Rorabeck gift bolsters new chair program

By Heather Travis

"We are more into supporting people than bricks and mortar."

These are the words of Dr. Cecil Rorabeck, who along with his wife Linda, demonstrated their commitment to investing in people at The University of Western Ontario on Friday through a $1 million donation to the university's matching funds program to support a newly developed endowed chairs program.

Rorabeck, one of the world's leading experts on hip and knee replacement surgery, is a professor emeritus and former Orthopedic Surgery chair at Western and London Health Sciences Centre. A Western graduate (MD '68), he received an honorary degree from his alma mater last October in recognition of the worldwide impact he has made in medicine, and his dedication to the community.

Rorabeck most recently served as interim Robarts Research Institute CEO and scientific director, overseeing its consolidation with Western, finalized in June 2007.

"The fact that we are able to do something in science, in particular, was very important to us," he says, noting the family has had an affiliation with Robarts for several years. "It's really because of that allegiance to Robarts that we decided to do this. We believe it to be a world-class institute."

The Rorabeck gift of $1 million will be combined with another donor's $500,000 bequest to the Schu- lich School of Medicine & Dentistry. This will create a total donation of $1.5 million, which will then be

Continued on page 6
The Distinguished University Professorship Award
Call for Nominations

The Distinguished University Professorship program is Western’s highest recognition of those who have built a record of excellence in all three of teaching, research and service over a substantial career at Western.

Recipients of the Professorships will receive the honorary title of Distinguished University Professor, an award of $10,000 to support scholarly activities and a citation to be presented at an appropriate occasion. Recipients will also be expected to deliver a public lecture. The number of Professorships is limited. Full details can be found at:

http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/senate/dist_univ_prof.pdf

Selection from among nominees will be made by a Senate elected committee. Nominations should include a letter describing the nominee’s qualifications for the award, a curriculum vitae and three letters of reference. Each letter should discuss the nominee’s fields of scholarship, and who can speak to the nominee’s achievements in teaching, research or service. All three letters of reference should be from at least one must address teaching and at least one must address research. All three letters of reference should be from at least three of the three letters of reference, at least one must address teaching and at least one must address research. All three letters of reference should be from at least three of the three letters of reference, at least one must address teaching and at least one must address research.

Call for Nominations

The Distinguished University Professorship Award is open to faculty members who have been without academic tenure and have served this institution with distinction. The University of Western Ontario Faculty Association (UWOFA) and University of Western Ontario Staff Association (UWOSA) will also be considered for selection.

Selection from among nominees will be made by a Senate elected committee. Nominations should include a letter describing the nominee’s qualifications for the award, a curriculum vitae and three letters of reference. Each letter should discuss the nominee’s fields of scholarship, and who can speak to the nominee’s achievements in teaching, research or service. All three letters of reference should be from at least one must address teaching and at least one must address research. All three letters of reference should be from at least three of the three letters of reference, at least one must address teaching and at least one must address research.

The deadline for receipt of nominations is January 31, 2011.

The Office of the Vice-Provost
(Academic Policy, Planning & Faculty)
Room 3107R, Stevenson Hall
The University of Western Ontario

The deadline for receipt of nominations is January 31, 2011.

Proudly providing the best student experience among Canada’s leading research intensive universities.

ROYAL SOCIETY TAPS KING’S PROFESSOR
Paul Werstine, King’s University College faculty member, was named among the Royal Society of Canada’s 75 new fellows. Official inductions will be held Saturday, Nov. 27 at the National Gallery of Canada in Ottawa.

Werstine, an English professor in the Department of Modern Languages, focuses his research on Shakespeare and other dramatists of the late 16th and early 17th centuries. He has been editing Shakespearean works for the past 20 years for the Folger Shakespeare Library. He was recognized with the King’s University College Award for Excellence in Teaching in 2003.

HEALTH CARE CHALLENGE ISSUED
Agfa HealthCare has announced its third annual Agfa Healthcare Innovation Challenge that offers students across Ontario the opportunity to address relevant and critical health issues as well as contributing to innovation that can be commercialized in Canada.

The competition is calling on talented young minds in IT, health sciences and engineering to submit their innovative answers to the following question: How can it enable the exchange of medical records and information among patients and health-care providers in Canada?

The top five finalists will be invited to present their ideas to a panel of judges in Waterloo with the winner receiving a $3,000 scholarship and summer employment opportunity with Agfa HealthCare. Applications are now being accepted at agfachallenge.ca until Nov. 5.

WISH YOU WERE HERE
A benefit concert in tribute to the music of Pink Floyd, in memory of keyboardist Richard Wright, with proceeds supporting the London Health Sciences Foundation for cancer research, will be held Friday, Nov. 26 at The Grand Theatre. This concert is presented by a group of London musicians in tribute to Pink Floyd. It is the brainchild of 18-year-old Jesse Hildebrand-Nestor, who loves the music of Floyd. His desire to remember the life of keyboardist Richard Wright, whose life was taken by cancer, lead to the concept of this concert as a fundraising event for the C. Raines Centre for Translational Research at the London Regional Cancer Program.

The Department of Oncology, Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry is a Gold Sponsor of the event. For more information, visit wish-you-were-here-tribute.ca. For tickets, call 519-672-8800.

UWOFA, UWOSA deadlines looming

The University of Western Ontario Faculty Association (UWOFA) has set a strike deadline of 12:01 a.m. Wednesday, Nov. 3. That is the first date on which unionized faculty members at Western will be in a legal strike position. The announcement follows the filing of a ‘no board’ report by Ministry of Labour Director Reg Pearson on Oct. 17.

“We still hope a strike will not be necessary,” says James Compton, UWOFA president. “And we will continue to bargain in good faith to achieve a fair and equitable settlement.”

