HELPING 6,000 STUDENTS GROW
Social Sciences is Western’s largest faculty and the future holds promise of continued graduate student growth and specialization in a few choice research areas.

BY PAUL MA%NE

What do dimpled golf balls, ski wax and curve balls have in common? They’re part of a new physics course planned for the new year.

Designed by Physics and Astronomy professor and bike enthusiast Robert Sica, ‘Going Faster and Further: The science of the sporting environment’ is a new 100 level course that will tackle questions about aero and fluid dynamics and how they are applied to help in “cheating the wind or the water to improve performance.”

“There are a lot of courses that study motion, but mostly the mechanics aspect, such as throwing a ball better or pedalling faster,” says Sica. “But not many take on fluid mechanics – how wind affects the baseball or the cyclist, or say the speed of a hockey puck.”

Sica specifically left the word ‘physics’ out of the course name, so as not to put the “fear factor” into having to take a physics course. Those with a science curiosity will be most interested in finding out more about the physics of swimming faster, ice making and speed skiing.

Other areas to be focused on include throwing a discus, how skating works, ski shapes and wind drag force, friction and aero cycling equipment.

“Several universities offer a ‘physics in sports’ course, but none with the particular angle of this course,” says Sica, who begins teaching the course in January. “Western has a strong reputation as an athletic campus and I think this class can be of interest to a ton of kids with athletic backgrounds.”

Western opens classes in Goderich

BY PAUL MA%NE

While students have long come to Western to learn, the university is turning the tables a bit by taking the classroom to some students – in particular those of Huron County.

In conjunction with the Lake Huron Learning Collaborative (LHLC), Western has begun offering two university-level courses in Goderich. An Introduction to Sociology and The Nature of Biological Things are the first to hit the classroom being hosted by the Huron County Museum.

For Roma Harris, Vice-Provost (Academic Programs and Students), the early popularity of the courses is an encouraging sign.

“It’s an exciting time for Western,” says Harris. “While we’re committed to a national and international approach, this gives us the opportunity to support Ontario, more specifically our local region.”

Similar approaches to offering courses in the community existed a number of years ago, but with declining enrolment and a financial crunch at the university, off-campus classrooms were shut down.

So Harris was excited when the university was approached by the LHLC to bring the university to their community. First, it was an opportunity to assist the community, and second, it helps address a concern the proportion of young adults in Huron County who continue on to post-secondary education is low.

John Smallwood, co-chair of the LHLC, is excited about the collaboration.

“The partnership will allow... Continued on page 5
2. Best of Tin House: Stories  Tin House
3. McSweeney’s Issue 20
4. The Book Of Love Letters: Canadian Kinship, Friendship, And Romance  Paul & Audrey Grescoe
5. The Journey Prize Stories: From The Best Of Canada’s New Writers  James Grainger & Nancy Lee
7. No Margins: Writing Canadian Fiction in Lesbian  Catherine Lake & Nairne Holtz
8. An Anthology Of Canadian Native Literature In English  Daniel David Moses & Laura Hollett
9. Writing Life Celebrated Canadian And International Authors On Writing And Life  Constance Rooke

Compilation provided by The Book Store at Western.

Sudoku Puzzle

Don’t be late!
Check the Events Calendar. Visit Quick Links on Western’s homepage.

UNIVERSAL Sudoku Puzzle

Complete the grid so that every row, column and 3x3 box contains every digit from 1 to 9 inclusively.

Piled Higher & Deeper

a grad student comic strip

25 YEARS AGO IN WESTERN NEWS

- 75th anniversary of the student newspaper, The Gazette.
- In Canada, approximately 15 per cent of persons in the age group 18-24 follow a university program.
- Room available in quiet North London home, $120 monthly.

CRYPTOGRAM

HEADED FOR EXTINCTION?

James Schaefer, Associate Professor at Trent University, will present “Caribou the untold story” Fri., Oct. 13 at 7 p.m. in Spencer Engineering, Room 1200. “Caribou are in the midst of a slow-motion crisis,” says Schaefer, noting in the late 1800s, woodland caribou could be found as far south as Georgian Bay but have vanished from that area, losing half their range. Visit www.caribouuntoldstory.org for more information about this Wildlands League-sponsored event.

ROMANOW LECTURES ON HEALTH, SOCIAL VALUES

Former Saskatchewan premier Roy Romanow will present a public lecture on Fri., Oct. 27. Romanow, who led the Royal Commission on the Future of Health Care in Canada, will speak on the subjects: “What kind of society do we want – social values and the health and well-being of Canadians.” The campus Health Policy Initiative is sponsoring the event which takes place at the Health Sciences Building, Room 40. The lecture is 3-4:45 p.m., followed by a reception. For more information contact Andrea Dean at adean5@uwo.ca or ext. 22109.

