More meteorite chunks discovered

BY JEFF RENAUD

With the national media focused on Grimsby, Ontario, a scientifically-fueled scavenger hunt – led by a team of Western researchers – has now produced three golf ball-sized fragments of meteorite from the small town nestled between Lake Ontario and the Niagara Escarpment.

“The response from the media and the people of Grimsby has really driven this hunt,” says Peter Brown, an associate professor in Western’s Department of Physics and Astronomy who specializes in the study of meteorites and meteorite falls.

“We are particularly appreciative of the cooperation of many landowners in the area who have allowed our research teams to have access to their property for searching.”

The meteor was captured on video by Western’s Southern Ontario Meteor Network (SOMN) on seven of its ‘all-sky’ cameras on Friday, Sept. 25. The astronomical event made headlines itself due to its brightness, estimated to be approximately 100 times brighter than a full moon.

The first meteorite fragment recovered was found with a significant loss – the windshield of a Nissan Pathfinder. When Tony Garchinski heard a loud crash just after 9 p.m. the night of the meteor flyby he didn’t think much of it. That is, until he awoke the next morning to find the windshield of his mom’s truck with a huge crack in it. Making note of the ‘unusual’ rocks he later found on the car’s hood, Garchinski chalked the incident up to vandalism and filed a police report.

It wasn’t until two weeks later that his mother, Yvonne Garchinski, heard media reports that researchers from Western were searching West Grimsby, Ont. for possible fragments of meteorite. Specifically, what.

The ‘what’ was a 46-gram (approximately the size of a golf ball) completely fusion-crusted (melted exterior) fragment of an ‘ordinary chondrite’ meteorite. Chondrites are arguably the most important type of meteorite because they are the least processed of meteorites and provide the real culprit was in the case of the broken windshield – or more specifically, what.

The bright flare of a falling meteor was captured Sept. 25 on Western ‘all sky’ cameras set up to record and track such events.

Watch the video
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Watch the video
agward.physics.uwo.ca/research/fireball/events/25sept2009/

Continued on page 5
John Lutman, Western Libraries, sits with alumnus and professor emeritus James Good at the Archives and Research Collections Centre (ARCC) where Good has donated several 19th century English literature books he collected over the years, including the ones they are holding.

**Tangible gifts enrich student experience**

James M. Good (BA’64, MA’65) has long loved the arts, and Western, and this is why he has given his alma mater some of his most prized possessions.

Good is not only a Western alumnus, but also a professor emeritus and former dean of the Faculty of Arts and Humanities. During almost 40 years on campus he was an avid collector of 19th century literature, most notably William Wordsworth and Samuel Taylor Coleridge first and early editions.

Since his retirement in 2000, Good has donated these texts to the Archives and Research Collections Centre (ARCC) at Western Libraries. However, while he was able to provide them with the first three editions of Wordsworth & Coleridge’s Lyrical Ballads, the 4th edition had been elusive. Until now.

When John Lutman, The James Alexander and Ellen Rea Benson Special Collections Librarian, recently told Good that he had tracked down the 4th edition in England, Good wasted no time in giving Lutman the money to purchase the two volumes to complete the set. The books will arrive at the ARCC in the next couple of weeks.

Lyrical Ballads is a collection of poems by Wordsworth and Coleridge, first published in 1798 and generally considered to have marked the beginning of the English Romantic movement in literature. Good says each edition is different and will allow graduate students and scholars a rare opportunity to study the differences.

Good and his wife Eva (BSc’N’65) have made numerous personal gifts to Western, as well as donations through his family’s foundation, Good Foundation Inc.

For instance, last year Good donated his Selmer bass saxophone to the Don Wright Faculty of Music. His family’s foundation provided funds to help renovate Conron Hall and the Talbot (Paul Davenport) Theatre, and to purchase a new projector for the Faculty of Arts and Humanities.

“Often little things can affect the quality of the student experience,” says Good. “In my case, I would hope that for certain music students to have tried a peripheral instrument like a bass sax is one plus in their Western education. The same would be true of a student of 19th century literature who might actually get to hold and look at Wordsworth’s work in the form a bass sax is one plus in their Western education. The same would be true of a student of 19th century literature who might actually get to hold and look at Wordsworth’s work in the form a bass sax is one plus in their Western education.”
Western sets ambitious United Way target

BY PAUL MAYNE

This year, United Way of London & Middlesex member agencies, numbering close to 40 and offering more than 80 programs, will count on the generosity of the local community.

With this past year’s economic downturn having hit the region hard, United Way agencies find themselves asked to assist a greater number of area residents.

The London and District Distress Centre has been swamped, receiving more calls this past year than in any of its 40-year history.

“The community, right now, requires support in a way that it hasn’t required in a long time,” says United Way CEO Andrew Lockie. “I have had the opportunity to be in the community and it’s striking to see the need that has been created because of our economic circumstances.”

Hoping to help the United Way attain their 2009 goal of $7.4 million, Western unveiled a campaign goal of $580,000 to a full house at The Spoke Oct. 16.

For seven years in a row Western has increased its United Way donation, last year bringing in a record-breaking $334,008. Western President Amit Chakma says Western has a strong tradition of supporting the local United Way campaign, and it is important to continue to play a leadership role.

“I’m proud to be part of such a caring organization, and I plan to continue my own tradition of giving to the United Way, which is something I have done for many years,” says Chakma, noting over the last 15 years, faculty, staff, retirees and students have raised a total of $5.7 million, making Western one of the largest organizational contributors in the city.

“Members of Western’s campus community and their family and friends have endured their own challenges over the past year, which is all the more reason why it is so important for those of us able to contribute, to do so,” adds Chakma.

“No gift is too small, every little bit helps. Your participation is what makes a difference.”

Julie McMullin, Associate Dean in the Faculty of Social Science, called on the campus to have an impact in the community.

“Now more than ever we need your help,” says McMullin, co-chair of Western’s United Way campaign with Malcolm Ruddock, Director of Employee and Advancement Communications. “You can make a real change in your community.”

United Way’s history with Western is long, proud and significant, says Lockie. One of the important messages he feels the university is carrying right now is that Western’s future is built on a strong tradition of generosity of the local community.

Showing off Western’s United Way goal of $550,000 are President Amit Chakma, campus United Way co-chairs Julie McMullin (faculty) and Malcolm Ruddock (staff), USC president Emily Rowe and Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry employee campaign coordinator Joan Estabrooks.

Digital outsourcing becomes new labour model

BY HEATHER TRAVIS

Most people are aware of the call centres in India, but few know just how far-reaching some services they access everyday have become, as information whips across countries, continents and time zones.

Women in Africa are monitoring security cameras stationed in California parking lots and U.S. doctors are sending MRI scans to India to be read by specialists. This is just the tip of the iceberg of the daily labour outsourcing of many companies.

Any job involving the processing of information that can be digitized can be carried out anyplace, says labour expert Ursula Huws. The ability to outsource work at a cheaper rate has changed the balance of power between workers and employers, she explains. Particularly during times of economic crisis, workers are forced to make concessions on hours and wages to keep their jobs local.

Outsourcing began before the internet boom, with one of the first cases being American Airlines shipping ticket stubs to Barbados in the 1970s for data processing, she says.

