncology Resident. “Health Policy, Planning and Financing: A general overview and applications” Room A3-9244/B 12 p.m.

November 18
Toastmaster’s Campus Communicators - Improve your public speaking. Meets every Wednesday. Alumni Hall 12, 12:30 p.m. Visit ccmfreeemail.com

Department of Modern Languages and Literatures presents “La Terlula” Spanish Conversa- tion Group. Anyone wishing to speak Spanish and meet people from different Spanish-speak- ing countries is welcome. Wednesdays at 12:30 p.m. UC 117. Email terlula@uwo.ca

Wellness Series Wednesday – Laura Greve, Campus Recreation. Learn the facts about fibromyalgia. Western Recreation Centre. 3rd floor meeting room. No charge. All welcome. 5:30 - 6:30. Call for information and to register 519-661-3090.

Please send submissions to comingevents@ uwo.ca

COMING EVENTS

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Experience. The Difference.

Heather Travis, Western News

Stacks of 16mm film canisters line the shelves inside the Martin Walsh Film Library in the basement of University College. In addition to approximately 450 titles in the collection, which is used by the Film Studies department, the library also houses editing equipment.
CONFERENCE CALENDAR

November 13-15
States of Emergency: Crisis, Panic and the Nation
This conference is sponsored by the Canadian Association of American Studies and Western’s Centre for American Studies. Sessions will be held at the Hilton Hotel in London. Contact Professor Bryce Traister at traister@uwo.ca.

November 20
Infection and Immunity Research Forum
9 a.m. - 5:30 p.m. Hosted by the Department of Microbiology and Immunology, the one-day symposium covers undergraduate, graduate and post-doctoral research. Student oral and poster presentations, with a career development session, keynote Victor Nizet, University of California, San Diego on “Exploring the Pathogen Host Interface for Novel Therapeutic Strategies.” UN Aud. A uwo.ca/mni/IIRF/index.html.

November 25
Lawson Health Research Institute and London Clinical Research Association Clinical Research Education Day
This educational event is available to anyone who works in or is hoping to work in clinical research in London. Delta Armouries. Registration forms, agenda at lawsonresearch.com/10/ website/strathume.html. Registration closes Nov 18. Cost per person is $60 for LOCA members and $75 for non-members.

Send submissions to comingevents@uwo.ca. This column features events based at Western or in London for a student, staff or academic audience.

STUDENT SERVICES BULLETIN

Last day to drop – November 30
Last day to drop a full course and full-year half course (On-Campus Day, Evening and Distance Studies) without academic penalty if the deadlines occur on a Saturday, Sunday or a Statutory holiday, they will be extended to the next working day.

Mid-Year Examination Timetable, December 2009
The preliminary mid-year examination schedule is now posted on the Registrar’s website, registrar.uwo.ca. Students booking flights for the holidays are advised to book a flight date of December 23, 2009 or later. A student who, for religious reasons, is unable to write exams on a Sabbath or Holy Day, must give notice of this fact in writing to his/her Dean as early as possible, but not later than November 15.

SDC’s Writing Support Centre
The Writing Support Centre delivers one-on-one appointments and group workshops. Workshops are tailored for both undergraduate and graduate students. We also offer separate workshops for English Language Learners. Sign up for a workshop today at sdc.uwo.ca/writing/

SDC’s Learning Skills Services
Do you want to be a better student? The counsellors in the Learning Help Centre can help you achieve your academic goals. The Help Centre provides students with learning skills assistance on a drop-in basis. Come check us out during our newly extended hours in room 4309, WSSB.

SDC’s Indigenous Services
Please come by our new location in room 2100, WSSB to find out about our events and services. Look us up online at sdc.uwo.ca/indigenous.

Student Central
Student Central (formerly room 790) is now located in room 760 of the NEW Western Student Services building attached to the UCC. Visit our office Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday between 9am-4pm and Wednesday 10am-5pm. We look forward to seeing you in our new location.

Please visit us on the web at studentservices.uwo.ca.

ACCESS WESTERN NEWS

Several avenues are available for communicating through Western News. They include:

Advertising
Advertise your service or product the way you want it presented. For rates and information, contact advertise@uwo.ca.

Coming Events
The weekly feature outlines seminars, sporting events, lectures and cultural events for the coming week. Send submissions at least two weeks in advance to comingevents@uwo.ca. Events may also be posted on the events calendar at uwo.ca.

Conference Calendar
A lookahead to scholarly conferences at Western or in London, this feature includes links to the conference website to assist with early registration and calls for registration. Contact comingevents@uwo.ca.