ECOSYSTEM HEALTH SYMPOSIUM

The Department of Pathology is presenting a symposium on topics in environmental pathology-ecosystem health to honour the contributions of Western Professor Emeritus George Cheriyan. The symposium takes place Wed. Oct. 18, 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. in Aud. B, LHSC. Topics include: Ecosystem and population health, fetal alcohol syndrome as an ecosystem health issue and health concerns in first nations communities. Review the brochure at www.uwo.ca/pathol/ecohealth.pdf.

CAMPUS DIGEST

GRADUATE STUDENT FORUM

Western’s Women’s Issues Network is offering a forum to graduate students to speak out about any negative experiences during their graduate education. The forum will provide an opportunity for students to discuss their experiences and to make suggestions for changes. Supported by the Women’s Caucus, the project hopes to hold focus groups and make a video on the project. Harassment can occur at the hands of fellow students or those in positions of trust. The forum would provide students with an outlet to discuss grievances and concerns. Organizers say they will guarantee anonymity and participation can take place in the following ways:
- Focus group meeting with multiple small groups of two to five people
- Sending their experiences by email
- Please send your experiences to the External Relations Manager for WIN at amlhotr@uwo.ca. If interested in participating in a focus group call 519-667-2040 to book an appointment.

CAREER ADVANCEMENT PROGRAM OFFERED

Human Resources is partnering with David Tucker, PhD, a career development specialist, and WIL Employment Connections of London to offer a three-part career advancement program.

The program beginning in November for staff in UWOSA, SAGE, UWOFA, CUPE 2361, CUPE 2692, IUOE 772 and PMA-eligible roles, is for staff seeking career opportunities within Western.

Through individual assessments, one-on-one meetings, and group workshops, participants will increase their ability to carve out a career path and enhance job-search strategies and skills.

The three parts include: career assessment: charting the right career path; resumes that get results; and winning interview strategies.

Registration is open for the November sessions with space limited to 12 people per program. Visit www.uwo.ca/humanresources/learning for program details and registration information.

PREP FOR PANDEMONIUM, DISASTER, AND GOING UNDER

The Victorian Studies Association of Ontario will hold a special meeting on Wed. Oct. 18, from 7:30-9 p.m., in the Great Hall at Huron University College (enter off Western Road—near the Library and Chapel). This event showcases research in Victorian Studies by graduate students in English. Speakers will be:

- Ann Gagné, “Framing It With Her Hands: Touching George Egerton’s ‘Gone Under’”
- Alexandra Kimball, “A Pandemonium of Posters: Advertising Sensation in the New Journalism”
- M. Daniel Martin, “The Pleasures of Inminent Disaster: Thrill Rides and British Imperialism from the Big Wheel to the London Eye”

For information contact Christopher Keep (ckeep@uwo.ca) or Corrine Davies (cedavies@huron.uwo.ca).

WESTERN NEWS

OCTOBER 12, 2006
Few ready for ‘imminent’ flu pandemic

By Paul Mayne

One of Canada’s top scientific researchers says it’s a matter of time before the emergence of a flu pandemic expected to hospitalize and kill millions around the world. “Are we ready for another pandemic similar to the 1918 Spanish Flu?” says University of Toronto researcher Kirsty Duncan, speaking to Western researchers and students Oct. 6. “It raises a lot of questions and proposes plenty of challenges to think about.”

Duncan, author of Hunting the 1918 Flu: One Scientist’s Search for a Killer Virus, says while her 10-year saga of investigating the causes behind what killed more than 50 million people worldwide decades ago has answered questions, it has also raised others.

Duncan and fellow researchers went to the point of exhuming the bodies of seven young individuals killed by the 1918 pandemic in hopes of finding out more about the causes and, perhaps, future preventive measures that could be taken when it occurs again.

“It raises a lot of questions and proposes plenty of challenges to think about.”

Kirsty Duncan
Researcher, University of Toronto

“Opening the boxes was akin to opening a Pandora’s Box,” she says. “You could re-release the virus once again should it still be alive.”

It was not, but Duncan was able to take more than 100 samples from the brain, heart, kidney, liver and lungs of the deceased. She determined we may be on the brink of a similar situation today. The current H5N1 virus, or Avian flu, has “similar genetic paths as that of 1918.”

“Knowing that, we need to prepare for the future,” she says. “We have a unique opportunity this time around in that we can prepare for a pandemic that is coming. The more information we have of these past viruses the more we can prepare.”

Duncan says the World Health Organization and other leading scientists say a pandemic is evident, if not imminent, leading to upwards of 28 million hospitalized and between two and 50 million possible deaths.

So if an occurrence is ‘imminent’, why isn’t there more concern around the world? Duncan says there is some concern, but nowhere near enough. Only 15 per cent of U.S. businesses have a pandemic flu plan in place, and the number is just four per cent in Canada.

