By Paul Mayne

A student senator at The University of Western Ontario is creating a fuss on the bus – and that’s a good thing.

In an attempt to educate the student population about the university Senate and the role it plays, Patrick Searle has taken his message to YouTube – via public transit.

The third-year King’s University College student body president, and first-time student senator, wants to share with fellow students the opportunity to shape academics at Western through the Senate. But the first job is to educate.

“When I started thinking about running for Senate, back in January, I would walk up to students to ask them to vote for me,” he says. “They’d say ‘Sure, I’ll vote for you if you get us like a pool table or if you get us a big concert.’ I had to tell them that’s really not what Senate does. So the question then turned from ‘will you vote for me?’ to ‘do you know what the Senate is.’ It was very clear that a lot of students aren’t aware.”

So if students aren’t going to Senate, then taking Senate to them might be a solution. With the launch of Fuss on the Bus Oct. 13, Searle took to the affiliated college bus (the blue Aboutown bus) and created a mobile talk show. The first show’s posting to YouTube received close to 900 views, surprising Searle.

“So far the response has been pretty good. The interest shows that they want to know about what is happening at Western,” he says. “The majority of shuttle bus users are affiliated students, so that’s how I’m connecting to them, but if main campus students want to get involved in the discussion I encourage them to as well.”

With 18 student senators (14 undergraduate and four graduate), Searle says all are supportive of sharing issues affecting education and student life.

The initial show touched on topics such as what is Senate, the Remembrance Day issue, scholarship availability and the Career Centre. Searle hopes to film every two weeks.

“We’re students, not celebrities or stars, and we’re talking about student matters - we’re not talking about Hollywood - we’re talking about what really impacts students,” he says. “That’s how it’s supposed to work. Focus on the experience inside the classroom.”

Check out the program at youtube.com/fussonthebus.

Polluted water sparks fear, health concerns

Western helps Walpole Island people find answers

By Heather Travis

Walpole Island is nestled at the heart of the Great Lakes, surrounded by natural resources and a breathtaking landscape that supports the indigenous population. But these are darker waters than would appear at first sight.

Dean Jacobs, consultant manager for the Walpole Island Heritage Centre, was among the speakers at the fourth annual Ivey Symposium on EcoHealth Toxicology held Oct. 20, titled “When people poison their environment.”

As Canada’s southernmost reserve, Walpole Island is home to just under 4,000 citizens. The surrounding waters and marshes of the St. Clair River have provided drinking water and food for the community, but in recent years it has also become a cocktail of pollutants, some from chemical plants upstream in Sarnia’s Chemical Valley, others from operations on both sides of the border. Similarly, air pollution from Detroit and surrounding areas drift towards Walpole Island.

With the rising fear of health problems from contamination, the community began asking questions about the links between health issues, such as cancer and their environment.

“The question from the community was what are the sediments and contaminants, (and) is there...
A closer look at the Globe report

Canadian University Report - 2010

**Student Academic Experience**

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$1.2M project speeds research data processing

By Paul Mayne

A new high-speed network to handle large blocks of research data flowing at high rates - up to 10 terabytes per day - from synchrotrons in Canada and the U.S. is the latest project at Western’s SHARCNET (Shared Hierarchical Academic Research Computing Network).

To be known as ANISE (Active Network for Information for Synchrotron Experiments), the project led by researchers Mike Bauer and Stewart McIntrye has received $1.2 million to take some of the waiting out of crunching huge amounts of research data.

The funding agency, CANARIE (Canada’s Advanced Research and Innovation Network), manages an ultra high-speed network - hundreds of times faster than the internet – to support leading-edge research in Canada and internationally.

More than 39,000 researchers at nearly 200 Canadian universities and colleges use the CANARIE Network, as well as researchers at institutes, hospitals and government labs.

The Western project, the only one funded in Ontario, will create near real-time processing and enable users of Canada’s synchrotron in Saskatoon, Sask. as well as U.S. synchrotrons, to respond within minutes to experimental output.

Synchrotrons generate beams of x-rays, light and particles and are used in research such as understanding the structure of crystals, cells and materials.

“Typically, each beam is at a specific intensity and there are a number of ‘detectors’ around the target,” says Bauer. “The detectors collect diverted x-rays/particles and the results are analyzed to ‘see’ the structure of the material.”

The project, with has Western working with Canadian Light Source Inc., IBM Canada and IBM Research, should ensure more efficient use of labs by industrial and academic researchers around the world.

Previously, it took days before data could be analyzed.

“Those who benefit are potentially anyone who uses synchrotrons,” says Bauer. “They can get their data analyzed while the experiment is running and, with Science Studio, won’t have to travel to Saskatoon – saving time and money and using these large scientific facilities more productively.”

Science Studio is a web portal providing remote access to synchrotron user office, beamline and data storage facilities.

Bauer adds the new network will alter the way synchrotrons are used - shifting from data gathering and storage to rapid processing and feedback.