But it was expansion of the internet, a scare about the Millennial bug shutting down computers worldwide in 2000, and the switchover of European countries to the Euro currency that contributed to India’s position in the late 1990s as a mecca for data processing companies.

“That was a massive amount of quite routine programming work and so these Indian companies really did well out of that,” she says. Countries later began outsourcing more difficult work to India.

Now, India, China and Brazil are major world players. Those who once were recipients of outsourced work are now outsourcing to other countries.

“A lot of companies cannot afford not to outsource anymore anywhere,” says Huws. “This doesn’t mean necessarily that they will be done anywhere.”

The threat of jobs being outsourced has changed the balance of power between workers and employers, she explains. Particularly during times of economic crisis, workers are forced to make concessions on hours and wages to keep their jobs local.

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Letters to the Editor

Police Shouldn't Review Police

I just read on your website that with regard to the Wednesday evening arrest of a student, that the London Police would be used in investigating the event.

Well, I'm not sure what option Western has, but we have seen time and time again across this country that police investigating police never seems to be effective.

Kingsclear Youth Training Centre, the shooting death of Ian Bush, the shooting death of Kevin St. Arnaud, the in-custody death of Robert Dziekanski -- all show the gaming of the system that exists.

Yet another sad day and blight on London.

Fred Meikle
London

RESTRRAINT SHOWN

I personally would like to applaud the restraint shown by campus police. I’m sure the complaints of brutality are becoming a nightmare for you but after having watched the video, I see a few well-trained officers using proper Pressure Point Control tactics in trying to subdue an accused criminal.

It seems there are far too many people jumping on the “brutality” bandwagon saying they should have used tasers or pepper spray. I fully understand an officer's reluctance to use a taser because of the media nightmare that will follow and people just don’t seem to realize there is a huge liability risk in using pepper spray in any public area.

Again, I wanted to show my support to the officers involved and congratulate them on a job well done.

James Goyetch
Lockeport Fire Department, N.S.

Official Version At Odds With Spectator's

I am concerned the press release from the university on the recent arrest seems to justify the actions of the police. I, being a spectator at the scene of the arrest, disagree with this portrayal of the incident.

By focusing exclusively on the context of the situation, the university in seeking to establish the student as a culprit who deserved the force applied on him. I think many of us at Western and other spectators feel that the issue of "whether the amount of force applied was reasonable or not?” is contentious.

The following statement in particular “Our officers did what they needed to do to ensure that he and others around him were safe” given by Gitta Kulczycki seeks to establish a bias in the minds of the readers by subtly determining the force used was appropriate.

I think the reason students are appalled by this incident is not because there was a disoriented student on campus indulging in inappropriate behaviour, but was because of the way the situation was dealt with by the police. I strongly feel the university should be more aware of their statements and the underlying implications these statements may have in controversial situations, such as in this case.

Revika Dutta
Political Science, 4th year

Looking Back

From the Western News archives Oct. 22, 1998

Western joins the $14.5-million Canadian Arthritis Network. Research will include the faculties of Medicine & Dentistry and Engineering Science.

Both the Off-Campus Dons and the International/Exchange Programs will now be housed under The Centre for New Students.

The Grad Club celebrates its 30th anniversary by offering a needs-based bursary to four graduate students valued at $500 per year. A lot has changed since the Society of Graduate Students began serving a Happy Hour on Fridays in 1968.

Henna tattoos are part of the United Way’s appeal. Visit the UCC this Thursday to attend the “Body Art Session.”

2,474 parking spaces are assigned to students on campus, just one of many facts available from Western Facts 1998 which is available online.

“Finally you can... Drink a cold beer or sip a glass of wine while you munch on goodies at the complimentary Nacho Bar. Lucy’s, Somerville House. Tuesday-Friday 4-6pm” reads the advertisement.

- Compiled by Joshua Safer

Verbatim

An occasional look at reports on higher education

Over the last 20 years demand for postsecondary graduates has driven all of Canada’s employment growth. Indeed the number of jobs filled by university graduates more than doubled between 1990 and 2008. Over the last year, in the midst of this deep recession, there were 46,000 additional jobs for university graduates as compared to $30,000 fewer jobs in the rest of the labour force.

Presentation by AUC President Paul Davidson to the Canadian Senate committee on Social Affairs, Science and Technology – Oct. 7, 2009.

Meteorite offers wealth of information

Continued from page 1

We don’t have to spend huge sums of money to send a spacecraft to get the sample.

“We’ve worked out the orbit, where it came from, so it becomes a material within context. It’s like a geologist who can pick up a rock which may be interesting, but if you know where it came from, that context, it means so much more. Most meteorites, we don’t have the context. This one we do.”

Yvonne Garchinski has loaned the pristine meteorite sample to Western but it remains her property as meteorites found in Canada belong to the owner of the land upon which they are discovered.

The Garchinski property is a mere 200 metres off the fall line of the meteorite the Western Meteor Physics Group calculated using data from its video, radar and sound detection systems and thanks in large part to this research – along with a lot of luck – two more meteorite fragments have been found.

The second meteorite was found by the Western team not far from the Garchinski home but the land owner wishes to remain anonymous. The third fragment was found Oct. 16 by professional meteorite hunter Mike Farmer (meteoriteguy.com) on the side of a road in West Grimsby.

The Western-led search continues and both Brown and McCausland believe more fragments will be found.

Burton, Stiller inducted into Hall of Fame

A. C. Burton, founder of the Department of Medical Biophysics and Calvin Stiller, transplantation pioneer, have been named as 2010 inductees for the Canadian Medical Hall of Fame.

They are among six individuals named to the Hall for 2010 and will join 76 laureates who have previously been inducted for pushing the boundaries of knowledge to improve human health.

Burton began his career as a high school physics teacher before immigrating to Canada at the age of 23 and becoming a graduate student in physics at the University of Toronto. Considered a founding father of modern biophysics and a pioneer in interdisciplinary health research, Burton was a brilliant scientist and superb raconteur who had a profound effect on those he encountered.

Burton’s PhD work, including the heating of electrolytes by microwaves (then of great medical interest), marked his entry into the world of biology. He pursued postdoctoral studies at the University of Rochester, NY (1932-1934) and the University of Pennsylvania (1934-1939), and returned to Canada after the outbreak of World War II.

In 1945, Burton was recruited to The University of Western Ontario where he founded the first Department of Biophysics in a Canadian medical school and led the department from 1948-1970. Awarded the Member of the Order of the British Empire for contributions during the war, Burton served as president of the American Physiological Society, Biophysical Society and the Canadian Physiological Society. He was also named to the Academy of Canada’s Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons - an honor that would have been unparalleled in his time.

Burton was a founder of the Biophysics Laboratory and named their CFU-funded biophysics laboratory the Alan C. Burton Laboratory for Vascular Research in his honour.

Stiller was Canada’s major voice in organ transplantation during the 1970s, 1980s and early 1990s when the field transformed from a risky experimental undertaking to a reliably successful venture. It was Stiller who, in the late 1970s, obtained the promising new drug Cyclosporine and organized its first multi-centre clinical trial in kidney transplantation in North America, creating the foundation for subsequent studies that put Canada on the world stage.