“As scientists, we are sort of caught between a rock and a hard place,” she says. “We can’t say we’re all fine and we can’t say we’re all going to drop like flies. We don’t want to create panic or fear mongering, but the truth is somewhere in-between.”

Duncan says individual preparedness for the next pandemic should include building a supply of food, water and medication – each lasting for a period of six to eight weeks.

Flu expert Kirsty Duncan warns Canada is ill-prepared for a flu pandemic.

Make a donation to a Canadian breast cancer charity and join for free.

The week of October 19th only, Curves is waiving the service fee when you make a donation to any Canadian breast cancer charity.

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All Ages
Finding your groove in Graduate school

Mark Weir looks back seven years to his first days as an undergrad and fast-forwards to this fall as an incoming graduate student. Some things never change.

BY MARK WEIR

Perhaps it's the crispness in the air or the gradual increase of leaves fluttering down to the ground, but you can't help but feel a sense of new beginnings on campus.

As a recent decision now finds me back at Western for a Master's degree, there's no missing a certain nostalgia for my undergrad years as I think back to what it was like to be new on campus. It was seven years ago that I started my undergraduate degree as a wide-eyed, shy 18-year-old eager to discover what lay out there. University seemed to be an entire world created for the purpose of exploration. After a bachelor degree, a diploma and a couple of years abroad, I now find myself as that same wide-eyed, shy guy who really wants to start earning some money yet? are typical inquiries that require extra precision and careful treading around to convince someone that you actually know what you're doing. As long as you know yourself and that more school is really what you want to do, I think we're all old enough to realize that the future is open to finding success, somewhere.

Now that you've made the decision to take your place among the thousands of other people going through the same thing, there is still the small task of getting here. A usually emotional goodbye that accompanies a residence day move-in soon disappears from parents when they continually realize that year after year you will be coming and going, saying hellos and goodbyes on a regular basis. After a while you aren't really giving much thought about dropping in and out of the place you still call your 'permanent residence', even seven years later. Asking my dad once again this fall to help me move down to the city conjured the remark, "do you know how many times we've made this trip?" Not that I think he's bitter (although he has to multiply it by three to include my two sisters!), but maybe he just didn't think that another crisp fall day of hauling furniture would soon become so routine.

Beginning life as an undergrad, it seems at first you are a small fish in a large sea. This quickly gives way to a realization you're not so small, in fact you're pretty similar to all the other countless fish on UC hill during O-Week. Living in a building that has more residents than my hometown and being surprised that half of the other people on my floor are taking Bio022, I couldn't help but feel like undergrad would, in a way, be like a team sport of everyone pulling together. Seven years later, and the others in my building are me and my roommate. It limits the social opportunities, somehow our attempt at catching a bigger fish is leading to a greater appreciation of the smaller things in life. Like cooking a dinner with more than three steps, or sitting down to read the paper on a Saturday morning.

The number of people in my program has also dropped exponentially and I can't even think of someone who is interested in investigating the same research question as I am. I've gone from looking around to see thousands of teammates to realizing that it's just me, the ball and the shot. While I've always been shooting the ball, now it seems like my approach alone will determine whether it finds the back of the net.

Being here at Western and making new beginnings is something special. Whether from the perspective of someone entering their first year of undergrad or someone entering their first year of graduate school, there is the feeling that we're all engaged in finding success, somewhere. Differences may exist between the two, but finding 'your groove' is still the bottom line. The feeling of trying to figure out where you've been compared with where you're going still accompanies both.

The fall of 1999 doesn't appear to be so different than the fall of 2006 after all, as the world of possibilities still seems as large as it ever did.

The writer is an MSc student in Health and Rehabilitation Sciences, Western grad in BSc, Hons Genetics (2003) and Diploma in Ethics (2004).
Study abroad initiatives set for expansion

By Ted Hewitt and Roma Harris

Jordana Zur’s recent Commentary in Western News (Sept. 21, 2006) about the university’s internationalization efforts has it exactly right: in future, senior leadership at Western does need to invest more time, energy and money in promoting international opportunities for students.

Fortunately, the future is now. Western’s draft Strategic Plan, “Engaging the Future,” calls for the implementation of new initiatives which would allow much greater numbers of students to participate in study abroad programs of all kinds.

In 2004-2005, nearly 180 students in faculties across campus participated in formal exchange programs at Western, which now link the university to 100 partner institutions in 23 countries worldwide. Still, many exchange opportunities go begging each year, despite the best efforts of the Student Exchange Office to publicize these widely (see “Exchange programs stretch wings” in the Sept. 21 Western News).

Consequently, in order to encourage higher rates of participation in student exchanges, the Office of the Vice-Provost (Academic Programs & Students) has established the Ambassadorial Awards program, which provides students with financial support to cover costs of exchange. This year, $50,000 will be allocated to this program.