Campus vaccine clinics expected in November

Middlesex London Health Unit (MLHU) will offer Pandemic (H1N1) influenza vaccine clinics on campus in coming weeks however exact dates, times and locations have yet to be determined.

Once a clinic schedule for low-risk groups such as the campus population has been determined, dates and times for all Western locations will be posted on Western’s website at www.uwo.ca and the H1N1 microsite at http://communications.uwo.ca/influenza-microsite/.

As of Oct. 27, the health unit had received approximately 20,000 doses of Pandemic (H1N1) influenza vaccine and was distributing the vaccine to the highest risk individuals first.

These individuals are: health care providers, children between six months of age and less than five years of age, household contacts of children less than six months of age, and pregnant woman who are over 20 weeks in their pregnancy or pregnant women who have medical conditions.

According to MLHU, more vaccine is expected this week and will be targeted to another high risk group – those who are less than 65 years of age with underlying medical conditions.

Vaccine for the general public and seniors is expected to be available in about two weeks; however, this may change depending on vaccine availability and the number of people seeking the vaccine. The MLHU website offers information on dates, times and locations for all clinics at healthunit.com/h1n1info.

When attending a clinic, bring your health card or driver’s license. Do not attend a clinic if you have a new onset of fever and respiratory symptoms.
The Way We Were: 1967

VERBATIM

An occasional look at reports on higher education

COLLEGIATE SPIRIT DRIVES US TO HELP ADVANCE THE ACADEMIC ENTERPRISE

I am struck at alumni events around the world by how many graduates affectionately recall their tutors, professors and lecturers, but also the departmental secretary or porter or the counsellor who sorted out emotional and financial problems. Universities these days are a seamless web of professional support for students, staff, supporters and sponsors. Without that support, academics would spend most of their time administering rather than teaching and researching.

Celia Whitchurch, in her work for the Leadership Foundation for Higher Education, has shown how new breeds of “blended professionals” are emerging in higher education, for example in educational enhancement or learning resources. These people have excellent academic credentials alongside highly developed professional skills. As a result, the “them and us” divisions that unproductively marked out the territory of the past are giving way to a partnership model whereby all staff work together for the good of students and universities, with no artificial divisions between academic and “civilian” staff. This trend is particularly marked in a younger generation educated alongside highly developed professional skills. As a result, the “them and us” divisions that unproductively marked out the territory of the past are giving way to a partnership model whereby all staff work together for the good of students and universities, with no artificial divisions between academic and “civilian” staff. This trend is particularly marked in a younger generation educated and now employed in the age of mass participation.

Times Higher Education, online, Oct. 22, 2009
David Allen, registrar and deputy chief executive, University of Exeter, UK

THE PRICE FOR PROGRESS

Back in the “middle dark ages” of Western’s history, in the early 1970s, I had the privilege of being a student on what at that time was arguably one of the most beautiful campuses in Canada. Aside from the wonderful architecture of the buildings and the effective use of stone in construction, there was the amount of undeveloped green space, there to be enjoyed by all.

Fast forward 40 years and what do we find? – a campus almost devoid of green space and a mentality on the part of university planners and administrators that green space equals potential land on which to build (because, after all, the more buildings a campus has the higher must be the quality of its product).

The next time you drive or walk along Western Road cast a glance or two toward Brescia University College and weep for what you see. In short order – breathtaking architecture of Brescia be damned – you’ll be able to enjoy an uninterrupted view of a $100-million, brand-spanking-new multi-storey Ivey Business School (while you’re at it give a thought, won’t you, to what $100 million could buy for London’s beleaguered health care sector - but that’s another story).

Who cares that Brescia will no longer be visible, or that the huge tract of green space in front of it will be gone, this is “progress.” Hang your heads in shame, each and every person with a hand in this – the loss of one of the last remaining undeveloped green spaces on the campus, and the erection in its place of yet another example of “bricks and mortar” for the betterment of society. (University Hill beware: you’re most likely the next to be sacrificed for a bigger/better campus – woops, there goes University College and its iconic tower, blocked evermore from view).

The ‘price for progress’ indeed.

Frederick R. Ball, PhD (1975)
London

LOOKING BACK

From the Western News archives Oct. 29, 1998

■ The Campus Master Plan earmarks a new stadium on land south of the Huron Flats parking lot instead of at Althouse College (as in the 1994 plan). Removing J.W. Little Memorial Stadium opens up 10 acres for academic uses.
■ Each of Jesse’s Journey, the London Food Bank, and World Vision benefited from the UWO Rotaract Club to the tune of $1,000. The other $7,000 raised supported the annual Cystic Fibrosis summer camp.
■ Grad Club hosts “A Scary Night” United Way Halloween Bash Friday night. Come dressed to win the costume competition ($500 total cash prizes).
■ Classifieds: Canadian Welsh Singers is recruiting members for July 1999 Tour of Wales and Somerset.
■ “Why Arbitrate at the Olympics?” will be answered by Richard McLaren, professor in the Faculty of Law, as part of the Earle F. Zeigler Lecture series organized by the International Centre for Olympic Studies.