Cyclosporine remains today as the drug of choice to combat tissue rejection after transplantation. It was responsible for the controversial but groundbreaking research that showed cyclosporine, an immunosuppressant, could halt the progression of Type 1 Diabetes – demonstrating it was an immune disorder.

In a lifetime, an individual might be successful in creating one institution or program. Stiller has been the architect of many, including The Canadian Medical Hall of Fame, Robarts Research Institute, Ontario Institute for Cancer Research, MaRS, and the Stiller Centre.

From 1984 to 1996, he established and led the Multi-Organ Transplant Service (MOTS) at London Health Sciences Centre’s University Hospital, the first of its kind in Canada and one of the first in the world. During this time, Stiller had a remarkable run as a crusader for organ donation and the organ donor card, and popularized, if not coined, the term “Gift of Life.”

Convinced there was a serious lack of capital available to Canadian bioscientists, he honed his idea of involving the private sector in stimulating a real Canadian-grown life sciences industry. Accordingly, he built four venture funds – the largest being Canadian Medical Discovery Fund – that served as the catalyst for biotechnology in Canada and developed early-stage investments in discoveries coming out of universities.

A recipient of numerous prestigious awards and honours, Stiller is a Member of the Order of Canada and the Order of Ontario, and has received the Queen’s Jubilee Award. Recognized for Life Time Achievement by the Canadian Society of Transplantation, he also holds three honorary doctorate degrees, including one from Western.

Other 2010 inductees include: William A. Cochrane; Phil Gold; James C. Hogg; and Vera Peters.

The ceremony will be held in Calgary on April 13.
Mayer, Rorabeck to receive degrees

Continued from page 1

reputation of the orchestra within the city and across the country.
Mayer has conducted in the past several years the philharmonic orchestras of Hungary, Israel, Slovakia, Belgrade, Brabant, Sofia and the Northern German Radio in Hannover, the Budapest, Maastricht, Odense, Montreal, Utah, Honolulu, SABC Johannesburg, NHK Tokyo and Osaka Symphonies, the London Mozart Players and English Symphony Orchestra.

A resident of Toronto, Mayer appeared regularly from 1996 to 2003 as guest conductor for the National Ballet of Canada and led many productions including Tales of Arabian Nights, Swan Lake and The Nutcracker.

Rorabeck, who will receive a Doctor of Science, honoris causa (D.Sc.), is a professor emeritus and former chair of Orthopaedic Surgery at Western and London Health Sciences Centre.

He has served as president of the Canadian Orthopaedic Research Society, the Canadian Orthopaedic Foundation and the Canadian Orthopaedic Association. He currently serves as Council Chair for the Roberts Research Institute, where his commitment to advancing research and improving human health continues to benefit the London community.

Friends and family of University of Western Ontario students unable to attend this year’s autumn convocation will be able to experience it from the comfort of their homes.

Western is offering a live video feed of each ceremony in its entirety. The video will be linked from the main home page at uwo.ca.

Magazine Art

This is no ugly duckling. Intricately folded pieces of recycled magazine paper create a beautiful swan on display in the University Community Centre atrium during EnviroWeek at Western Oct. 19-23.

The swan, made by the Paper Art Club, shows how ordinary materials can be recycled into detailed pieces of art.

SENATE

SENATE REJECTS REPRESENTATION FOR UWOSA

The president of Western’s staff association will not have a seat at Senate, even as an observer.

A motion to provide representation was defeated 33 to 18, with five abstentions.

Senate’s Operations/Agenda committee recommended against representation, saying those who have observer status represent groups whose primary role is with academic policies, regulations and programs. While some UWOSA members work directly in academics, many work in areas that are not academic.

Undergraduate Program Assistant in Kinesiology Arzie Chant says staff members play a variety of roles on campus. While Chant is one of two staff members currently on Senate, he feels it wouldn’t be proper for either to speak on behalf of the entire association.

“Staff have a unique role and interaction with students and faculty,” he says, noting issues have come before Senate where staff would have liked to present their views.

“We want to be actively involved and share our knowledge. We feel our role is equally integral to the success of the university.”

POLICE INCIDENT

President Amit Chakma expressed his gratitude to Senate members for taking a “balanced view” of what happened during an arrest by campus and London police of a Western student Oct. 14.

“I am not one to rush into judgment over a video,” says Chakma, who was out of town the day of the occurrence. “I am not satisfied I know everything at this stage, but I am pleased that we are not painting this institution with a broad brush. Things happen – good and bad – and this was an unfortunate incident.”

Gitta Kulczycki, Vice-President (Resources & Operations) says it is standard procedure at London Police that when force is involved in restraining an individual, an automatic review is conducted and adds Western will certainly cooperate fully.

The student has been charged with mischief, resisting arrest, assault, and escaping custody.

REMEMBRANCE DAY

Following the September Senate meeting, a notice of motion requesting the suspension of classes, exams and evaluations on Nov. 11 (Remembrance Day) each year from 10:30 – 11:20 was forwarded to the Senate Committee on Academic Policy and Awards (SCAPA).

Feeling there wasn’t sufficient time to consult the university community on the issue, SCAPA deferred consideration until further input could be received.

However, the campus community is reminded of the current Senate policy with respect to two minutes of silence between 11 a.m. and noon.

NEW SCHOLARSHIPS AND AWARDS

Senate has approved the following scholarships and awards:

■ The Bill Teng Hong Kong Scholarship will be awarded to an international student who is a permanent resident of Hong Kong and is entering the first year of any full-time undergraduate degree program with the exception of Ivey. This scholarship, valued at $2,500, is made possible by Bill Teng (BA Economics ’79) who is affiliated with the Alumni Association’s Hong Kong Branch.

■ The Chorley & Bisset Ltd. Consulting Engineers Engineering Award will be awarded annually to a full-time student in second or third year of engineering, alternating between the Mechanical and Materials Engineering program and the Electrical and Computer Engineering program. The award, valued at $1,000, was established by Chorley & Bisset Ltd. Consulting Engineers.

■ The Richard C. Seewald Entrance Scholarship in Audiology will be awarded annually to a full-time student entering the first year of the audiology program in the School of Communication Sciences and Disorders. This scholarship, valued at $1,000, was established by an anonymous donor and by friends and colleagues of Richard Seewald, a leading international expert in pediatric audiology, particularly children’s hearing amplification fitting.

Correction

In an Oct. 15 article, the opinion of anti-nuclear activist Helen Caldicott on the use of nuclear isotopes in medicine was incorrectly presented. Caldicott says the isotopes can be made using a cyclotron, rather than by fissioning uranium.

Western News apologizes for the error.
Program ReConnects women with workforce

BY HEATHER TRAVIS

Laurie Lockington hit the pause button on her career as a project manager for Smart Technologies in 2002 to take on a full-time job at home with her children. Then after six years of full-time parenting, Lockington decided to shift gears and start working outside the home again. But after having been out of the game for so long, she needed a boost to get started.

“Women in a leadership role who have left the workforce may feel that they are losing ground by stepping away,” she says. “In reality, women often mature in their time away, develop other valuable skills, and with confidence can return at the same level or higher.”