Frequently as well, students are availing themselves of other opportunities to experience life abroad first-hand. Last year, more than 75 students asked and received permission from their faculties to take courses for academic credit at institutions worldwide, while another 112 participated in Western courses offering field study or short stays abroad as part of the curriculum. There is no question that the flexibility which such short-term international study options offer students at Western is increasingly attractive.

Recipe for a new bike

By Allison Stevenson

Six together one Engineering Faculty Baja SAE team.

Now add a couple of old bed frames. There is an old lawnmower engine. Sprinkle some old mountain bike parts.

Cook a few hours with a little imagination and, voila, you have a bike entry for the 2006 World University Services of Canada (WUSC) “Bike for AIDS.”

The Bike for AIDS bike-a-thon takes place today (October 12) from 12-5 pm on Western’s campus. All money raised will go towards purchasing bikes for AIDS workers in Africa. Entertainment will be provided on the Concrete Beach, featuring many live bands, dancers, speakers and a DJ.

According to organizers, every $200 raised will buy one bike.

This event took place last year and was a huge success, raising more than $7500. The goal this year is $10,000.

Western Engineering’s Baja SAE team will take a spin on their new ‘flash’ ride in the bike-a-thon tomorrow.

For information visit the Bike for AIDS website at www. wusc.uwo.ca/clubs/ wuscbikeaids.html

Olympics symposium features international experts

By Bob Klanac

Olympic experts from around the world will be attending an international symposium next week being hosted by Western’s International Centre for Olympic Studies.

Cultural Imperialism in Action: Critiques in the Global Olympic Trust is the topic of the Eighth International Symposium for Olympic Research being held Oct. 19-21. The symposium will feature more than 30 speakers from five continents.

The International Centre for Olympic Studies (ICOS), established at Western in 1989, was at the time of creation the first of its kind in the world and remains the only such centre in the Americas. The primary mission of ICOS is the generation and dissemination of academic scholarship focused specifically upon the socio-cultural study of the Olympic Games and the Olympic Movement. “There are so many interesting speakers and topics, it’s hard to know where to begin,” says Nigel Crowther, Western’s ICOS Director. “There are quite a few highlights.”

“We’ve got people talking about Torino, the last Olympic Games, which will be quite fascinating,” says Crowther. “I think it’s intriguing because the next winter Olympic Games will be in Vancouver. One of the papers represents the perspective of a professor of economics.”

Not surprisingly, Crowther notes there will be a session on the upcoming 2010 Vancouver Winter Olympics with three papers being presented. Crowther himself delivers the conference-opening keynote address, the 20th Ioannides Lecture, titled “The Spirit of Competition (Agon) in the Olympic Games: From the Ancient to the Modern World. The lecture takes place Thursday, October 19, 7 p.m. in Room 40 of the Arthur and Sonia Labatt Health Sciences Building.

That opening talk is one of two open to the public. The other is the 17th Earl F. Zeigler Lecture with the keynote address by Dongguan Pei titled A Question of Names: The Solution to the “Two Chinas” Issue in Modern Olympic History: The Final Phase, 1971-1984. The lecture takes place at 3:30 p.m. in Health Sciences, Room 35.

“Donny Pei is an ex-student of ours, a grad student from a few years ago,” says Crowther. “I’ll be talking about the issue of China with relation to their hosting the 2006 (Summer) Olympics.”

Pei’s talk is also important as he will be handling the on-site logistics of the next IOC Symposium taking place in Beijing, one week prior to the start of the 2008 Games.

“Donny Pei will set up the logistics on site, and we’ll be pulling together the symposium program from here,” says Crowther.

Other symposium highlights noted by Crowther include the talk on Douglas Fairbanks and the Birth of Hollywood’s Love Affair with the Olympics. “Aside from being an actor, Douglas Fairbanks was a gymnast, athlete and he used to sponsor some athletes himself,” Crowther says. “Fairbanks and his famous show business friends had such a big hand in the 1932 Olympics in Los Angeles that they were often referred to as the Hollywood Olympics.”

“Obviously I like all the lectures but it really depends on your particular interest.”

More information about the conference can be found at www.uwo. ca/olympic/conference.html.

Program growth expected

Continued from page 1

local residents to begin degree programs, gain some experience in post-secondary studies and open the community to the excitement of new opportunities offered by a great regional university,” says Smallwood.

If enrolment is any indication, the partnership should be a success. Interest in the sociology course was higher than expected, forcing the class to be relocated from the museum’s second-floor classroom to the theatre. As far as alternating or increasing course offerings, Harris says this latest collaboration is a “slow first step” towards potential future growth.