– compiled by Joshua Safer
Ecofeminism: our last great hope?

By Allan Irving

“When the planet is ruined, the continent forlorn in water and smoke,” writes Canadian poet Dionne Brand, in her long poem Meeting on Climate Change in the Heart of America where all life is estimated, 15,000 participants, there is a flicker of hope – even perhaps optimism – for the future.

Nevertheless it may very well be our most likely chance for planetary survival lies in what has come to be known as ecofeminism.

The contemporary environmental movement and ecofeminism can be historically located in 1962 when the marine biologist Rachel Carson (1907-1964) published her pathbreaking study Silent Spring. The book reflected a style where all life seemed to live in harmony with its surroundings. The book reflected Carson’s long standing concern that the reckless use of synthetic chemical pesticides after World War II was not only detrimental to the environment but to human beings themselves as a part of the natural world.

Another formative figure in the intellectual development of ecofeminism is the French feminist Francoise d’Eaubonne (1920-2005) who actually came up with the word ecofeminism, in 1974 she published Le féminisme ou la mort which strongly linked the devaluation of both women and the earth. Her book provided historical arguments that many women in the past used sound ecological methods that almost always were disrupted by male-dominated interests. The book was also a call to action: women needed to take steps immediately to save themselves and the earth simultaneously. If we listened to, and believed the counsel of ecofeminists, d’Eaubonne maintained, “our planet, close to, would become verdant again!” Nothing more than the extinction of people and the planet is at stake, insisted, and a complete rethink in thought and action is required.

Ecofeminism is the bringing together of environmentalism and feminism; it’s the view that there are significant connections between the domination of women, and the domination of nature, and the devaluation of nature, anthropocentrism. These two dominations are inextricably linked in philosophical discourse, the scientific imagination, and the eighteenth-century Enlightenment. There is a long standing discourse that has created a fundamental dichotomy between subject and object. The objectification of nature in the thought of Aristotle occurs by locating reality in the objects of the natural world. With Rene Descartes’ 17th century discourse on the separation of mind from the body or matter – thinking subject from external object – the justification for domination was solidified. This dualism between an active subject and passive object suggests literally man who receives, interprets, and organizes the sense data of a passive objective world.

Since women were often associated and even conflated with earth’s surface it was a simple logical step to both see women as objects and as passive, with men retaining a higher position in the symbolic order as active subjects. Aristotle did not mince words on this issue. He writes in De Generacione Animalium “the man is male, the woman is female, and as passive and the male, as male, is active, and the principle of movement comes from him.”

The father of modern science Francis Bacon (1561-1626) urged his new “man of science” to force from nature the secrets she con
cel
d in her womb, to unearth “the truth that lies hid in deep mines and caves” and “to shape her on the anvil.” Nature, as far as Bacon is concerned, must be “bound into service” turned into a “slave” put “in constraint” and “molded” to serve man’s (not woman’s) ends. Both nature and women were nothing more than objects to be undressed and exploited. Two 19th century art works are informative here. A sculpture located in the entry to the School of Medicine in Paris, is entitled Nature revealing herself to science, reflected the prevailing view that nature was only too eager to cast off her veil and expose her secrets. In Edouard Manet’s painting, Le Dejeuner sur l’Herbe, a naked women picnic on the grass with two fully clothed men.

The overall intention of ecofeminism is to restore, mend and empower the hidden, censored and crushed voices of women and the voices of the distressed and imperiled earth.

These highly trained and educated professionals are expected in the family. They provide the student body, as well as faculty and staff, with an imitable wealth of academic expertise. Our librarians and archivists are the heart of the university: facilitating the flow of research information and research throughout the university: facilitating the flow of research information and research throughout Western and its affiliates. Additionally, these individuals are highly respected mentors and role models for the students in Canada’s leading Library and Information Science program at Western.

Librarians and archivists have kept pace with the rapid technological changes affecting the profession. The librarian, an equitable living wage, is needed for Western librarians rank 91st.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Mujrra Nellig
MLIS Student Council
Deborah Kendall
CLA-UWO Student Chapter
Jessica Luet
Librarians Without Borders-UWO Committee

Employment equity reports online

The university has published two new reports on employment equity, one highlighting Western's progress on equity-related issues during the 2008-09 academic year, the other pointing out ways to improve employment equity on campus.

Both reports are available on the Equity and Human Rights Services website, which also invites members of the campus community to share their perceptions on equity issues at Western. Go to www.ca/equity/eqsr.htm
Bargaining down to the wire

Fifty-five university librarians and archivists represented by the University of Western Ontario Faculty Association will be in a legal strike position as of 12:01 a.m. on Saturday, Oct. 31. Conciliation meetings continued this week and were scheduled to run until Friday.