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

Fundraising
In 50 words or fewer outline your campus group’s plans in support of a recognized non-political charity. This space is for event-based news and not ongoing efforts. Events may be held on or off-campus. newseditor@uwo.ca.

International Research
Faculty members with research interests outside of Canada can write about their work in this regular column. Contact Douglas Keddy, Research Communications Coordinator, for more information at dkeddy@uwo.ca or 519-661-2111 ext. 87485.

Letter to the Editor
Offer praise, criticism or a fresh take on the news, or any aspect of campus life. Letters of up to 300 words should be submitted to letter@uwo.ca.

Opinions
Western News welcomes Viewpoint articles of about 600 words. Offer a perspective on campus and post-secondary education issues. Send submissions or find out more at newseditor@uwo.ca.

Overheard
Faculty members, have you been interviewed recently by the media? Contact Media Relations at jrenaud@uwo.ca for possible inclusion in this monthly Western News column. Also, guidance provided on how to obtain media coverage for your research.

Public Space
Tell campus neighbours about developments in your area or department in 500 words or fewer. newseditor@uwo.ca.

Tribute
This occasional feature recognizes significant accomplishments by faculty, staff and students as determined by office Franking. Submit a brief article of 200 words or fewer about the award and the winner. newseditor@uwo.ca.

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**CAREERS**

A central Web site displays advertisements for all vacant academic positions. The following positions are among those advertised at uwo.ca/prp/facultyrelations/jobs/index-jobs.html.

**FULL-TIME APPOINTMENTS**

Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry - Department of Surgery invites applicants for the position of Chair/Chief, Division of Cardiac Surgery. This is a dual position as Chair of the Division of Cardiac Surgery (Western), as well as Chief of the Division of Cardiac Surgery, London Health Sciences Centre. Further information about the department may be found at uwo.ca/surgery. Applications will be accepted until the position is filled. Review of applications will begin after Dec. 31.

All positions are subject to budgetary approval. Applicants should have fluent written and oral communication skills in English. All qualified candidates are encouraged to apply; however, Canadian citizens and permanent residents will be given priority. The University of Western Ontario is committed to employment equity and welcomes applications from all qualified women and men, including visible minorities, Aboriginal peoples and people with disabilities.

**PhD Lectures**


**Faculty & Staff**

The Occupational Science Field of the Faculty of Science’s Health and Rehabilitation Sciences Program was well represented at the recent Society for the Study of Occupation conference in New Haven, CT. Recent MSc graduate Laura Gibbs presented a paper “Pursuing balance: experiences of occupational adaptation in women with hip and knee osteoarthrits” co-authored with faculty members Lisa Klinger, Anthony Vandervoort, and Jan Polgar. Faculty member Lynn

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**ACADEME**

Shaw presented a paper “Reflection in dialogue: A participatory research method to engage persons with disabilities in exploring occupational transitions” with recent MSc graduate Crystal Arnold. PhD student Suzanne Hoot presented a paper “Critical ethnography: Doing research on occupation” co-authored with faculty members Debbie Laiher-Budman and Lillian Magath. Specifically, this paper was part of the first of an individual considered a pioneer in audiology in Canada and who has developed programs or procedures which have impacted audiology service delivery in our country.

**House Sitting Service**

Going south? Mature Western staff will care for your home December through March or any period therein. Will live in Mon. to Thursday, house of townies, B. References. Contact: gilroywil@uco.ca.

**For Sale**

Hasselblad camera - Hasselblad 500 CM medium format camera, waist level finder, A12 magazine, planar 80 mm 2.8 lens, three filters, three close up extension tubes, original box and owner’s manual. Excellent condition, $850. 519-472-4509.

**For Rent**

Two furnished rooms for rent in new house in north London – one is Master bedroom with ensuite. Ideal for staff, faculty or mature student. Short or long term. Access to kitchen, laundry, parking, internet and backyard. Contact 519-691-4470 E-mail: gmth@hotmail.com

**Room available**

End of December 09. Laundry and bathroom, quiet household. Partial use of existing kitchen, short walking distance to Western. Ideal for mature student. $500.00 per month. Please call 519-672-5005.

**Bed and Breakfast**

Halina Koch Bed & Breakfast, 250 Epoorth, Share an artist’s home of white-washed walls and old beams in London North, patio fireplace and internet. Within walking distance of Western, UCS-UC and St. Joe’s. 5 minutes to downtown. Rates $55 - $75/day. Rates vary depending on length of stay. Special price for guests commuting every week. Call 519-434-4045. E-mail: halinakoch@prowireless.ca. Visit: lbldanden.ca

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