“We want to grow it carefully to ensure it’s workable for the both ourselves and the community,” says Harris.

She adds a possibility exists for approaching community leaders in Sarnia for a similar venture, since the university has a strong presence in the community with The Research Park.

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Grad snatches victory from Dragons’ jaws

By Bob KlanaC

A Western Engineering alumna’s Omega 3 salad dressing ticked the palate of investors on the debut of CBC-TV’s Dragon’s Den—and went down smoothly for the creator, too.

Jennifer MacDonald’s business pitch won out over five others on the show to get the $200,000 investment money. “It’s great,” says MacDonald. “It’s a huge turning point for me. I’m so excited to envision where I’m going to be next year.”

MacDonald, a Strathroy resident, founded CenaBal, a company that makes salad dressings and oils.

Dragon’s Den allows entrepreneurs to pitch their ideas to five Canadian business moguls for investment funds.

MacDonald was among 90 entrepreneurs who made the cut at an audition held in London, one of 17 cities that hosted auditions across Canada.

Making her pitch was only part of the stress for MacDonald. She was in a tent with seven other anxious Dragon’s Den candidates on August 4 and all of them were feeding on each other’s anxiety. “It was so hot in there that I barely remembered my company name,” MacDonald says.

But the judges made up for MacDonald by remembering hers in making their deliberations.

The local stores in Strathroy told me that they sold out of my products the morning after the show aired.”

The $200,000 MacDonald got from investors has been earmarked to develop the CenaBal business. The money will see the business grow, MacDonald has no intention of leaving the basement of her Strathroy home.

“I’ve already made an impression with Dragon’s Den appearance,” she says. “A year ago I only had six stores retailing my product.”

MacDonald is proud she accomplished the win while waving her London, Ontario flag. “Oh, the London community is phenomenal. They really get behind its successes.”

Dragon’s Den airs Wednesday evenings on CBC. More information can be found at cbc.ca/dragonsden. More information about CenaBal is at cenaBal.com.

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Discover A Taste of Japan
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519-668-7407
715 Wellington Rd. S. (at back)
Health, safety homework urged as audit nears

Western’s rescheduled Workwell Health and Safety Audit has been confirmed for Nov. 27-29 and in preparation the campus community is focusing on final details for this comprehensive review of all aspects of workplace health and safety.

Over the three days in November, auditors from the Workplace Health and Safety Insurance Board (WSIB) will assess Western’s health and safety culture through observation, interviews and review of documentation.

Environmental Safety Coordinator Mike Mosley suggests that in the weeks leading up to the audit staff and faculty take time to confirm their compliance with the health and safety requirements for their role.

“Preparation for the survey seems to be going well in the majority of areas on campus. For example, current statistics suggest that the majority of employees have completed their WHMIS training. Over the next several weeks we’ll be working to raise these numbers,” he adds. “At this time of year we have many new employees starting work and it is important to ensure they receive appropriate safety orientation and training as soon as possible.”

The following checklist will help you assess your preparedness for the Workwell Audit. All employees should be able to check off all of the following points.

- I am familiar with University health and safety policies
- I am familiar with Health and Safety Insurance Board (renewed every three years)
- I have competed all training required for my position
- I know who to call in case of an emergency
- I know my area’s first aid kit representative
- I know my area’s first aid kit
- I know my area’s first aid kit
- I know where my area’s first aid kit is located
- I have competed all training required for my role and area you should consult with your supervisor.
- A list of training courses offered by Occupational Health and Safety is available on the Human Resources website.

FRENCH-- Brescia University College

Brescia University College invites applications for a tenure-track appointment at Assistant Professor level to teach French as a Second Language in the Department of Modern Languages commencing July 1, 2007. The preferred candidate will possess a doctorate in Applied Linguistics (French as a Second Language), native or near native fluency in French and English, an excellent second language teaching record at the university level, expertise in the area of second language pedagogy, and a strong commitment to scholarly research and publication. The successful candidate will be expected to teach undergraduate French Language courses at the Intermediate and Advanced Levels and to participate in the academic life of the College. Information about Brescia University College and the Department of Modern Languages may be found on the university website www.brescia.uwo.ca.

Brescia University College is a Catholic university college for women, affiliated with The University of Western Ontario in London, Ontario, offering instruction to both women and men. All qualified candidates are encouraged to apply, however Canadians or permanent residents will be given priority. Candidates with foreign educational credentials must document Canadian equivalency. Brescia University College is committed to the principles of employment equity. This position is subject to budgetary approval.

Applicants should submit by mail a letter of application, a curriculum vitae and three letters of reference to the Office of the Academic Dean, Brescia University College, 1285 Western Road, London, Ontario N6G 1H2. Review of applications will begin in December and continue until the position is filled.