The university is putting a number of plans in place to minimize disruption to students, employees and the community. It is expected that all campus libraries will remain open and most services will be available.

All university employees who are not members of UWOFA-LA will be required to report to work as usual in the event of a labour disruption, and students will be required to attend all classes and exams as usual.

According to the university, when passing through picket lines, employees, students and visitors should:

- Be courteous if delayed or questioned by picketers
- If challenged, assert your position as a non-striking employee or student, and express your intention to exercise your legal right to work or attend classes
- Avoid arguments and confrontations
- Contact Campus Community Police Services at 519-661-3300 if safety concerns arise

Visit uwo.ca for up-to-date information.

Transit slowdown continues

Reduced city transit service at peak times will continue following rejection by transit workers of the most recent contract proposal.

In a union membership vote Tuesday, transit workers rejected the latest contract offer by a wide margin. However, both sides are considering returning to the bargaining table with no labour disruption.

London Transit expects regular service to be restored by as much as 10 per cent as drivers refuse to work overtime.

The reduction amounts to the elimination of about 200 hours of driving.

According to London Transit, “With reduced service, customers should expect buses to be more crowded, service delays and extended travel times, particularly in peak periods.”

For the impact on a specific service, visit the LTC website at http://www.ltc.ca and click on the WebWatch icon (at the top right-hand corner of the screen) to obtain real-time information regarding a particular bus schedule.

Western partnership proven fruitful

Research Western is pleased to announce the first competition for:

Undergraduate Award in Human Rights Research

Research Western has recently established the Undergraduate Award in Human Rights Research to support scholarly research undertaken at the undergraduate level at Western in the areas of human rights, genocide, social justice and related issues.

The research may be undertaken in compliance with the requirements of a regular university course, as part of a ready or special topics course, or at the student’s own initiative.

Funds for this award are provided by the Office of the Vice-President (Research & International Relations).

Grant Amount: Max. $2,500 annually

Deadline: On-going

To see “What’s Happening in RDAs” and for more program information, please visit: http://www.uwo.ca/research/uds.html.

Contact:

Florence Lourdes
Internal Grants Coordinator
Research Development & Services
internalgrants@uwo.ca
519.661.2111 ext. 84500

Board elections this week

Online elections for the Board of Governors will be held this week for one faculty position (Oct. 29 and 30). The nominees are:

- David Bentley, Professor, Department of English
- Deborah Compeau, Associate Professor, Richard Ivey School of Business
- Darvin Semotiuk, Professor, School of Kinesiology

For information about the candidates, and how to vote online, visit uwo.ca/universe/2009.
It was an emotional moment for Amit Chakma as he stood before an audience of University of Western Ontario graduates and his family on Oct. 23 to become officially installed as university president.

The installation occurred during Western's 294th convocation ceremony. Chakma's mother, two brothers and their families, as well as his wife, Meena, and sons, Justin and Hiroshi, attended the event. Although his father died before Chakma completed his PhD, choking back tears Chakma described how his father supported him and would share in the pride of his achievement.

"The story of my family is one of many examples of the strength of the human spirit. It is in many ways the story of so many – past and present – who have come to Canada with dreams, ambitions and a determination to build better futures," he says, noting as a young boy from a tribe in the hills of South Eastern Bangladesh, neither he, nor his parents, dreamed of such an appointment.

"I assume Western's presidency with boundless hope and unbridled optimism." Chakma spoke of his commitment to fulfilling former Western President Ed Hall's aspiration to make the university among the best in the world. Sticking to the timeline set out by Hall in the 1950s, Chakma envisions Western "joining the ranks of the great universities in the world by 2050."

"It will be a challenge and it will not be easy. But it can be done."

As Western's 10th president, Chakma realizes the gravity of his responsibilities and many of the challenges – both immediate and forthcoming – that will impact his period in office. But he encourages the university community to face these challenges head on.

"At Western, let us set our aim high and have the courage to fall short."

"It is time now for Western to educate 'global citizens' and our future leaders. It will take our sheer determination, hard work and the relentless pursuit of excellence as a collective."

In her introductory speech, Michele Noble, chair of Western's board of Governors, says it was a unanimous choice of the Presidential Selection Committee to appoint Chakma as president.

"Amit believes in achievement through community and partnerships, and finding opportunity in adversity. We in the Western community are truly fortunate to have him as our leader," she says.

As part of the ceremony, Chakma recited the Declaration of Office. He received greetings from visiting representatives of other Canadian universities and colleges, from municipal, provincial and federal governments, Western employee groups, Western's Alumni Association, undergraduate and graduate students' representatives, the Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada and the Council of Ontario Universities.

Close to 2,000 graduates received degrees during the two-day convocation ceremonies.

In recognition of contributions to the community and their respective fields, Western awarded honorary degrees to Dr. Cecil Rorabeck and Uri Mayer.