Lockington is one of many women who have been helped by the ReConnect program at the Richard Ivey School of Business, which is offered in partnership with CIBC. Now in its second year, the program will be held from Oct. 26-30, followed by an intensive two-day extension and graduation in Toronto Nov. 16-17.

ReConnect is a program designed for women with managerial experience who have been out of the workforce for two to seven years. Women, now looking to re-enter the workforce, want to return at a level similar to where they left, namely in a leadership position. Like others who are going back to work after a parenting break, or who changed careers to pursue other interests, it can be a difficult transition.

“The goal of the program is to improve women’s confidence in going back into the workforce,” says Mary Heisz, faculty director of ReConnect.

for women to feel they have to prove themselves.

“They really want to go back into a managerial position and have less confidence when they stepped out because the work world has moved on,” says Heisz.

The program is not designed to teach women new skills, but rather help them brush up on skills they have already acquired. ReConnect updates women on changes in the field and refreshes networking and job search skills. Heisz says research has shown women often don’t return to the same type of job and are differentiating between getting a job and starting a career.

The program also helps women decide whether they are ready to return to the workforce and for some, the answer is no.

“This program is the perfect thing to remind you that you are very capable of being in a managerial position,” says Heisz. “This is a pretty big untapped market.”

After completing the 2008 program, Lockington feels she has confidence, and a better understanding of what she needs to be successful. Financial assistance is available for participants through a scholarship established by CIBC. The program costs $3,500 and a certificate is awarded at the end of the seven-day program.

Participants should have a post-secondary education and have professional experience at a managerial or executive level. For more information and to apply online visit reconnectyourcareer.ca or call 1-800-948-8548.

The current economic climate has created challenges for job-seekers, including many of the women involved in the ReConnect program.

“After six years of full-time parenting, I started investigating career options in London, and decided that I would need to ‘kick-start’ my job search,” says Lockington. “The ReConnect program seemed to offer exactly what I was looking for.

“I learned that I am not alone,” she adds. “Many women have left the workforce for a period and find it challenging to return. I learned that I still have the confidence I need to re-establish my career.”

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The Western Award of Excellence

RECOGNIZING THE EXCEPTIONAL CONTRIBUTIONS OF WESTERN STAFF

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

2010 Western Award of Excellence

Highlight the efforts of Western’s exceptional staff by submitting a nomination for the 2010 Western Award of Excellence.

Nominations for individuals and teams accepted until November 27, 2009.

Online nomination form at www.uwo.ca/pvp/recognition

Nicolina Ficca and Sandy Paiva - 2008 Recipients
Western ushers in new era of biofuels research

By Douglas Keddy

The University of Western Ontario opened a new $5-million biofuel facility Oct. 16 and unveiled the first sale of a university-developed farm harvester that turns agricultural byproducts into a material for creating fuels, chemicals and fertilizers.

John Milloy, Ontario Minister of Research and Innovation, led the official opening of the Institute for Chemicals and Fuels from Alternative Resources (ICFAR), located at Western’s Experimental Research Farm on Wonderland Road, north of London.

“There’s enormous global demand for sustainable biofuels and Ontario is in a strong position to seize this opportunity,” says Milloy.

Nearly 100 members of the farming community, industry, government, academics and politicians were on hand to open the facility designed to test the next generation biofuel technologies being developed by Western researchers.

WORLDiscoveries Executive Director Paul Paolatto announced the sale of the first Agri-therm mobile pyrolysis unit to the government of Mexico, though the University of Vera Cruz, for $1 million. WORLDiscoveries is the business development office for the university, Robarts Research Institute and Lawson Health Research Institute.

Paolatto says more deals may be in the pipeline.

“We have more than 250 qualified leads around the world,” says Paolatto, adding “there is nothing more important to the team at Agri-therm than to assist with a deal that says ‘Made in London, ON.’”

The portable unit can be hauled from one farm field to the next to process waste such as wheat stalks into a solid bio-char and bio-oil.

This material then becomes an eco-friendly ingredient in fertilizers, fuels and chemicals, including environmentally friendly insecticides and pesticides.

The patented mobile pyrolysis unit has been undergoing testing and revisions for the past several years. Pyrolysis uses heat to break down complex chemical substances into simpler substances.

ICFAR is also expected to house two new energy-related research chairs and provide workspace for visiting scientists and students from Canada and abroad.

The new research facility, led by Engineering professors Franco Berruti and Cedric Briens, will help place Ontario at the forefront of global biofuel research.

The institute received $5 million from the province last July, and has already created eight new jobs while allowing 20 graduate students to pursue research leading to Masters and PhD degrees.

“I thank the Government of Ontario for its vision and commitment to world-leading research in facilities like ICFAR,” says Western President Amit Chakma.

“Investments in researchers and knowledge creation, technology transfer and commercialization are taking place at universities through institutes like ICFAR and will result in new industrial collaborations, the creation of new long-term jobs and a more diversified green economy in southwestern Ontario.”

The facility has generated huge interest in the local agricultural community.

“More sustainable biofuels is good news for Ontario farmers and good news for our families,” says Maria Van Bommel, MPP for Lambton-Kent-Middlesex. “It means a cleaner, healthier environment, and sustainable innovation-based jobs for rural Ontario.”

Student depression rises in December

By Heather Travis

As stress levels from exams and mid-term increases in December, so does the rate of university students experienc- ing symptoms of depression, says scientist Paul Tremblay.

Tremblay, an adjunct research professor in the Department of Psychology at The University of Western Ontario and scientist at the Centre for Addiction and Mental Health, says academic pressures ramp up in December, stress levels affect the mental health of university students, particularly women.

Tremblay is among several researchers involved in a Three-Year Diary-Longitudinal Study of University Students’ Depressive Symptoms. Results were presented during the Canadian Research Data Centres Network Conference on Health over the Life Course, held at Western Oct. 15-16.

“I was interested in the rela- tionships between depressive symptoms, drinking and aggres- sion in university student popula- tions,” he says, adding the study examined the potential psychological influence of drinking on depression.

With many students leaving home for the first time, facing an intensive academic environment and the challenges of finding a balanced life outside of university, life can be overwhelming and wreak havoc on one’s mental health.

Each year, 9.5 per cent of U.S. adults experience a mood disorder, including major depression, says Tremblay, noting the statistics are similar in Canada. Seventeen out of every 100 people will experience depression in their lifetime and research has shown women are twice as likely as men to experience depression.

The study began in 2006 and followed a group of students recruited in their first year at Western through their first three years of study. The students submitted 26 weekly diary entries, followed by 24 monthly entries over a three-year period. These entries reported the students’ depressive symptoms and other measures of drinking and conflict situations during that time period.

The study was completed earlier this year. The strongest trend was an initial decrease in reported depression symptoms in the first part of the semester, but a different picture was painted at the end of the semester.

“One of the major trends was an increase in December in the mid-term exams,” says Tremblay.

“We are thinking maybe stressful time periods would increase depression scores (measuring severity) and there is a bit of an increase.

Females are much higher than males,” he says, adding throughout the study women scored about two points higher, or reported more severe symptoms of depression.

He notes there were females who showed an overall increase in depression over the three years. Although the study did not show major effects attributed to particular times of year, there are small effects, such as in December with exams.