The Western Award of Excellence

Now is your opportunity to nominate individuals and teams of Western staff for the 2007 Western Award of Excellence. Your nomination will help to recognize staff who make a difference at Western through their exemplary service.

Anyone can nominate. Deadline for nominations is November 10, 2006.
Download a nomination form at: www.uwo.ca/pvp/recognition/nomination.htm
Have questions about completing the nomination form? We can help.
Call ext. 82727 or email us at staff.recognition@uwo.ca

Ivan Celic and Sherri Moore were among the five other individuals and teams recognized as the first recipients of The Western Award of Excellence.

Everyday heroes.
Nominate yours by November 10, 2006
Increased operating funds for Social Science mean that administrative staff can be added to help ease the workload. "We plan to increase our graduate numbers over the next four years, and I see the undergraduate program continuing to increase in quality, but I don't think it will get any bigger," he says.

Social Science departments have been developing new programs to attract students and build on strengths in areas that set them apart. "We are able to look into the brain of a normal intact person and look at both parts of the brain that are busy when they are thinking about different things and looking for different parts of their body," says Gosdalski.

"A neuroimaging agent is revolutionizing the way we approach the problem of brain behavior," says Gosdalski. The Social Science research program has the potential to bring the Social Science meaning that administra- tors can work effectively.

Recently reappointed Dean Brian Timney says the main contribution of Social Science to the university's mission is undergraduate teaching. "We plan to increase our graduate numbers over the next four years, and I see the undergraduate program continuing to increase in quality, but I don't think it will get any bigger," he says.

Social Science departments have been developing new programs to attract students and build on strengths in areas that set them apart. "We are able to look into the brain of a normal intact person and look at both parts of the brain that are busy when they are thinking about different things and looking for different parts of their body," says Gosdalski.

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Mid-Year Examination Timetable, December 2006

The preliminary mid-year examination schedule will be posted October 16, 2006 on the Registrar’s website. The Final Schedule will be posted November 13, 2006 on the Registrar’s website. Students booking flights for the holidays are advised to book a flight date of December 21 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.

Add/Drop Deadlines

October 15: Last day to drop a first-term half course (on campus day and evening and Distance Studies) without academic penalty.

November 3: Last date to drop a first-term second quarter (‘r’) course (Kin) without penalty.

November 30: Last day to drop a full course (on campus day and evening and Distance Studies) without academic penalty.

Add/Drop Deadlines

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November 3: Last date to drop a first-term second quarter (‘r’) course (Kin) without penalty.

November 30: Last day to drop a full course (on campus day and evening and Distance Studies) without academic penalty.

Work Study Program – Pay Increase

The hourly rate of the Work Study Program will be increasing to $9.50/hr from $9.00/hr. This change will take place beginning in the 2006-2007 Fall/Winter academic year.

Autumn Graduation

Convocation packages have been mailed out to all students who have applied to graduate. The deadline to apply to graduate for the Autumn Convocation was September 8. For more information, visit our website.

Regular Hours - Room 190

Student Information Services
Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays, Fridays: 9:00 am to 4:00 pm
Wednesdays: 10 am to 5 pm
Telephone Helpline: 519-661-2100

For more information please visit www.registrar.uwo.ca

Part-time Employment

The SCHOOL AGE PROGRAM is currently looking for staff for their recreational based before and after school programs.

Are you...

- looking for part-time employment that will fit within your school schedule
- currently enrolled in, or completed your degree in education, sociology, psychology or child & family related courses
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Human Resources Assistant
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London, ON N6K 1L3
Fax: 519-671-5679
Email: lsap_hr@lccc.on.ca
Web: www.lccc.on.ca

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http://www.kylemurray.com/register
or contact Professor Kyle Murray at kmurray@ivey.uwo.ca

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**FULL-TIME ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS**

Faculty of Engineering, Department of Mechanical and Materials Engineering and Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering—Applications are invited for a probationary (tenure-track) appointment at the rank of Assistant Professor or Associate Professor in the area of MicroElectroMechanical Systems (MEMS) and/or NanoElectroMechanical Systems (NEMS). Closing date: January 16, 2007.

Faculty of Science, Department of Applied Mathematics—Applications are invited for a probationary (tenure-track) appointment at the rank of Assistant Professor commencing July 1, 2007. For exceptional candidates, appointment at a more senior level is possible in either of the research fields of Evolutionary Theory or Elementary Particle Theory. Closing date: Applications should be received prior to January 5, 2007.

Faculty of Science, Departments of Chemistry and Physics & Astronomy: The Departments of Chemistry and Physics & Astronomy invite applications or nominations for one or more Canada Research Chairs in the area of condensed matter physics or chemistry with expertise in the general areas of nanomaterials, photonics, and/or biophotonics to begin July 1, 2007 or thereafter. The selected candidate(s) will be nominated for either a Tier I or a Tier II Canada Research Chair, depending on qualifications and experience. Consideration of applications will begin January 5, 2007.