Contract talks continue with five negotiation meetings scheduled prior to Nov. 3, including meetings with the provincially appointed mediator Nov. 1 and 2. More than 1,400 full and part-time unionized faculty members have been without a contract since June 30.

“Western remains committed to reaching a negotiated settlement,” says Helen Connell, Western communications and public affairs, associate vice-president. “At the same time, Western is prepared to go to court if necessary.”

The University of Western Ontario Staff Association (UWOSA) also requested a no board report, but has yet to announce a strike deadline. The union could be in a legal strike position as of 12:01 a.m. Thursday, Nov. 4.

Negotiations are continuing

Find answers to contract negotiations questions

The University of Western Ontario faces a potential labour disruption and to help clarify what this means for members of the university community, answers to frequently asked questions have been posted on the Contract Negotiations Western website.

Negotiations continue with both the University of Western Ontario Staff Association (UWOFA) and the University of Western Ontario Faculty Association (UWOFA). However, UWOFA will be in a legal strike position at 12:01 a.m. on Nov. 4 and UWOFA has established a strike deadline of 12:01 a.m. on Nov. 3.

To find out what this means for you, check out links to Contract Negotiations FAQs for undergraduate, graduate and postdoctoral students, Western employees, and UWOFA and UWOSA members. Links have been posted on top right corner of the Contract Negotiations Western website, which can be linked to on Western’s homepage at uwo.ca.

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Negotiations are continuing

CAMPUS DIGEST

The 17th Annual Murray Barr Lecture
The Department of Anatomy & Cell Biology

Presents

Dr. Derek van der Kooy
Professor
Department of Molecular Genetics
University of Toronto

“Where Brains Come From”
Thursday, October 28, 2010 at 9:30 a.m.
Auditorium A, 3rd Floor LHSC, University Campus
Coffee and Continental Breakfast Available 9:00-9:30
Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry

We invite you to join us for an open house celebration of the Retirement and Professor Emeritus status of:

Brian Luckman
Professor, Department of Geography

WHERE:
Social Science Centre
Room 3036

WHEN:
Friday, October 29th, 2010
12:30pm – 3:00pm

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The Department of Oncology, Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry is a Gold Sponsor of the event. For more information, visit wish-you-were-here-tribute.ca. For tickets, call 519-672-8800.
Making the Grade

For the ninth year in a row, The University of Western Ontario received top marks in the category “Most Satisfied Students” in the Globe and Mail's annual Canadian University Report. In a survey of more than 35,000 undergraduate students, the Globe and Mail gave Western the only 'A' grade in that category, among large universities (more than 22,000 students).

Partial results of the 2011 Canadian University Report were published in a supplement distributed Monday, Oct. 18 in the Globe and Mail.

“I am tremendously grateful to our students for clearly demonstrating that Western continues to provide the best student experience in Canada,” says Western President Amit Chakma.

“As we continue our work to make it even better, our vision is that our students will carry the message to the world and Western will have increasing international impact. I also want to offer my thanks to all our faculty, staff and community members who together, create the best student experience.”

OCTOBER 28, 2010

THE WAY WE WERE: 1961

Western News (ISSN 0316-8654), a publication of The University of Western Ontario Department of Communications and Public Affairs, is published every Thursday throughout the school year and operates under a reduced schedule during December, May, June, July and August.

An award-winning weekly newspaper and electronic news service, Western News serves as the university’s newspaper of record. The publication traces its roots to the University of Western Ontario Newsletter, a one-page leaflet-style publication which debuted on Sept. 23, 1964. The first issue of the Western News, under founding editor Alan Johnston, was published on Nov. 16, 1972 replacing the UWO Times and Western Times. Today, Western News continues to provide timely news, information and a forum for discussion of non-academic issues in the campus and broader community.

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

By Amit Chakma
President The University of Western Ontario

Labour negotiations that are underway, with impending strike deadlines for both The University of Western Ontario Faculty Association (UWOFA) and The University of Western Ontario Staff Association (UWOSA), are of great concern to our entire campus community.

UWOFA has established a strike deadline of 12:01 a.m. Wednesday, Nov. 3. Contract talks continue with five negotiation meetings scheduled prior to Wednesday, Nov. 3, including meetings with the provincially-appointed mediator Monday and Tuesday, Nov. 1 and 2.

While UWOSA has yet to announce a strike deadline, the union could be in a legal position to call a strike on 12:01 a.m. Thursday, Nov. 4. Negotiations are continuing with UWOSA and a provincially appointed conciliator is involved in assisting the two sides to reach a settlement.

As president, I want to assure you that everything possible is being done to avoid a work disruption and to achieve negotiated settlements that are responsible and appropriate, and will continue to enable Western to recruit and retain the highest calibre faculty and staff.

Western does not negotiate in public, respecting our collectively organized groups by holding discussions at the table where both sides can work together to resolve differences and find common ground. It is not out of respect for the negotiating process that I am not going to discuss matters that properly belong at the bargaining table. On behalf of Western’s faculty negotiating team, however, I want to clarify that tenure and academic freedom are at the heart of what it means to be a university and these two central values are not—nor have they ever been—up for negotiation.

Given the current circumstances, I want to assure you the university is placing its highest priority on ensuring undergraduate and graduate students, as well as postdoctoral scholars, will all have the opportunity to successfully achieve their academic goals. While I remain confident that settlements can be achieved in our negotiations, in the interests of our students the university has developed contingency plans should they be required in the event of a work disruption involving either UWOSA or UWOFA.

We know students and other members of our campus community have many questions about how a potential labour disruption could impact them and we will be providing answers to many of these questions early this week and posting them on Western’s homepage, uwo.ca. We will be continually updating this site as answers become available.