Rorabeck, a Western graduate (MD '68) and professor emeritus, received an honorary Doctor of Science, honoris causa (D.Sc.), in recognition of the worldwide impact he has made as an expert on knee and hip surgery and his dedication to community service.

Mayer, one of Canada's most respected conductors, received a Doctor of Music, honoris causa (D.Mus.), in recognition of his leadership role with three major Canadian orchestras, including being principal conductor of Orchestra London, where his musical vision enhanced the reputation of the orchestra across the country.

Also during convocation, the status of Librarian Emerita was conferred upon Mary Jameson and Enid McFadden.
Women’s History Month

October is Women’s History Month. We celebrate this month because through the efforts of five women, on Oct. 18, 1929 all women were found to be persons under the law. Known collectively as the Famous Five, Henrietta Muir Edwards, Nellie McClung, Louise McKinney, Emily Murphy and Irene Parlby made history. While this history of the First Feminism is recorded and celebrated, students in Prof. Rebecca Coulter's Oral Histories class, working with the London Women’s History Group, have chosen to capture the history of the Second Wave. We offer brief snapshots here to remember those who paved the way for the freedoms and rights we enjoy today.

A brief history of abortion rights in Canada

By Thelma Lawrence

“I saw women dying from back street abortions and felt I had to do something,” says Amanda McKim, a London doctor. “I had to do something,” says Amanda. “I don’t know what right they have now that they didn’t have before.”

The choice to have an abortion or not. We are very much determined by a committee of three medical practitioners. who worked at Women’s College Hospital in the 1950s.

In 1969, Parliament passed the Abortion Act allowing abortions for medical reasons. The Act was repudiated (abortion law struck down)

In 1970, an Abortion caravan of five women from London walked to Ottawa to hold two days of demonstrations before the Royal Canadian Senate, which was considering a bill to criminalize abortion.

The Abortion Act became law in 1976.

In 1991, the Supreme Court of Canada in the R. v. AP decision held that the Abortion Act is unconstitutional because it re-presses women’s right to life and security of person. In 2006 the Supreme Court of Canada in the R. v. Morgentaler decision held that the Abortion Act is unconstitutional because it represses women’s right to life and security of person.

Today, half of Canadians believe abortion should be legal under all circumstances and another 42 per cent support it in some circumstances.

In 2008 the organization of Women formed the Students for Choice, a group of students joined in by a group of students.

Morgentaler was jailed for performing abortions in his clinic in Quebec, although he was refused to correct him. In 1990, the Supreme Court of Canada in the Morgentaler case held that the Abortion Act is unconstitutional because it represses women’s right to life and security of person. In 2006 the Supreme Court of Canada in the Morgentaler decision held that the Abortion Act is unconstitutional because it represses women’s right to life and security of person.

Yesterday, Dr. Henry Morgentaler, the Canadian doctor who performed the first legal abortion in Canada, died at age 87.

The Morgentaler decision was a landmark in Canadian law, and it is now legally the mother of her children.

As she explains, “Although they do not have proper medical training.”

I am not defined by the fact that I have a uterus. I am a woman. I am a fighter. I am a leader. I am a warrior. I am a teacher.

My family consists of two parents and a child. They must be united in a home where we are bound together by the love and respect we have for each other. In 2005, the Supreme Court of Canada in the Morgentaler case held that the Abortion Act is unconstitutional because it represses women’s right to life and security of person.

Thirty-four years after Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau asserted in 1970 that “the state has no place in the lives of private individuals” women and men are free to choose whether or not to have children. In 2008, Prime Minister Stephen Harper decided that the state does not have a role to play in the lives of private individuals.

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KNOW A TOP STAFF MEMBER?
Nominations for the 2010 Western Award of Excellence are open. This award is the highest level of campus-wide recognition for Western staff. Visit www.ca/psy/kognition/nomination.htm for more information and to download a nomination form. Western faculty, staff, students and alumni are encouraged to nominate an individual staff member or a team of staff who make exceptional contributions to our campus community. Nominations will be accepted until Nov. 27.

SEEKING CHARITIES SEEKING SUPPORT
The University Students’ Council is looking for a local charity to be the recipient of proceeds from the 2010 Charity Ball. Held annually in January, the ball supports a new organization every year. Last year the event raised $20,000 for the Children’s Health Foundation, in support of a new mental health initiative. Applicants should describe their organization, potential uses for the donation and outline current fundraising efforts. The deadline is Nov. 2. The application is available at usc.uwo.ca/charityballapps.

ANCIENT ATHLETICS
Zaheer Newby, Reader in Classics and Ancient History at the University of Warwick in the U.K., will deliver the Ioannides Memorial Lecture, Oct. 30 at 3:30 p.m. in Room 40 of the Arthur and Sonia Labatt Health Sciences Building. Newby’s address will focus on a major theme of her research: “Greek Athletics in the Roman West.” Her best-known publications are Greek Athletics in the Roman World: Victory and Virtue (Oxford University Press, 2005) and the survey text: Athletics in the Ancient World (Duckworth, 2006).