“We are concerned about that and why that does happen,” he says, noting future research will explore what influences these depression trajectories, including drinking and conflict situations.

The study’s results could be used for planning interventions when students are most in need.

In addition to those who are university-aged, the conference touched on all stages of life, from childhood and adolescence, through young adulthood and later life stages, to the aging population.

Researchers from universities throughout Canada and the United States.

In a last-minute change to the lineup, Sylvain Segard, Director General of Canada’s Centre for Health Promotion, offered the keynote address.

Segard spoke about the role of public health in understanding the impacts of physical, social environments on health, to provide leadership on healthy aging and building better lives and better workplaces. He discussed the challenges ahead for public health with a large aging population and major risk factors affecting the health of children, including socio-economic status and development opportunities; abuse and neglect; prenatal risks; mental health and disorders; obesity; and unintentional injuries.

More information on the conference is available at rdc.uwo.ca/conference2009.
Sunrise ceremony opens Student Services

By Heather Travis

Ronna Harris, former Vice-Provost (Academic Programs and Students) [Registrar], held back tears as she looked around the Student Services Building during the opening ceremonies on Oct. 16.

The University of Western Ontario opened its new $21-million four-storey building, located on the south flank of the University Community Centre, which provides one-stop convenience for all students.

The home for numerous student services, including the Registrar’s Office, Financial Aid, International Student Services, Services for Students with Disabilities, and Indigenous Services, brings many essential services under one roof for the first time in many years.

“I feel completely choked up to see this active today,” says Harris.

In her previous role, Harris advocated for a facility that would improve service access for students, promote co-ordination between staff within different units and improve working conditions. “This building is a culmination of that goal,” she says.

Seeing a lineup of students waiting outside Room 190 in the Stevenson-Lawson building, which used to house student services, was anything but the picture of an efficient work environment, she notes.

“There was a very obvious lack of co-ordination that often resulted in extreme frustration for our students and for the members of our support staff,” she says, adding the office spaces were small, cramped and didn’t offer adequate privacy.

She is “delighted” the new facility is supported by the aboriginal community.

The opening ceremonies included a sunrise ceremony led by Richard Assinewe, an elder from Anishinawbek Ojibwe Nation. A tipi was erected in front of the entrance to the new building and dancers from all nations, including the Nimitaa Children’s Dance Troupe, featuring students from Antler River Elementary School of Chippewa of the Thames First Nation, led Western President Amit Chakma, other university administrators, students, faculty and staff into the building.

In the tradition of gift-giving, Chakma was “wrapped in cloth,” a leather and beaded jacket, by Assinewe during the ceremony. A gift of cloth is symbolic of a new beginning.

An indigenous architect was involved in the design process and many key elements of the building, including the amount of natural light, the swirling black waves in the concrete outside the building which mimics water and a compass design on the floor of the Indigenous Services office incorporate indigenous culture into the building.

“I think we are working together in a different kind of way, we have a closer proximity to one another and I think it’s bringing about different types of ideas, especially on how we can better serve our students,” says John Doerksen, current Vice-Provost (Academic Programs and Students) [Registrar].

“As a student here at Western, it is so phenomenal to see a building like this. To have all the student resources in a centralized location, easy for students to access in an unintimidating environment, it truly is a huge asset here to Western,” adds University Students’ Council President Emily Rowe.

Chu centre welcomes all

By Paul Mayne

Georgette Stubbs’ first week at Western definitely stands out – it was also her first week in Canada. The Nassau, Bahamas native is now a third-year Bachelor of Management and Organizational Studies student and has nothing but praise for the new Dr. David S. H. Chu International Student Centre, located in the $21-million Student Services Building that opened officially last week.

“This new place is absolutely stunning and it will allow us to grow and expand,” says Stubbs, an international student peer guide.

“I’ve always enjoyed going to student services and meeting people from all over the world and experiencing their culture,” she says. “This has given me a different perspective on my own culture.”

The glass-enclosed centre, located on the second floor, was created through a $1-million donation from the Chu family to support Western’s goal of increasing international student enrolment, consolidating international student services and providing a premier location for hosting cultural events and visiting dignitaries.

The centre offers much-needed space not only for international students, but the entire campus community, says Western President Amit Chakma.

“The Chu family gift is another great example of the transformative power of philanthropy, and one that will make a difference for generations to come in helping Western educate the world’s future leaders,” says Chakma.

David Chu is co-founder, with his son Ken, of the Mission Hills Group - the largest golf complex in the world - based in Hong Kong.

Ken is a Western alumnus who graduated with a BA in Administrative and Commercial Studies in 1996, fast-tracking his studies and completing his degree in just two years, before returning to China to get involved with his family’s business. In recognition of his reputation as a business leader, Western presented Ken with an honorary degree in 2007.

Although unable to make the trip to Western for the opening of the international centre, Ken shared his family’s appreciation to the university.

“It is an honour for me and my family to establish a platform where students at Western can gather, exchange ideas, and share a common international perspective,” says Ken. “Western gave me the skills and knowledge I needed to succeed in business globally, and with the establishment of the Dr. David S. H. Chu International Centre, this is my opportunity to help make a difference for students, from around the world, at the Western campus.”

A matching $1-million donation from the family has also led to the creation of a series of graduate awards and the Dr. David S. H. Chu Public Administration program in China.

For students at selected universities in China, the non-credit program will enrich their studies through a series of lectures, workshops and visits to Canada developed by Western’s Department of Political Science.

As well, there is the creation of new scholarships and faculty fellowships for Chinese students and scholars who choose to pursue studies in Public Administration at Western, along with supporting new research focused on local government involving partnerships between Western and academics at Chinese universities.

John Doerksen, Vice-Provost (Academic Programs and Students) [Registrar], says the centre will help the university to internationalize its curriculum and classrooms.

“When I think about this place (the Chu centre) I think about all the international students that will visit us from countries around the world,” says Doerksen.
Not getting lost in translation

By Paul Mayne

Julia Bickford’s advice for incoming graduate students is to take time for non-academic activities. With all the unexpected glitches that will crop up in academic life, it just helps to keep things in perspective.

Bickford is the perfect example of someone focused on priorities. Her initial research had been in science and technology studies, with a focus on the study of pre-implantation genetic diagnosis, her fieldwork would have taken her to Montreal.

With a young daughter, she realized that was not going to be feasible for her. So without pause, Bickford re-focused and will now hone in on doing a comparative ethnography for her PhD research, exploring the construction of autism spectrum disorder (ASD) in a genetics laboratory and among individuals living with ASD.

“It’s the idea of translation that I’m interested in,” says Bickford. “So if you think of a scientist in a lab, they have a whole bunch of different actors: a gene, a particular technology, the scientists themselves, and they’re all influencing this thing called autism.”

Following ASD as it travels from the laboratory out onto the street and into the lives of people who live with it, she will trace the networks of people, technologies, and ideas that shape it – with her fieldwork taking place over 6-12 months.

“By describing the networks within which ASD exists, I hope to offer a slightly different way of understanding and conceptualizing the process of translation between basic science and lay people,” she says. She adds you also have the clinic, which has different actors. You may have different tests for testing children with autism or clinicians instead of scientists.