I sincerely believe all the parties involved are fully committed to bargaining in good faith and are making every effort to reach a settlement. You can keep up-to-date on the progress of negotiations through our contract negotiations website at communications.uwo.ca/contract_negotiations, by joining Western’s official Facebook page, facebook.com/TheUniversityofWesternOntario, or by following @westernu on Twitter.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

By Jonah Wolfram

"Our objective is to report events as objectively as possible, without bias or editorial comment. We hope you will read it and contribute to it." — L.T. Moore, University Relations and Information director, Nov. 14, 1972

The McIntosh Gallery’s first purchase exhibition of Canadian drawings drew a response from 270 artists. Tony Urquart, The University of Western Ontario’s resident artist, was kept busy unwrapping the 600 individual works of art. The gallery eventually purchased seven drawings for a grand total of $620.
Reflecting back on Western getting serious about Games

By Robert K. Barney

Commensurate with the opening of the 10th International Symposium for Olympic Research, I have been asked to comment on the nature and mission of the University of Western Ontario’s International Centre for Olympic Studies (ICOS). This request prompted me to consider the bottom line impact of the ICOS, something usually lost in the maelstrom of daily activities over the past 20 years.

To begin with some brief history, The Games of the 23rd Olympiad were celebrated in 1984 in Los Angeles. They were compromised by the boycott of the Soviet Union and its Warsaw Pact allies (except for Romania). The absence of some of the top sporting nations in the world played well for Canada. In a moment, Canada became one of the favourites to rank near the top of competitive nations.

‘Olympic matters’ in Canada reached feverish levels, rising from the ashes of the financial disaster of Montreal’s hosting the Games in 1976 and the devastating boycott of the 1980 Moscow Games by ‘Western-aligned’ cohort nations, including Canada.

Prompted by this feverish climate, Western’s Summer School and Extension was asked to teach a course on the Olympic Games. It was in the preparation of reading materials for the course that it became obvious this high-profile international sporting institution, nearing 100 years old, reflected a severe shortcoming. The body of knowledge surrounding the sociocultural study of the Modern Olympic Movement was practically devoid of serious scholarly examining.

True, journalists, statisticians, free-lance writers and avocationalists had written about the Games, but the Olympic phenomenon itself had escaped the attention of all but a miniscule body of academics.

So in late 1984, the Faculty of Kinesiology established an International Centre for Olympic Studies, the mission of which was “to encourage, generate, and disseminate serious scholarship on the Modern Olympic Movement from a socio-cultural point of view.” In March 1989, after support from 17 different academic units across Western, and the approval of the university Senate, the Board of Governors approved the initiative.

Thus, the first such centre in the world came to be. ICOS’s menu of initiatives for carrying out its stated mission was rapidly developed:

1. An annually published international refereed journal called Olympika: The International Journal of Olympic Studies;
2. A biennial international Olympic research symposium;
3. An annual lecture series (the Loanides, Crocker, Zeigler lectures) featuring international scholars on Olympic matters;
4. The establishment of a physical resource centrefield;
5. The implementation of graduate/undergraduate courses on Olympic history and issues, as well as graduate theses/dissertation opportunities; and
6. A flourishing interaction with world media outlets.

What has been the result of these initiatives, indeed the effect of ICOS and its mission? A few statistics suffice.

Regarding the flagship journal Olympika, 75 articles, 30 research notes, 70 reviews/review essays and 170 journal article reviews have appeared in the 19 issues published to date. Further, under special arrangement, Olympika and ICOS’s Symposia Proceedings content is published on the website of the Los Angeles Amateur Athletic Foundation (LA84). To date, more than a half million downloads of Olympika materials have been carried out by students and scholars worldwide.

With regard to ICOS’s biennial Olympic Research Symposium, 10 Proceedings editions have produced 350 essays, translating into some 450,000 LA84 downloads.

Sixty-five Loanides/Crocker/Zeigler Lectures have occurred.

The ICOS resource centre now contains close to 4,000 volumes and two large special collections (the Avery Brundage and James Worrall Papers). More than 4,000 individuals from Western, across Canada and abroad have visited and/or researched in ICOS since its establishment.

The undergraduate Olympic history course enrolment has grown from the original 16 to more than 100 annually. Ten master’s theses and six doctorate dissertations have thus far been produced.

The world’s media have found ICOS officials to be a rich source of informed comment on Olympic matters. This relationship is prompted largely by the fact ICOS is known for its independent, arms-length reach from Olympic authorities (International Olympic Committee, Canadian Olympic Committee and other sports and Olympic federations and committees).

ICOS scholars have logged more than 1,000 radio, television and print media interventions, including such noted outlets as the Times of London, New York Times, Chicago Tribune, Los Angeles Times, National Public Radio, Lehrer News Hour, CBC, CTV and other news outlets worldwide.

Of noted influence, too, has been the impact of ICOS and its associated faculty and graduate students in helping to nurture the number of Olympic research theme presentations at international symposia, the outstanding example of which has been the annual conference of the North American Society for Sport History (NASSH). In contrast to one or two Olympic research presentations at annual NASSH conferences in the 1970s and 1980s, in each of the past 15 years more than 20 Olympic-related research papers have been presented annually. In this regard, the Olympics have replaced baseball as the largest single genre of research presentations at NASSH.

ICOS has been a fundamental agent in this phenomenon.

The ICOS is doing precisely what it was created and designed to do – “encourage, generate and disseminate.” The mission continues.

Robert K. Barney, professor emeritus, serves as founding director of The University of Western Ontario International Centre for Olympic Studies. The group’s 10th International Olympic Research Symposium opens today.

ICOS is a biennial international journal published by the University of Western Ontario International Centre for Olympic Studies. The mission of The University of Western Ontario International Centre for Olympic Studies is to foster serious scholarly examination of the Olympic Games, the Olympic Movement and Olympic culture.