LECTURE TOUR PLANNED
Slobodan Simonovic, a professor of Civil and Environmental Engineering and Director of Engineering Studies, Institute for Catastrophic Loss Reduction, has been invited to take part in a national lecture tour in the spring of 2010 with the Canadian Society for Civil Engineering. The tour will include about 10 lectures coast to coast. Simonovic is an expert in water resources engineering.

TRICK OR EAT?
When the door opens this Hallow’e’en, houses in London may find some older kids at their doorstep. London is one of 53 Canadian communities participating in Trick or Eat this Saturday, with more than 350 Western students out collecting for the local food bank. “It’s startling to hear that over 720,000 people visit a food bank each month in Canada,” says Casey Whitelock, Western’s student organizer. “Trick or Eat is a fun and easy way for us to do something about that.”

KOSKIE MINSKY LECTURE
The Honourable Madam Justice Rosalie Abella will deliver the 2009 Koskie Minsky Lecture in Labour Law on Oct. 30 at 5:30 p.m. in Conron Hall. Abella, who will speak on ‘Reflections on the Abella Report: 25 Years Later,’ was the sole commissioner on the 1984 federal Royal Commission on Equality in Employment. Her report coined the concept of “employment equity,” a new strategy for reducing the barriers in employment faced by women, aboriginal peoples, visible minorities and persons with disabilities. The lecture is organized by Western Law and the Toronto law firm of Koskie Minsky LLP, and is part of Western Law’s annual Labour Law Conference.

JKE’S RIGHT-HAND MAN
Ted Sorensen, U.S. President John F. Kennedy’s legendary right-hand man (special counsel, speechwriter and close advisor) will be speaking this afternoon (Thursday) at the Arthur and Sonia Labatt Health Sciences Building (Room 40) beginning at 4:30 p.m. Invited by the Political Science Association, Sorensen takes audiences back to the era when many important decisions in American history were made. Admission is free, but seating is limited.

GRADUATE STUDENT ON AC CREDITATION BODY
Stephanie Jones, PhD student in Nursing Education, has been appointed to the Canadian Association of Schools of Nursing Accreditation Bureau for a two-year term. The bureau is responsible for accrediting Canadian baccalaureate nursing programs. There is only one graduate of a BScN program on the board; other members are academics, representatives of nursing practice and regulatory organizations, and a lay person.

A gigantic pumpkin and squash fell from the sky last week to the cheers of Western students. The annual Pumpkin Drop, organized by Western Engineering students, helped raise more than $2,000 for Engineers Without Borders, who are dedicated to finding widespread, sustainable solutions to extreme poverty in Africa.

A cubicle doesn’t have to be square
A properly planned work environment improves your ability to get organized, stay organized and reduce the potential for repetitive strain injuries.
By D.M.R. Bentley

In the summer of 1853, the Canadian poet Charles Sangster travelled by steamer from his native Kingston down the St. Lawrence and up the Saguenay as far as Trinity Rock.

The long poem that resulted – The St. Lawrence and the Saguenay (1856) – interweaves ecstatic avowals of love for a mysterious “Maiden” with vivid descriptions of the landmarks, scenery, and peoples encountered along the rivers that were apparently intended to appeal to the increasing number of tourists who were visiting the area from the United States as well as from Kingston, Toronto, and elsewhere in Canada West.

The lines that I have excerpted from The St. Lawrence and the Saguenay are part of Sangster’s effusive description of the Thousand Islands, which, good Kingstonian that he was, he regarded as the paradisial seat of the “Spirit of beauty,” and, as the lines show, completely devoid of the supernatural creatures of European mythology.

Sangster was not the first writer to observe the absence of such creatures in Canada. Twenty years earlier, in The Backwoods of Canada (1836), Catharine Parr Traill makes the same point in a passage that may well lie behind Sangster’s description: “As to ghosts and spirits, they appear totally banished from Canada. This is too matter-of-fact a country for ... supernaturals to visit.... We have neither fay nor fairy, ghost nor bogle, satyr nor wood-nymph; our ... forests disdain to shelter dryad or hamadryad. No naiad haunts the rushy margin of our lakes, or haillows with her presence our forest-rills.... I heard a friend exclaim ... ‘It is the most unpoetical of all lands; there is no scope for imagination; here all is new’.

Faced with the absence of “ghosts and spirits,” Traill asserts that she herself can yet be “very happy and contented” in Canada because the natural world that she encounters on her walks “in the forest or by the borders of ... lakes” provides a continual source of “amusement and interest.”

With the turn of thought initiated by the “But” at the beginning of the second-to-last line of his description, Sangster implicitly makes the same claim as Traill.

So what if there are no “Nymph[s],” “Nereids,” and “Gnomes” in Canada? More than ample compensation for their absence is provided for the “wild enthusiast” – the ardent lover of the wild – by the natural world. In the two lines that follow, the phrases “endless landscapes” and “softest breezes” use the suffixes of infinitude and superlativeness to convey a sense of the vastness and congeniality of the Canadian environment.