Faculty of Science, Department of Earth Sciences: Applications are invited for a probationary (tenure-track) appointment at the rank of Assistant Professor in the area of Geophysics to begin July 1, 2007 or thereafter. Closing date: January 15, 2007.

Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry, Department of Microbiology and Immunology—Applications are invited for two appointments in the areas of Molecular Virology and viral Pathogenesis. One probationary (tenure-track) appointment in the area of Molecular Virology at the level of Assistant Professor. Outstanding candidates will also be considered at a higher rank. The other position is for a Tier I Canada Research Chair in Viral Pathogenesis at the Professor level. Applications will be accepted until the position is filled. Review of applications will begin after January 1, 2007.

**CAREERS**

**Notice to Join the Academic Procession 287th Convocation - Autumn 2006**

Autumn Convocation takes place at 3:30 p.m. on Thursday, October 19 and at 10:00 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. on Friday, October 20. Members of Faculty, Senate, the Board of Governors and Emeritus’s Professors are invited to take part in the Academic Procession. Full information on joining the academic procession (including order of ceremony; honorary degree recipients, assembly and regalia) may be found on the Senate Website: http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/senate/Academic_Procession.pdf

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Brian R. McGorman
First Vice-President
Investment Advisor
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U.S. universities monopolize Milliken biotech rankings

Western is in the top 10 of Canadian universities in biotechnology transfer and commercialization, according to a recent report of the economic think tank the Milliken Institute.

Measuring the period 2000 to 2004, Western ranks ninth in Canada and 108th in North America in the index measuring factors such as licensing income and startups. University of British Columbia was the highest-ranked Canadian institution, coming in eighth overall while MIT was first overall.

The institute also measured performance in biotech patents and research publications.

In the ranking for biotech research publications, which is measured globally, Western was 12th in Canada and 260th overall; and in patents (also global), 22nd in Canada and 350th overall.

According to Mind to Market: A Global Analysis of University Biotechnology Transfer and Commercialization, “investments into offices of technology transfer (OTT) offer high returns. For every $1 invested in OTT staff, the university receives a little more than $6 of licensing income.”

The average research expenditures for universities is (US) $225 million in the United States, (US) $178 million for Canada and (US) $100 million for Europe.

The report provides three biotechnology rankings, of which the university technology and commercialization index is only one. The others are biotechnology publication ranking and biotechnology patent ranking. In every ranking, U.S. universities dominate the top positions.

The 320-page report may be viewed as a PDF, or a hard copy can be ordered at www.milkeninstitute.org.

On universities and biotechnology

Excerpts:

“Canada lacks entrepreneurs; ‘angels’ are largely absent. Canadian culture is risk-averse.”

“Stove pipes of isolation exist among science and business faculties within some Canadian universities; faculty interaction is rare. Stronger linkages within and among universities, more networking with industry and scientists with business management skills would facilitate the transfer of technology from university labs to Bay Street.

More than 30 Canadian universities... reported issuing 150 patents, forming 45 startup companies and receiving adjusted gross licensing income of over $54 million in 2004. As in previous years, the data are somewhat skewed. Seven of the reporting universities were not issued any patents; fewer than 50 per cent were successful at any startup formation; and eight received no licensing income in 2004.

Source: Mind to Market: A Global Analysis of University Biotechnology Transfer and Commercialization

Announcing…

FOUNDATION WESTERN ACADEMIC ENRICHMENT GRANTS

The Academic Enrichment Grants will enhance academic activities within Western by assisting with expenses related to research, equipment, supplies, travel, services or special projects as they relate to academic enrichment, research initiatives, and providing the best student experience at Western.

Up to $10,000 available per successful application!

We are currently accepting applications from faculty members and staff within the following faculties:

- Richard Ivey School of Business
- Faculty of Education
- Faculty of Science
- Faculty of Information & Media Studies

All applications must be submitted to your faculty Dean by October 15, 2006 and Foundation Western must receive all applications by October 31, 2006. Please visit our website at www.foundation.uwo.ca or contact Kathryn Lamb (klamb5@uwo.ca) for more information.
What is measured in the graphs?

Undergraduate Student Engagement – In early 2008, eight of the G10 universities, including Western, elected to participate in the National Survey of Student Engagement (NSSE) administered through Indiana University. In addition, several Canadian universities outside the G10 participated along with 450 U.S. universities. The survey is not a satisfaction survey, but measures the extent to which students are involved in campus life and academic programs.

NSSE groups responses to the approximately 80 questions into five standard score benchmarks which can be used to compare results among peer institutions.

In 2006, all Ontario universities, and over 30 universities across Canada administered the NSSE survey. For Ontario’s universities, this represented part of an accountability framework to be developed with the provincial government.