WWW: For more information on the event, visit www.olympika.ca or click on the QR code.

Amazed I got away with it

By Jason Winders

Amazed I got away with it

For an entire year, I felt like I was getting away with something. Some of you might think I am too young to understand that. Some too old. Some too caught up in the machine, the politics of day-to-day higher education to realize exactly what we get to do every day as members of a university community. But for me, it’s as vivid as, well, a few months ago.

My first career lasted 18 years, five months. And I left one minute under the last six weeks. During that half-year period leading up to my media company’s bankruptcy, I navigated my staff through a tumultuous sea of budget tightening, staff reductions and across-the-board pay cuts. A palpable atmosphere of fear and uncertainty hung over every day. My wife hated what it was doing to me. I hated what it was doing to me. Even my dog, Cash, questioned my commitment to Fribee each evening.

Emerging exhausted, I took a year away from work to recharge the batteries. I came to Western to learn something new, explore a recently developed passion.

There was something almost subversive about returning to university after so long. And tomorrow, it ends. At least for now. I officially hold my master’s degree in environment and sustainability.

It was my best idea ever. Or my wife’s best idea ever. I had to call her a consultant, who suggested quitting our jobs, packing up our lives and moving. I know if it didn’t work out, one of us would remember who made the decision more clearly.

I do know I was determined to do it right this time. I wasn’t ready for university at 18 years old. Young. Dumb. Sheltered. Adorable in my Rolling Stones t-shirt. Gifted and wholesomely completely unprepared for the experience.

I have always been a reader, a writer, a general all-purpose nerd dude. I always loved learning, but at the time, I didn’t understand education.

That was the piece that was missing.

I was fortunate to be a journalism major, so I pursued it with great passion, often at the expense of my marks and parent’s patience. But my goals were different then. I went to school because it was the thing to do to get a job. And I did.

But this time, I simply wanted to better myself. Even now, it seems so indulgent, almost selfish. At any time, I thought someone would walk up to me and tell me I had to get back to work. Even on the busiest, most frustrating of days, I still couldn’t believe that I was here.

I won’t say the opportunity for higher education is wasted on the young. I will say, however, that appreciation for the opportunity grows with age.

To each I owe deep thanks. Without them, I would never have pulled this off.

In just a year, I am now a Londoner, a father, a proud member of the Western family. And with any luck, and a little convincing of the wife, maybe some too old. Some too caught up in the community. But for me, it’s as vivid as, well, a few months ago.

I grew to know, and some I now call friends, opened me to a world of opportunities.

I was fortunate to be a journalism major, so I pursued it with great passion, often at the expense of my marks and parent’s patience. But my goals were different then. I went to school because it was the thing to do to get a job. And I did.

In just a year, I am now a Londoner, a father, a proud member of the Western family. And with any luck, and a little convincing of the wife, maybe

Jason Winders, editorial services associate director, serves as editor of the Western News. Contact him at jwinder@uwo.ca.
matched by the university to create a $3 million endowed chair, entitled the Cecil and Linda Rorabeck Chair in Molecular Neuroscience and Vascular Biology. The chair position will be located in Western’s Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry, Robarts Research Institute, and the holder will be an appointed scientist at the new Centre for Molecular Neuroscience and Vascular Biology at Robarts. The centre’s goal is to discover and translate molecular therapies for the treatment of Alzheimer’s disease, stroke-induced dementia and other neurodegenerative diseases.

Ravi Menon, Robarts Research Institute deputy director and Canada Research Chair in Functional and Molecular Imaging, promised the philanthropic couple the money will be spent wisely. “I promise you that we will recruit an individual who will flourish in this environment and will contribute to the university and to Robarts,” Menon says.

“The establishment of this program to establish chairs is transformational for us,” adds Michael Strong, Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry dean. “If we are going to be great at what we do, this is what is required; this is what is going to help us.”

Western President Amit Chakma has outlined an ambitious strategy to increase dramatically the number of endowed chairs at Western – with a goal of 100 new chairs in the next 10 years across all faculties.

In a competitive market, Western must diversify its revenue strategy to reduce reliance on government funding. The university set aside $12.5 million of one-time funds for the matching program to create up to eight endowed chairs by April 2011. The university will match private gifts of up to $1.5 million to fully establish a chair in perpetuity.

“When we make something to be our top priority, we should be able to put in our own resources,” Chakma says, noting the matching funds program “invests in our future.”

By increasing the number of endowed chair positions, Western will be able to recruit top faculty and researchers, as well as give the university some fiscal freedom.

The program will free up financial resources within the faculties, he explains, because the university will not have to draw money from the operating budget to pay the faculty member’s salary. The bar was set at minimum of $3 million to create an endowed chair position (including faculty and university contributions) because it would generate about $150,000 annually based on a five per cent interest rate, Chakma says.

“It allows us to cover a big part of their salary with the endowment,” he says.

The first chair established under the matching program was announced by Western’s Richard Ivey School of Business in September thanks to a gift from Ian Ihnatowycz and Marta Witer, who directed $1.5 million of their $3.5 million gift to endow a Chair in Leadership.

With two of the eight endowed chair positions in place, Chakma is confident Western will come close, if not meet, its goal by April 2011.

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The Program in Jewish Studies at Western

Upcoming Events

Monday, November 1 – Meet and Greet with Jewish Studies Faculty, Professor Howard Lupovitch (Waks Family Chair of Jewish History) and Professor Chaya Halberstam (Kings University College). Latchner Hillel House, 1192 Richmond. 5:30 p.m.

Thursday, November 11 – Professor Michael Marrus, University of Toronto. “Some measure of justice - the case of Egon Schiele and the portrait of Wally” Labatt Hall 105, 6 p.m.