“So the notion of translation is looking at which actors are the same, which actors are different and looking at how that whole process works; how translation as a process works,” says Bickford. “Autism itself is constructed differently depending where you are, whether you’re in a lab, or in a clinic.”

Following her undergraduate degree at Western, Bickford left for Calgary to work on her master’s degree in Medical Anthropology. Upon completion in 2004, she applied her skills as a full-time research co-ordinator for three years before re-starting her schooling to earn her PhD in Health and Professional Education in the Health and Rehabilitation Sciences program.

Taking time off after the birth of her daughter, Bickford is now in her second year of studies and thrilled to be back.

“I absolutely love it,” she says. “I’m really interested in the chance to read and write. It’s so fortunate to be an academic. I’m feeling so happy I made this choice to come back.”

Helping with that decision was a three-year Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council scholarship of $35,000 per year. It has allowed her to focus heavily on her research and not need to teach for extra money, which in turn has benefited her family life.

While still honing in on a specific research question Bickford anticipates some interesting findings using the actor network theory.

“It’s the process I’m interested in, and not necessarily a value judgment as to one’s better than the other, it’s more the process of how the translation actually takes place between the clinic and the lab,” she says.

“It’s not prescriptive but rather descriptive, the process of how it takes place. I’m hoping to describe the process of translation,” adds Bickford. “In knowledge translation it is really a humanist perspective of looking at the human processes of translation, whether it’s translating a piece of evidence into a clinic, but also taking into perspective the social context of that clinic, so maybe the routines or the interests or the values or the culture.”

Bickford notes what the actor network theory adds is instead of just looking at the human processes, it also takes into consideration the non-human things such as genes themselves or technology.

“The real interest I have is looking at that process of translation, so how is autism translated from the lab, where someone is looking at a gene – really at the micro-level – to the clinic where you have this person that is sitting in front of you and you have a whole different slew of factors that are entangled in that matrix.”

“The value of descriptive studies - and it is probably undervalued more in an age where we want a right or wrong answer – is it raises questions or consciousness about the process of translation which people may not be aware of in their day-to-day life.”

While interested, Bickford doesn’t want to limit herself to simply a post-PhD teaching career. She very much enjoys pursuing her research, which could possibly be an area of future interest as well.

“Don’t be too invested in one particular idea,” she says. “If you’re too focused on one particular outcome in the future, it may preclude other ideas from filtering in.
How I rediscovered my love of learning

BY VIRGINIA BURNS

They say confession is good for the soul. Now I’m really more of a private kind of person, but what the heck. My soul could probably use some help, so maybe I’ll try a little confession to see if it works. Just to make it a fair test I’ll make sure it’s a good one too. Here goes – I was a (gasp!) high school dropout.

Oh yes, at the wise old age of 16 I calmly informed my parents that I wouldn’t be going back to school anymore. Coming from a long line of high school dropouts I was quite smug about it too…

and saw the posters advertising training initiatives to place women in non-traditional careers it burst into the sunlight and took off running. Sort of like kudzu. You know – that vine that took over the south?

Anyway, I met with the counselor, took their battery of tests, and discovered that I was highly suited to two specific career areas: psychology and computer science. Hello? What the heck do science, I intended to study physics and computer science. Funny thing happened on the way to the forum, though. I took Dr. Mike’s introductory psychology course – Super Psych – and was totally hooked, even while I had to laugh at my younger self for the preconceptions that had set me so solidly against it. Unfortunately life got in the way right about then but it’s still in the back of my mind.

Remember that kudzu? It’s totally rampant now. I’ve pursued studies in all manner of different courses and programs, taught myself a few things through self-study and research, and have an ever-growing list of things I would like to learn more about. In fact, the longer I live the more questions I have that I want to find answers to.

Oh – about confession being good for the soul? I think it really works. I feel like I could take anything right now, maybe even something like criminal psychology/psychopathology. Now there’s something with a lot of questions!

The writer is a technical specialist for Institutional Planning and Budgeting, Western Information Systems Group.
Haves, have nots and digital divides

By CONAL PIERSE

With the volume up and a blank tape poised in the VCR, Heather Hill would watch MTV at her father’s house in Kansas City, Missouri, her finger hovering over the record button, waiting for the right song. Her love for K-pop and the hole in her life where it might fill her might have gone into library science, “I've always thought it was a little bit about everything,” and enjoyed finding information for people, whether it was a professor doing research or a child carrying a bag of dead bugs.

Marc Kosciejew, a library sciences doctoral candidate at Western, says Hill is always willing to give him advice on teaching and future prospects.

“She’s been most illuminating, insofar as career decisions are concerned,” said Kosciejew, who met Hill at a conference in January 2009. He was nervous about a presentation he was about to give. The flustered Kosciejew was directed to Hill, who was walking the hotel hallways barefoot, carrying her high heel shoes after a long day.

“She was very warm, helpful, and engaged,” said Kosciejew.

“I've lived in rural areas where there isn't good (internet access), and there's an assumption that you should have access,” said Hill. She finds that policy based around such false beliefs are alienating rural communities, and affecting the ability of the poor to access government programs, some of which are only available online.

Hill witnessed many of these problems first-hand in her home state of Missouri, where she met her husband of 11 years, Travis Hrabak. Hill credits her husband with helping her cope with the stresses of her graduate and doctoral programs. It was also with his support that Hill loaded their two dogs and two cats into a car and drove a cramped and sweaty 14 hours to London, Ont.

Living far from home has been difficult, but Hill has done her best to keep her surroundings friendly. Her office is decorated with paintings and cloth wall hangings – all gifts from her mother-in-law that add a comfort to the hotel hallways.

Hill’s passion for facilitating learning in the general public has led her to research how public policy and internet access affect an individual's ability to access libraries and information.

In particular, Hill is focused on the digital divide – the gap between those who are able to access information online and those who can't. “I've lived in rural areas where there isn't good (internet access), and there's an assumption that you should have access,” said Hill.

The writer is a graduate student studying journalism.

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Student publishes book, CD with Gordon Pinsent

By Janis Wallace

Creativity runs in Jason Noble’s blood. It also runs in his family bloodline.

He is a second-year master’s composition student at Western, but his artistic output isn’t limited to notes. He’s a published author as well as composer. This summer, he attended a book signing where people lined up for autographs and the media came out in force.

His book, The Stupendous Adventure of Gregory Green, could also be the stupendous adventure of Jason Noble. The adventure started with an idea to engage children in reading and music, with an underlying moral about the environment. “I remember being young and loving a good story, lively music and lots of colours and pictures,” he said.

He also participated recently in children’s theatre and was struck by the fact that children still love those things, despite the dubious role models on MTV, the abundance of high-tech toys and violent video games. “Kids still want good to triumph over evil.”

Noble taught piano, theory and pinsent, many with several

He wrote about Gregory saving the forest from becoming a dump, and the domain of the troll monsters Sawtooth, Sludge and Smog. “Gregory has a choice to run and save himself or save the forest,” said Noble. “The trolls’ greed is saving where people lined up for autographs and the media came out in force.

Herbert elected to Institute of Medicine

Dean Carol Herbert, of the Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry at The University of Western Ontario, has been elected to Foreign Associate membership in the Institute of Medicine (IOM) of the National Academies.