By slowing down and extending the duration of the lines, the long vowel sounds in words such as “through,” “o’er,” and “softest” also contribute to the sense of Canada’s vastness, as do the additive “And” at the beginning of the last line and the expansion of the same line from five to six iambic feet. Suspended, as it were, in space at the edge of the poem, the verb “flow” seems bent on launching the reader out into the immense spaces beyond the page.

Northrop Frye famously claimed that Canadian poetry is pervaded by “a tone of deep terror in regard to nature,” but there is no such feeling in Sangster’s lines. Indeed, quite the opposite is the case: “hideous Gnomes, to fill the breast with fear” are nowhere to be found.

Instead, the tone is one of proud enthusiasm and reverence for Canada’s “wild” nature and vast landscapes that can also be found in the work of the Group of Seven, in some of the Arctic poems of Al Purdy, and in the accounts of people returning with eyes widened and spirits uplifted from trips to the Rockies, Algonquin Park, and, closer to home, the shores of Lake Huron whose stark horizontality and luminous skies Jack Chambers captures so brilliantly in Lake Huron No.1 and Lake Huron No.3 (1970-71 and 1971-72).

The writer teaches Canadian literature and culture and Victorian literature and art in the Department of English.
Shifting from business to academe

BY BRITTANY SEKI

A baby’s face – big, bright blue eyes and a shining smile – beams from a calendar that hangs right above Shannon Butler’s desk.

“That’s my son,” she said, leaning back in her office chair and pointing to the picture. Butler, 28, says with a chuckle. “He is almost all Butler can think of right now.

One-year-old Keegan’s picture stands out among the dozens of accounting books that line her office shelves. As her first-born, he is almost all Butler can think of right now.

“I wish I could just be home playing with him all day,” she says.

Yet before the Keegan’s birth, she was terrified of having a baby.

“I never babysat or held a baby and I didn’t have a maternal instinct,” explains Butler. “I thought it was gross when they drooled and the idea of changing a diaper didn’t sit well.”

But the second the baby was born, the new mother’s feelings changed.

“Being a mom is crazy and it’s a lot of fun. I still think other people’s kids are gross, but not to the extent I did before,” Butler says with a chuckle.

Keegan loves to play outdoors on the playground with his mom and dad. Like her son, Butler also loves keeping active outside the house.

Over the summer, she was a member of Sistas in Soccer, a women’s recreational soccer league in London. Her husband, Curtis Butler, always brought Shannon Butler’s desk.

“Curtis had to distract my son until the game was over,” she says, laughing. “He would cry a lot because he’d just want to see me.”

The soccer mom’s love of sports first brought her to Western in 2000. She left her native Newmarket, Ont, to join the university’s cheerleading team.

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“Western’s cheerleaders always came first in nationals and I wanted to be on the best team,” Butler says.

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She joined the squad the summer before her first year of university. However, she felt she didn’t always fit in with the cheerleaders.

“What I wanted to do with my life’s not about what I’m doing and that makes it easier,” she says, glancing up at the calendar photo. “But family is a huge priority. Life’s not about me anymore, it’s about my son and having fun with him. And I love it.”

The writer is a graduate student studying journalism.
IN MEMORIAM

Medicine dean left legacy

Harold Warwick, 94, dean of the Faculty of Medicine from 1961-65 and Vice-President (Health Sciences, 1965-1972), died Oct. 21 in St. Paul’s Anglican Church in London on Saturday, Oct. 31 at 11 a.m.

According to Carol Herbert, dean of the Schulich School of Medicine:

“I have had the pleasure of knowing Dr. Warwick over the years that I have been dean, and of having him attend celebratory events such as the recent unveiling of the plaque in the Medical Sciences Building lobby to honour G. Edward Hall. He always had a warm word to offer and a twinkle in his eye. We offer sincere condolences to his family.”

Warwick (BA, MA, MD, FRCP (C), FRCP, LL.D., CM) was born in 1915 in St. John, New Brunswick. He graduated with a B.A. in 1937 from the University of Western Ontario. He also received undergraduate degrees from Mount Allison University, a M.A. in Physiology from Oxford University (having attended on a Rhodes Scholarship for two years), and an MD. from McGill University.

Warwick interned at the Royal Victoria Hospital in Montreal before joining the RCAF. He completed postgraduate work at the Royal Victoria Hospital, Royal Cancer Hospital, and Brompton Chest Hospital in London, England.

On returning to Canada, he practiced internal medicine in Montreal and taught at McGill University. A highly valued award named for him, the O. Harold Warwick Prize, is given annually to a scientist whose research has had a major impact on cancer control in Canada. Warwick’s work as a pioneering researcher in cancer control and treatment led to him becoming the first executive director of both the former National Cancer Institute of Canada and the Canadian Cancer Society.