Monday, December 6 – Professor Howard Lupovitch, “Hanukkah: why so popular?” Latchner Hillel House, 1192 Richmond. 5:30 p.m.

For more info contact:
Howard Lupovitch, Dept. of History
hlupovit@uwo.ca or 519-661-2111 x84986

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The Western Mustangs came ready to play three periods of hockey Thursday, Oct. 21 at Thompson Arena, and ended the game in a 2-2 tie after a tough and exciting battle against Team China as they prepare for the 2014 Olympic Games in Sochi, Russia. The evening started off with a ceremonial puck drop. Young London Devilettes minor hockey players took part in the fun and waited on the ice to welcome the Mustangs and the Chinese national team. The youngsters remained on the ice for the national anthems of both countries, and played their own game between periods.

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Goal set at eight by April 2011

Continued from page 1

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We invite you to join us for an open house celebration of the Retirement and Professor Emeritus status of:

Cheryl Pearce
Associate Professor, Department of Geography

Where: Social Science Centre
Room 3036
When: Friday, October 29th, 2010
12:30pm – 3:00pm

Hasten down the wind

WindEEE Dome builds on nearly 50 years of wind engineering at Western, which began with Alan Davenport and the Boundary Layer Wind Tunnel.

Horia Hangan, Faculty of Engineering researcher and principal investigator of the WindEEE Dome, takes a look ‘under the hood’ of the WindEEE Dome model, which is about one-tenth the size of the full-scale dome and will help test the feasibility of the design before it is constructed.
Western forecast calls for WindEEE future

By Heather Travis

Peaking through the fan blades of a hexagonal dome, Horia Hangan looks like he is on the movie set of “Honey, I Shrunk the Dome.”

The University of Western Ontario researcher and principal investigator of the dome is taking a walk around (and inside) the walls of a miniature version of the Wind Engineering, Energy and Environment Dome (WindEEE), which will be built at Western’s Advanced Manufacturing Park.

As Western sets out to make history with the world’s first hexagonal wind tunnel, the building itself will be an experiment in science and engineering. Not to take chances on the full-scale facility, Hangan, a Faculty of Engineering professor, uses the mini-dome, standing at about one-tenth full-scale size, as a testing ground to ensure any construction adjustments are made before it turns into bricks and mortar.

Workers are expected to break ground for the construction of the $23.6 million WindEEE Dome in November. But before the dome begins to take shape, Hangan must put the mini-model through a series of tests to make sure it will perform as predicted.

“You don’t build an airplane before you build a model-scale airplane and test it,” Hangan says. “It’s a standard procedure in high-risk type of engineering.”

The full-scale WindEEE Dome is designed to be 40 metres across and will contain more than 100 fans, each one metre in diameter. The concept was developed numerically, so Hangan needs to turn the numbers into a physical reality to prove the equations work.

“We will confirm that the type of flows we said will generate are there,” he says. “The first test that will benchmark what we have numerically simulated and make sure the installation works the way it was designed is going to take a couple weeks.

The model, which was built at Western with input from various units, will also help design the control of the facility, such as how to control the 106 fans to create different wind flows. Each of the fans can be controlled individually.

Two types of flows will be initially created in WindEEE – straight flows (resembling wind tunnel-type configurations) and axisymmetric flows (such as jets, downbursts and tornados). Because the fans can operate independently, WindEEE will also be able to create a non-uniform horizontal or vertical flow, mimicking flows created by rotating wind turbine blades. The fans can also be reversed, blowing outside the facility, to traverse wind turbine blades or to test larger objects, such as solar panels. It is expected WindEEE will be able to simulate a F3 tornado.

“We will learn how the big WindEEE works better, how to control it … how the heating and cooling works,” Hangan says, noting after the data is collected he will work with companies to finalize the design and retest the model. “It’s a long-term program,” he says.

Researchers plan to expand upon the initial flow designs, so the model will be used as a research tool to test new scenarios.

“It will be used for the lifetime of WindEEE because we will keep inventing other type of flows. We will test here and then implement in the big dome,” he says.

WindEEE research will further the understanding of local wind storms and their effects on buildings and structures, transmission lines and wind farms.

The university will also add a 10,000-square-foot academic support facility on the new Advanced Manufacturing Park site for faculty, students and staff associated with WindEEE as well as with other new facilities.

Construction of the dome is expected to be complete in the fall of 2011. WindEEE research includes: BOUNDARY LAYER WIND TUNNEL LABORATORY

Some of the world’s most memorable structures, such as the Emirates Towers in Dubai, UAE, the CN Tower in Toronto and the Confederation Bridge in Prince Edward Island, have been found on campus. At least, miniature-scale models of these structures have been tested at the Boundary Layer Wind Tunnel Laboratory (BLWT).

The facility is cutting edge for developing wind tunnel testing and analysis methods for tall buildings, long-span bridges and other structures, and providing planners with important solutions to complex wind engineering problems.

The facilities include two wind tunnels – BLWT 1 and BLWT 2. The first wind tunnel was built in 1965 and can test wind speeds up to 55 miles per hour. The second tunnel, built in 1984, can test a maximum wind speed of 100 miles per hour. By analyzing wind tunnel data to reveal the dynamics and properties of structural loads, researchers can help predict how buildings behave and respond under varying wind conditions.

THE INSURANCE RESEARCH LAB FOR BETTER HOMES

Researchers at The Insurance Research Lab for Better Homes are not afraid of the big, bad wolf. In fact, they welcome a few huffs and puffs to test the effects of wind on houses, as well as study the damage of snow and rain. Dubbed the “Three Little Pigs” project, the facility is the first of its kind in the world and allows researchers to simulate and study

Continued on page 10
Wind tunnel bridges industry and research for more than 40 years

By Heather Travis

Like many teenagers, Peter King wasn’t sure how to answer the question: What do you want to do when you grow up?