The IOM is renowned for its research program, but it’s also an honorific organization with more than 1,700 members and foreign associates who donate their time to work for the public’s health.

Members are elected by the incumbent members on the basis of professional achievement and of demonstrated interest, concern and involvement with problems and critical issues that affect the health of the public.

“It is an honour to be elected to the Institute of Medicine,” says Herbert. “The members’ collective dedication to improving the health and lives of people around the world is admirable, and I look forward to working with them on upcoming projects.”

Members are elected for their professional achievement in a field relevant to the IOM’s mission and for their willingness to participate actively in its work. They represent the health care professions as well as the natural, social, and behavioural sciences, as well as law, administration, engineering, and the humanities.

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TRACKING LITERACY
Marc Joannis, of the Department of Psychology, will be featured in Empire of the Word, a new four-part TVO documentary airing Wednesdays Nov. 25 – Dec. 16 at 10 p.m. on TVO. The program tracks the origins of the written word and its impact on 5,000 years of human history. Joanisse appears in episode 2 (“Learning to Read”), which explores how the human mind learns to read. Joanisse believes the experiences of patients such as Toronto novelist Howard Engel (who, after a stroke, can still write, but can’t read) will help us find meaning beyond the mechanics of word recognition.

MALLA READING OCT. 30
Canadian author Pasha Malla will hold a reading Oct. 30 at The Grand Hall at Windermere Manor in the Research Park. Books will be available for purchase and signing after the event, which begins at 7:30 p.m. Malla, winner of the 2009 Trillium Award for Fiction, will read from his short story collection, The Withdrawal Method. For information contact Christine Walde, Writer-in-Residence at Windermere Manor at 519-886-1414 ext. 441.

BREAK A PLATE
Feel like just breaking something? The folks in engineering have a way to channel that aggression. With all support going to the United Way, $5 will allow any person to throw a tennis ball three times at breakable plates. The breakathon takes place Nov. 13 at noon in the Structures Lab of Thompson Engineering. Also wanted – plate donations. No glass; be sure they break cleanly. Leave donations with Brigitte in TEB 279, 9 a.m.-4 p.m.

NATIONAL LITERACY STRATEGY PROPOSED
Low literacy skills cost Canada billions of dollars a year. A recent report from the Western-based Canadian Language and Literacy Research Network says raising the literacy proficiency of Canadians would increase tax revenues by $11 billion a year and save $5 billion/year in unemployment and social assistance payments. Researchers say 42 per cent of Canadian adults struggle with literacy. The text and summary versions are available at http://nselwiki.cllrnet.ca.

SPEAKER
Harvard University’s Richard Losick, a professor of microbial development and gene regulation, will speak Oct. 26, 10-11:30 a.m. at University Hospital, Aud. A. The 2009 Gairdner International awardee will speak on ‘Developmental Biology of a Bacterium.’ The talk will be presented by the Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry.

GET CREATIVE
Faculty and staff can enter an online photo contest. Student Services is looking for new perspectives of campus spaces, places and spirit. There are cash prizes; photos may be used in a publication or website. Deadline: Nov. 1. See rules at https://studentservices.uwo.ca/secure/PhotoContest/
COMING EVENTS

October 22
Workshop: Ensuring Open Access to Your Research—Learn how to ensure your published research will be openly available online. Discuss issues related to open access publishing. Keith Logom, Taylor Library 9 – 9:50 a.m. Please register in advance at lib.uwo.ca/scholarship/openaccessregistration.pdf

Modern Languages and Literatures—Comparative Literature Research Forum Keynote lecture “The Difficulty of Being Human” Angela Catea, University of Toronto, Department of French UC, 224a, 13:00 – 12:30 p.m.

Department of Classical Studies—Kendall Sharp, Western. “The Civil Status of a Contradiction in Plato’s Protagoras” Talbot College 403. 1:30 – 2:30 p.m.

Department of Physics and Astronomy—Mic Public Lecture: Niko Beres, “Active and passive radio wave observations of lightning” Physics & Astronomy 123. 1 p.m.

Autumn Convocation—Alumni Hall, 3:30 p.m.

Centre for Research on Migration and Ethnic Relations Colloquium—Audrey Kobayashi, Queen’s University. “Doing Collaborative Community-Based Research. On the ground in Kingston” Room 5220, Social Science Bldg. 4 – 5:30 p.m.


Student Seminar Series—Afghanistan and Pakistan, continuing from previous discussions of nationalism, western imperialisation and capitalism. Somerville House, Room 3355. 7 – 9 p.m. Contact: matthias.yeganad@gmail.com

Men’s Hockey—Windsor Western. 7:30 p.m.

King’s University College—Religious Life Lectors Series—Sibling Anne Kathleen McGlaughlin, GCJC. “‘Jilian of Norwich: Soul Friend for Our Time” Elizabeth A. “Bessie” Labatt Hall. Free admission, parking. kings.uwo.ca/campus_ministry/lecture_series/

October 23
Brescia University College—Annual Breakfast for Bursaries. Featuring Executive Director of War Child Canada, Samantha Nuth. London Convention Centre 7 – 9 a.m. $75 per ticket (buffet breakfast included) Visit: brescia.uwo.ca/giving/breakfast2009.html

Autumn Convocation—Alumni Hall, 10 a.m. and 3:30 p.m.

Don Wright Faculty of Music—Music from Spain and Argentina. John Paul Bracey, piano and Jennifer Moir, soprano. von Kuster Hall. 12:30 p.m.

Geography Speaker Series—George Lovelie, Queens University. “Telling Maya Tales: A Book, a Body, and Indigenous Viewpoints in Guatemala” SSC Room 2333. 3 p.m geography.uwo.ca/speaker-series/abstracts/20903.

Psychology Colloquium—Dennis Prouty, Psychology, U of Virginia. “Perception Vested as a Phenotypic Expression” Somerville House, Room 3354. 4 – 6 p.m. For more information: psych@ uwo.ca/speakers-week/oralthusabstracts/20903.

Reception follows.

Don Wright Faculty of Music – Old and New: The Wind Ensemble featuring guest conductor Mariy Thompson from Northwestern University. Paul Davenport Theatre. 8 p.m Call Orchestra London box office for tickets at 519-679-8778.

Modern Languages and Literatures—Spanish Film Series “La Vida es sibar” (Life is a Whistle) UC 30. 7:30 p.m.

October 24
Don Wright Faculty of Music – UWODBA Conducting Symposium. Mary Thompson, clinician. Music Building. 9:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Football—Toronto at Western. 1 p.m.

Women’s Soccer—Guelph at Western. 1 p.m.

Men’s Soccer—Guelph at Western. 3:15 p.m.

Women’s Hockey—Toronto Western. 4 p.m.

Exploring The Stars—Public Nights at The Hume Cronyn Observatory. An Open House is run the last Saturday evening of the month. No reservations required. View the skies through the telescope and pose your favourite questions to the astronomer hosting the evening. Contact: Ryan Marcincak at 519-661-2706 info@astronomy.uwo.ca. For further information regarding the Exploring the Stars, visit astro.uwo.ca/exploringthestars.

October 25
Women’s Soccer—York at Western. 1 p.m.

Women’s Volleyball—Toronto at Western. 1 p.m.