Why is it measured?

The Strategic Plan calls for a substantial improvement of student-faculty ratios, and for student involvement in the creation of a supportive campus environment.

What does it mean?

Top graph: Student-Faculty Interaction measures the extent to which students have been able to meet one-on-one with faculty members and the extent to which students have been graded on essays and class presentations as opposed to multiple-choice questions.

This measure is not a measure of the effectiveness of faculty members. It is a result of student-faculty ratios. Western performed near the average for Ontario and G10 participants, but significantly below doctoral institutions in the United States.

Lower graph: Supportive Campus Environment measures the extent to which students experience support from faculty, staff and fellow students outside the classroom. Western ranks slightly above the Ontario and G10 average, and close to the average of the doctoral universities.

Source: National Survey of Student Engagement (NSSE) as reported in Western’s 2006 Performance and Activity Indicators annual report.
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**Puzzle on page 2**
What’s happening over the Arctic?

By Mitch Zimmer

Two physicists from Western are taking part in an international effort to study the arctic atmosphere and explore the factors in climatic change.

Robert Sica and Stephen Argall will use their expertise with LIDAR (Light Detection And Ranging) to explore ozone depletion, air quality and climate change at the Polar Environment Atmospheric Research Laboratory (PEARL) on Ellesmere Island in Nunavut.

PEARL is perched on an isolated ridge 610 metres above sea level and about 1,100 kilometres from the North Pole near Eureka. The laboratory at 80 degrees north, the second most northerly permanent research station in the world, will measure the atmosphere from the ground to 100 kilometres on a continuous basis.

"On the one hand it might sound like it’s kind of far but it is actually about as close as you can get," says Sica. "I think there is only one station in Canada that’s any farther north than that.”

The PEARL team is led by James Drummond from Dalhousie University along with 17 other investigators from several universities across the nation that include Western, Toronto, Waterloo, New Brunswick, Saskatchewan, Sherbrooke, York University, as well as Environment Canada.

The PEARL team has an extensive wish list of long-term scientific research to accomplish. To meet those ends, a large assortment of equipment is currently being installed at the facility. When completed, LIDARs, RADARs, spectrometers and radiometers will operate year round to survey the atmosphere.

The PEARL team will probe the interrelated geo-physical, climate and biological processes as well as studies to understand the cultural, social, economic and health aspects in the Polar regions.

The troposphere is the bottom layer of the atmosphere where our weather occurs. This layer is also where pollutants such as “bad” ozone (which contributes to the formation of photochemical smog) and greenhouse gases accumulate.

Use of the term photochemical smog may seem out of place in reference to the Arctic, but the combination of gravity waves, winter temperatures and darkness allow pollutants to settle over the region. By late winter, the process has concentrated these pollutants to a degree that an arctic haze develops. At the time of polar sunrise, photochemical smog similar to that seen in Los Angeles appears.

Research at PEARL will see if the source of the arctic haze can be determined and how it interacts with the low-temperature areas of the planet. Already, PEARL is generating data along this front. One of the LIDAR has already detected a smoke layer generated from the many forest fires that plagued Northern Saskatchewan in July. As promising as the early results are, the equipment won’t be totally in place and online until March of 2007.

When it comes to global warming, most people are familiar with substances such as carbon dioxide and methane being greenhouse gases. However, for molecules larger than that, the data is less clear.

As a consequence, the team will investigate the mixture of aerosols, clouds and arctic “diamond dust” which is made up of miniscule crystals of ice suspended in the air. “The largest uncertainties in global warming now are clouds and aerosols,” says Sica. The answer to an elementary question such as whether clouds cause heating or cooling is unknown. Sica adds, “It’s that bad.”

PEARL will also examine the chemistry of the arctic skies. The team will probe the stratosphere (the layer above the troposphere) to see if the bromine chemistry is important to the “good” ozone relative to chlorine chemistry. Also, they will seek the impact of climate change on the future Arctic ozone depletion.

Finally, PEARL will investigate gravity waves and the coupling processes that occur near the pole. In his research at Western, Sica follows these internal breaking waves from seemingly inconsequential beginnings at about 10-20 kilometres above the Earth’s surface to rise and grow larger until they become 20-30 per cent of the background atmospheric variation in amplitude at roughly 100 kilometres above us.

The troposphere is coupled to the stratosphere such that the air lifts in the equatorial regions, travels toward the poles where it is colder and is forced back down into the lower atmosphere. Sica adds, “The energy that pumps these air masses towards the Pole comes from these breaking waves... These gravity waves are tied into weather on the surface. Not in a very direct way, but they are part of the overall process of understanding weather.”

PEARL offers the opportunity to find out what the dominant coupling processes are above Eureka.

The writer is a communications officer in the Faculty of Science.