His father encouraged him to visit an open house at The University of Western Ontario’s Faculty of Engineering to learn more about the field. While he was there, he filled out a ballot for a summer job contest.

It was more than luck-of-the-draw that King’s name was selected. Now a research director at Boundary Layer Wind Tunnel Laboratory (BLWTL), some would call it his destiny.

Western houses the first boundary layer wind tunnel in the world to test man-made structures, such as buildings and bridges. Built in 1965, the first wind tunnel (BLWTL 1) can test wind speeds up to 55 miles per hour. The second wind tunnel (BLWTL 2), erected in 1984, can test wind speeds up to 100 miles per hour.

“We defined the field of wind engineering,” King says.

As a Grade 12 student in 1968, King was given behind-the-scenes access to Alan Davenport, BLWTL founding director. Davenport later became King’s mentor and advisor as he completed his master’s and PhD at Western. (King also completed his undergraduate degree at Western).

“I was able to work on the CN Tower, the Sears Building in Chicago. The first bridge I was able to work on was the A. Murray Mackay Bridge in Halifax and that was when I was a summer student,” says King, who specializes in bridges. “That was really important because up until that time all bridges had been tested in aeronautical tunnels by people who had aeronautical background. (Davenport) was the one who said, ‘Don’t test bridges in smooth flow because the wind is turbulent.’

The A. Murray Mackay Bridge was the first bridge in the world to be tested in a turbulent boundary layer wind flow.

An outstanding lecturer and researcher, Davenport, who died in 1993, was able to bridge research and industry in the classroom by bringing real-world engineering problems to students and faculty to solve.

In the early 1960s, Davenport was asked to participate in a study to define the wind loads for the tallest buildings in the world – the World Trade Center Towers in New York. Because Western didn’t have a wind tunnel, Davenport travelled to Colorado State University in 1964 to test models of the buildings in its newly constructed boundary layer wind tunnel (built in 1963). He also travelled to the National Physical Laboratory in England to conduct tests on the towers.

After jet-setting around the world to access boundary layer wind tunnels to complete his research, Davenport decided Western should have its own wind tunnel on site. He received a National Research Council of Canada grant to build the Boundary Layer Wind Tunnel.

The wind tunnel was formally unveiled on Nov. 25, 1965. And it has been history-making ever since.

“It’s very exciting for students to be involved in these cutting-edge projects that will be the tallest building in the world, the longest bridge in the world,” says King, adding the experience is invaluable when entering the workforce.

Typically, the BLWTL is commissioned to test a miniature model of a building or bridge structure, based on a designer’s concept. Using this model, the BLWTL engages in a series of tests to calculate how the full-scale structure will behave under certain conditions and what loads are put on the structure.

Researchers were restricted in the size of models they could test in BLWTL 1 because of the dimensions of the wind tunnel. Now, with BLWTL 2, the group is able to test bigger and taller models under nearly two times the wind speeds and surface area. As well, BLWTL 2 is a closed return tunnel, allowing the wind to loop through two parallel tunnel sections and can test smaller models at a scale of 1/500 and larger scale models, 1/50, in size.

Both wind tunnels are currently in use.

Some of the major projects spearheaded by members of the BLWTL include: the World Trade Center in New York, the Willis Tower (formerly the Sears Tower) in Chicago, the Jakarta Tower in Indonesia, the Confederation Bridge in Prince Edward Island and the CN Tower in Toronto.

The BLWTL is currently testing the Strait of Messina Bridge in Italy, which will be the longest suspension bridge in the world (3.3 km main span) connecting the eastern tip of Sicily to the southern tip of mainland Italy.

Last week, the group put a model of the World Trade Center PATH Terminal in New York to the test. Designed by Spanish architect Santiago Calatrava, the four-level transit hub resembling the shape of a dove’s wings will be built at Ground Zero as the access to the subway system.

Averaging about 40-50 projects a year, “there are quite a few structures in the world that have Western’s stamp on it,” King says.

With new advances in wind engineering at Western through the WindEE Dome and The Insurance Research Lab for Better Homes, King foresees new ways for BLWTL to participate in cross-disciplinary research.

“A lot of people think that the wind tunnel has gone about as far as it can. I’m not one that buys into that. I think we are going to be discovering all kinds of new areas that the existing facility can be used for and ask new questions that can develop and grow in different directions,” he says.

BLWTL’s engineers have developed many of the wind engineering standard methods that are universally used.

“It has been a privilege to work here with the team of excellent researchers and practitioners that Dr. Davenport gathered around him,” King says. “Just to work on these cutting-edge projects all around the world has been extremely rewarding.”
realistic damage to a full-scale two-story brick house – complete with plumbing and heating – within a controlled environment. The lab simulates hurricane-force winds up to 200 miles per hour (the equivalent of a Category 5 hurricane). Dozens of pressure sensors and cameras linked to computers record all the stresses and damage sustained by the house and how each part of the structure is affected. The steel hangar surrounding test house can be removed on tracks to test the effects of the house’s exposure to natural elements.

Research at this facility will help prevent catastrophic loss of life and property by providing insight into how to make safer houses – which will lead to insurance companies saving money.

ADVANCED FACILITY FOR AVIAN RESEARCH (AFAr)

Some researchers probably thought they would have to grow wings to properly studying the flight patterns of birds. But the recently completed $9-million Advanced Facility for Avian Research at Western gives researchers a bird’s eye view of bird behaviour, physiology and neurobiology. It brings together interdisciplinary experts from across campus and beyond.

Home to the world’s first hypobaric bird wind tunnel, researchers are able to simulate natural climates and altitudes through changes in moisture, temperature and pressure. The 13,000-square-foot facility also includes comprehensive avian analytical equipment and experimental facilities.