Women’s Hockey—York at Western. 2 p.m.


Women’s Volleyball—Toronto at Western. 3 p.m.

Men’s Soccer—York at Western. 3:15 p.m.

October 26
Faculty of Education Comparative and International Education Speaker Series. Andrew Leah, Western. “Managing productive international collaborations: Experiences in industrial, clinical and academic settings.” Faculty of Education, Room 1010 1 – 3 p.m.


Mechanical and Materials Engineering Graduate Student Seminar—Yu Zhang, “Synthesis and characterization of 10 and 2D nanomaterials.” Spencer Engineering Building, Room 206B. 2:30 p.m.

Don Wright Faculty of Music – UWO Singers present “Dances of Life.” von Kuster Hall. 12:30 p.m.

Conference Calendar

A regular feature on academic conferences in the coming term

October 31
6th Annual Labour Law Conference 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Hosted by Heenan Blaikie LLP and Western Law.

November 3-4
Digital Interactive Gaming London Conference This conference is held at the London Convention Centre and gives the public a chance to connect with Canada’s leading video game developers, publishers, technology companies, service providers and emerging talent. There are a total of nine key speakers, including Michael Katcha-saw from Western. Registration and dinner are an option. To register, visit: http://conf.djodjion. ca/index.php/djog/menu_link/home

November 6-7
OGCRC Annual Conference The Ontario Government Innovation & Research Consortium (OGCRC) 2009 Conference will feature plenary lecturer Wei Jia from the Center for Research Excellence in Bioactive Food Components at the University of North Carolina (greenband on “Metabolomics, Tool for Chinese medicinal Research”) Sessions will cover greening plant biotechnology and phytochemistry, pre-clinical studies using ginseng extracts for cardiovascular health, metabolic syndrome/diabetes, pulmonary and intestinal function; and advanced processing for new products. There will also be discussions of Natural Health Product (NHP); regulation, commerce and intellectual property (IP). issues. Visit www.uwo.ca/ogrc for agenda and registration, email ophr@uwo.ca or phone 519-850-2996 (x 82996).

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

November 20
Infection and Immunity Research Forum 9 a.m.-5 p.m. This conference, hosted by the Department of Microbiology and Immunology, is a one-day symposium on undergraduate, graduate and post-doctoral research pertaining to infection and immunity. Student oral and poster presentations, with a career development session. keynote Victor Niset, University of California, San Diego on “Exploring the Pathogen-Host Interface for Novel Therapeutic Strategies”. UH Aud. A. Deadline for registration and abstracts Oct. 16. www.uwo.ca/hen/irf/index.html

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

Send letters to the editor and opinion articles to newseditor@uwo.ca
Sifton
uwo.ca/FinancialServices/Bursaries.cfm
visit the Registrar's website at: www.registrar.uwo.ca/FinancialServices/Bursaries.cfm
The 2009-2010 online Financial Assistance application is now available to be considered for the autumn term. Applications can be found at www.sdc.uwo.ca/financial.

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. Check us out during our newly extended hours in room 639, SDB.

SDC's Indigenous Services
Please come by our new location in room 200J, WESB to find out about events and services. Look us up online at: www.sdc.uwo.ca/Indigenous.

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52 Walmer Gardens is located in downtown London, 2nd floor beside the Central Library.

Alternative Spring Break
Student applications for the Alternative Spring Break program are due Oct. 26. Information and applications can be found at www.asb.uwo.ca.

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.

Student Central
Student Central (formerly room 190) is now located in room 1120 of the new Western Student Services building attached to the UCC. Visit our office Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Wednesday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. We look forward to seeing you in our new location.

Visit us at studentservices.uwo.ca.

Academic

PhD Lectures
Rebecca Feldman – Medical Biophysics, Investigation, design, and integration of insert gradient coils in magnetic resonance imaging, Oct. 22, Room 1002, DSB, 1:30 p.m.
Edwin Price – Biology, The Effects of Dietary Fatty Acids on Avian Migratory Performance, Oct. 23, Room 117, NCB, 1 p.m.
Angela Conti-Becker – Health & Rehab Science, Imagining an Ideal for Children with Disabilities: An Aesthetic and Moral Analysis of Inner-City Children’s Play, Oct. 26, Room 1300, 10:30 – 12:30 p.m.
Jian Liu – Physics, Growth and Characterization of Hydrogen Sulfide Films, Oct. 27, Room 123, PAB 1 p.m.
Zhiqiang Liu – Civil and Environmental Engineering, Effects of Geometry on Vortex Shedding from Elongated Bluff Bodies, Oct. 27, WT, 1 p.m.
Yadav P. Khanal – Mechanical and Materials Engineering, Object-Oriented Automatic Frame- work for Human-Centered Creative Engineering Design, Oct. 28, Room 3002, SDB, 12:30 p.m.
Jason Townsend – Medical Biophysics, Assessing the Effect of Treatment on Solitary Dormant Metastatic Cells by MRI and Optical Imaging, Oct. 28, Room 2006, DSB, 12 p.m.

Please send submissions to newseditor@uwo.ca

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For Rent
Room available in 6-bedroom house, 3 minutes from Western large house, spacious rooms, friendly roommates. 2 full bathrooms/kitchen with dishwasher, living room with fireplace, sunroom and backyard, basement with laundry facilities. Close to public transport, malls, grocery stores and more. Email chmap009@gmail.com if interested. Rent is $375/month + utilities.

Close to Western, House for Sale or Rent, Gorgeous 3 bedroom 2 year old home in North West London for sale (596900) or rent $1000 + utilities. Call 519-675-0071 for more info visit www.propertywonder.com/46372 for pictures.

Bed and Breakfast
Halina Koch Bed & Breakfast, 250 Euphira. Share an artist’s home of white-washed walls and old beams in London North, patio fire-place and internet. Within walking distance of Western, LUC-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. Email: halinakoch@protonmail.ca. Visit: bblondon.ca

For Classifieds, call 519-665-2045 or send email to advertise@uwo.ca. Rates: faculty, staff and students - $15; others and services/commercial ads - $20. Beyond 35 words, please add 50 cents per word. Payment must accompany ads. Submit by 9 a.m., Thursdays to Western News, Suite 360, Westminster College. No refunds. Visit Classifieds Online at http://communications.uwo.ca/com/clas-sifieds_menu/

Careers
A central Web site displays advertisements for all vacant academic positions. The following positions are among those advertised at www.uwo.ca/professorialrelations/jobs/index.wts.shtml. Please review, or contact the faculty, school or department directly.

Full-time appointments
Richard Ivey School of Business - STRATEGY - Seeks candidates for a probationary (tenure-track) Assistant Professor or tenured Associate Professor appointment in the area of Strategy. The position is available to begin in July 2010. The successful candidate will have a PhD in Strategy or a related field and demonstrate a strong commitment to the practice of management in both teaching and research. Familiarity with the case method of teaching and the willingness to teach in Ivey’s unique undergradu- ate (IBBA) program is desirable. Non-tenured Limited Term, or Visiting appointments may also be considered. Submission deadline is Dec. 1, although applications will be accepted until the position has been filled. Please visit our website at www.ivey.uwo.ca/faculty/Career_Ops.htm

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 people and persons with disabilities.

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