The major focus of research is the avian annual cycle, from reproduction and moult to migration and wintering, including learning about how birds adapt to their environment, responses to stressors such as climate change, habitat disturbance and disease.
Kentucky Coffeetree (Gymnocladus dioicus). Located behind Elgin Hall, the tree is one of the largest magnolias and one of the hardest in cold weather. It is a tree that tends to occur singly as scattered specimens, rather than in groves.

Ginkgo Tree (Ginkgo biloba). Located on the northeast corner of University College, the tree has an angular crown and long, somewhat erratic branches, and is usually deep rooted and resistant to wind and snow damage. During autumn, the leaves turn a bright yellow, then fall, sometimes within a short space of time (1-15 days).

Black Gum tree (Nyssa sylvatica). Located behind Elgin Hall, the black gum is a medium-sized deciduous tree which grows around 20-25 m (65-80 ft) and a trunk diameter of 50-100 cm (20-40 inches).

Pawpaw (Asimina triloba). Located to the south of Middlesex College, this Carolinian tree is listed as rare in Ontario. It is a genus of small clustered trees with large leaves and fruit found in well-drained deep fertile bottomland and hilly upland habitat.

Tulip Tree (Liriodendron tulipifera). Located behind Elgin Hall, the tulip tree can grow to more than 50 m (165 ft), often with no limbs until it reaches 25-30 m (80-100 ft) in height. The flowers are pale green or yellow with an orange band on the tepals.

Apple Tree (Malus domestica). One of the more famous trees in campus, this self-seeded wild tree is located on University College Hill and pre-dates campus.

Trees of knowledge

Story and Photos By Paul Mayne

You’ve surely trudged through their fallen leaves over the last few weeks. But do you really know anything about the thousands of trees on campus? Did you even know The University of Western Ontario has been designated as an arboretum?

“I don’t know anyone who wouldn’t appreciate all the trees on campus,” says Jane Bowles, Sherwood Fox Arboretum director. “They are a great resource.”

Established in 1981, the arboretum encompasses all the planted trees on campus and, as an extensive, labeled collection, it represents a section of the Earth’s biodiversity – in Western’s case temperate region woody plants.

With a current database of approximately 2,400 trees – and 350 various species – the arboretum presents a much larger range of trees than can be found in parks or nurseries.

Bowles says no records exist as to the oldest trees on campus. However, with many trees pre-dating the university, some of the older trees may date from the time of European settlement (late 1700s or early 1800s) or even pre-date European settlement.

“Some of the trees in the small woodland behind the (Richard Ivey School of Business) show ‘old growth’ characteristics and may be around 200 years old,” Bowles says.

From a maintenance standpoint, Jim Galbraith, Supervisor (Grounds and Recycling), says Physical Plant staff will check the trees and keep them as healthy as possible. He notes 50 to 60 new trees will be planted each year, with approximately 15 or so being donor trees.

As far as his favourite, it’s hard to say. “If you asked me today and then tomorrow, I’d give you two different trees, they’re all nice,” says Galbraith, adding as planting continues the goal is to increase the number of native species on campus.

But Bowles does play favourites when it comes to her top tree on campus. “I love that big Bur Oak outside Staging (building),” she says. “It was right outside my window when I was a grad student, so I got to know it very well. It’s a very magnificent tree.”
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 Hayden honoured by American university

Co-ordinator of the world’s first Special Olympics, former Western professor and alumnus Frank Hayden, BA ’55 (physical education), was honoured Oct. 22 with the 2010 Distinguished Alumni Award from the College of Applied Health Sciences at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Hayden, McMaster University professor emeritus and Special Olympics visionary, will receive the award for his leadership that helped shape the Special Olympics movement.

Following his bachelor’s degree in honors physical education at Western, Hayden completed his master’s degree in 1958 and his PhD in 1962 at the University of Illinois, where he worked with Dr. Thomas Cureton in the Physical Fitness Research Laboratory. As a scholar in the University of Toronto’s School of Physical and Health Education, Hayden demonstrated that while a fitness gap existed between children with cognitive disabilities and those without, it could be narrowed significantly with strength and cardiovascular conditioning. He published a book on his findings in 1964 and began advocating for national games for people with cognitive disabilities. His work caught the attention of Sargent and Eunice Kennedy Shriver at the Joseph P. Kennedy Jr. Foundation, who convinced Hayden to bring his expertise to Washington, D.C. In 1968, he coordinated the first Special Olympics, a co-operative venture of the Kennedy Foundation and the Chicago Park District. The games brought together 900 athletes from 26 states, as well as a floor hockey team from the school where he had conducted his research. Canada inaugurated its Special Olympics in 1969.

Hayden served as Special Olympics executive director from 1968-1972, then returned to teaching at Western. In 1975, he joined McMaster University as the School of Physical Education and Athletics director. He held the position until 1981, when he took a leave to spearhead the international development of Special Olympics. He retired from teaching in 1988, but remains involved with Special Olympics Canada. He has received honorary degrees from McMaster University, University of Calgary, University of Toronto and St. Mary’s University.

In 2000, Hayden was made an Officer of the Order of Canada. – Staff report
BY NICOLE HANBIDGE

Dante Pirouz always questioned where ethics fit in the advertising world. After Sept. 11, 2001, she decided life was too short to wait for answers – she would find her own.

First step, Pirouz gave up her position at a California advertising firm. She, along with her husband Raymond, sold their house and assets so she could return to school and get her PhD in order to start teaching.

“9-11 definitely changed my perspective on what I thought were my life goals,” she says. “It started me looking for a direction where I could make a substantive difference instead of only looking to make more money or gain status.”

Pirouz received a PhD from the Paul Merage School of Business at the University of California, Irvine, just a few days before becoming an assistant professor of marketing at the Richard Ivey School of Business in July.

Her academic career began in 1988 when she earned a bachelor’s degree in English literature from the University of California, Los Angeles. She received an MBA from the Wharton School of Business as well as an MA from the University of Pennsylvania in 1992.

Then, Pirouz spent years working in advertising and marketing, travelling and living in Germany, Southeast Asia, New York and Los Angeles. But teaching was always in the back of her mind, says her husband.

“When we first met and then got married, we talked a lot about our future careers and what we could do,” says Raymond, who is a lecturer at Ivey.

“After 9-11 we asked, ‘if you died tomorrow, would you die happy?’ And for us, the answer was no. And that’s why we started teaching.”

Not only did Pirouz see The University of Western Ontario as a great place to teach, but the university’s resources were just what she needed.

“I need very specific types of tools to do the type of research that I do,” she explains. “And Western has one of the best labs for doing brain imaging work.”

While working towards her PhD, Pirouz scanned the brains of smokers and non-smokers to compare their responses to a variety of advertisements. The results? Smokers were better able to resist the temptation to smoke when shown cigarette ads, while non-smokers not only wanted to smoke, but had other urges, too.

Pirouz says that’s because the brain gets better at resisting temptation with practice. Legislation limits when and where smokers can smoke, making their brains better at resisting temptations.

“I’m fascinated by why we do things that we know probably aren’t good for us, but for some strange reason our brain drives us to do these behaviours anyway,” Pirouz says. “Things like overeating, drinking too much, smoking cigarettes.”

The former advertising account executive hopes her research can help protect vulnerable consumers – the elderly, teenagers and children – from the negative effects of advertising.

“How, when, and why should we regulate or control advertising in order to have the most benefit for society?” she asks. “Those are questions I’ve been interested in since the time I worked in advertising.”

Transitioning from advertising to academia, the California native has more to worry about than just herself. Children’s drawings hang on her office walls and a family photograph can be seen on a corner table, reflections of her 12-year-old son and 3-year-old daughter.

“My kids are very excited about the move,” she says. “They like the difference in weather. They like the food. They’ll be able to try new winter sports. My daughter will be learning to skate. And if she takes to that, I think she’d enjoy hockey because she’s a pretty tough cookie.

“As for me, I’ll just be watching. I don’t think I’m that tough.”
COMING EVENTS

OCTOBER 28
Graduate and Professional School Fair - Are you thinking about more education? Maybe graduate school? Over 90 schools and programs want to tell you about their opportunities. Visit: wss.uwo.ca.

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

Physics & Astronomy Colloquium - Wes Fraser, Geological and Planetary Sciences, California Institute of Technology. "Rocks of planet formation: Understanding the history of the Kupfer Belt" Chemistry, Rm. 9, 11:35 a.m.

Writing Support Centre Workshop - Concise Writing. WSS Room 3034. Register at: scd.uwo.ca/writing. 12:30 – 130 p.m.

Don Wright Faculty of Music - Hope for Resolution. Les Chorales and Chorale present a program of hope in troubled times. Paul Davenport Theatre, 12:30 p.m.

King's University College - Religious Life Lecture Series. David Korten, "Change the Future" Labatt Hall 105. 7:30 p.m.


Don Wright Faculty of Music - "Les Choristes and Chorale present a program of hope in troubled times." Paul Davenport Theatre, 12:30 p.m.

November 2
Senior Alumni Program - Mel Goodale, Department of Physiology & Pharmacology and Psychology, Western. "Yawning - Why it is contagious and other fun facts." McKellar Room, UCC, 9:30 – 11 a.m.

Don Wright Faculty of Music - The UWO Chamber Orchestra celebrates the music of Antonin Dvorak, performing the Serenade for Winds and the Serenade for Strings with conductor Geoffrey Moule. Paul Davenport Theatre. 12:30 p.m.

Writing Support Centre Workshop - Writing Essays. WSS Room 3034. Register at: scd.uwo.ca/writing. 130 – 2:30 p.m.

November 3
Robarts Research - J. Allen Taylor International Prize in Medicine Symposium. Charles DeCesari, University of California. Auditorium A, UH, 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. For more info: 519-661-2111 x 68960.

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PhD Lectures
Nicole St. Denis, Biochemistry, Mibotic Regulation of Protein Kinase CK2, Oct. 29, MBS, 1:30 p.m.


Maria Mayr, Comparative Literature, Holey and the Seraphim in the Theory of the Holy Spirit. Faculty of Law Building, 2 – 3:30 p.m.

Zude Li, Computer Science, Characterizing and Diagnosing Architectural Degeneration of Software Systems from Defect Perspect, Oct. 29, MCB 26, 9:30 a.m.

Jessica Dechene, Chemistry, Surface Modification of Polydimethylsiloxane for Biological Applications of Microfluidic Devices, Oct. 29, KSB 201, 9:30 a.m.

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Autumn Graduation

Autumn Convocation Information has been sent out to all students who applied to graduate for Autumn convocation. Convocation is being held on October 28 and 29.

Student Central

Student Central is located in room 1120 of the Neil Western Student Services building located at the UCC. Our regular office hours are now in effect. For more information about hours of operation please visit: registrar.uwo.ca/index.cfm/general-information/student-central. Hours are also posted at our location.

Work Study/Bursary/Need Based Awards

Attention Students: The 2010-11 online Financial Assistance application is now available to be considered for the work study program and/or bursary and need based awards. The link to apply can be found through your Student Services web page. The deadline to apply to be considered for Need Based Awards for most facilities is October 31st. To find out more about eligibility requirements, please visit the Bursary page at registrar.uwo.ca/financialservices/bursaries.cfm.

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