In 1961 Warwick accepted the position of dean of the Faculty of Medicine at Western. Warwick maintained the position for four years before becoming Vice-President of Health Sciences (1965-1972). He was also a professor of oncology.

Warwick was awarded honorary degrees from Mount Allison University and The University of Western Ontario. He also received The University of Western Ontario’s Alumni Association Award of Merit. He became a Member of the Order of Canada in 1990.

When Warwick retired from the faculty in 1980, he had 19 years of service at the university. A memorial service is scheduled at St. Paul’s Anglican Church, 472 Richmond St. London on Saturday, Oct. 31 at 11 a.m.

Warwick is survived by his wife, Barbara, and a large family.

The third dean of Western Engineering, Gordon Chess, died in London Oct. 9 at the age of 83.

Chess, who had 35 years of service at Western when he retired in 1991, led the Faculty of Engineering from 1978 – 1987. His direction included the launch of the Industry Internship Program and the opening of the Boundary Layer Wind Tunnel Laboratory.

Chess served with the Royal Canadian Electrical and Mechanical Engineers during the Second World War. He earned degrees from University of Toronto (B.Sc.), McGill (M.Eng) and Worcester Polytechnic Institute (PhD Engineering). Former student, colleague and friend, Peter Castle, Emeritus and Adjunct Research Professor, Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering, remembers Chess:

“I remember Gordon fondly. He, along with Stuart Lauchland, were the only two faculty members in the Electrical Group when I was here as an undergraduate student from 1957 to 1961,” says Castle.

“Although his military background gave him the reputation of being a strict disciplinarian, in fact he was a kindly gentleman who treated his students with affection and respect. On many occasions he opened his home to entertain student groups. He always encouraged them to gain broad life experience and for that reason the scholarship in his name is specifically targeted for students who participate in university and community affairs.”

Memorial contributions to The University of Western Ontario for the Gordon Chess Scholarship held at Foundation Western or the Brain Tumor Foundation would be gratefully acknowledged by the family.

The Gordon Chess Scholarship is awarded to a student entering third year in the Faculty of Engineering who exhibits broad interests and leadership qualities by participation in university or community activities. This award was established in 1993, in honour of Chess.

Chess was an active member and Rector’s Warden at St. John the Divine Anglican Church in Arva.
October 29
John Labatt Visual Arts Centre – “Song Show”
Guest curated by Daniela Slepnova / Kathleen Poirier Adams. All free. All welcome. For more info call 519.661.211 ext. 85855. Runs until Nov. 20.


Department of Classical Studies – Zahra Nezvy, University of Warwick, “The lure of violence: mythological landscapes in Roman domestic art.” Talbot College, Room 309. 4:30 p.m.

Department of Modern Languages and Literatures – Indian Film Series “Sholay” (Embers). UC 30. 6 p.m.


Department of English – A performance by celebrated Canadian poet Daphne Marlatt and musicians Robert Menzies and Carla Hellet, “Like Light Off Water.” University College 224, Conron Hall. Everyone welcome, free of charge, followed by a reception. 8 p.m.

The Career Centre @ Western – annual Graduation and Professional Fair. Student Recreation Centre, II a.m. - 3 p.m.

October 30
Western Staff and Faculty Wellness Series – Jim Galbraith, PPD Manager. Grounds Maintenance & Waste Management. “Reducing your lawn and gardens for winter” SSLB, Room 4210. 12 p.m. No registration required.

Don Wright Faculty of Music – Music from Johann to John: or, from Bach to the Beatles! Gwen Lilley, soprano, Sir William Hughes, flute, and Marianna Chibotar, piano. von Kuster Hall. 11 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Don Wright Faculty of Music – New series: Student chamber ensemble performs at D.B. Weldon Library 1 p.m.

Field Hockey – OAU championships at Western. quarter-final, 12 p.m.; quarter-final, 2 p.m.

Faculty of Law – Equity in the Workplace. Madame Justice Rosalie Abella, Supreme Court Faculty of Law. 12 p.m.; quarter-final, 2 p.m.

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Department of French Studies – De batter, man cœur s’est arêté de Jacques Audard (2005). Movies are in French with English subtitles. Free screenings. SEB, Room 2200. 7 p.m. (2005). Movies are in French with English sub-

November 1
Don Wright Faculty of Music – “The Going Back Home Exhibition” Brazilian photographer, Radisson Carlos Gomes brings to light the experiences of survivors living in confined psychiatric wards for decades and finally released their communities after the Mental Health Reform signed in Brazil in 2001. Elborn College. For more info: Lilian Magalhães, 519.661.2111 ext. 80476. Runs Oct. 29 – 30. Elborn College. 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

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The Career Centre @ Western – annual Graduation and Professional Fair. Student Recreation Centre, II a.m. - 3 p.m.

One of two new exhibits opening in November at the McIntosh Gallery explores the impact of HIV/AIDS. Hamilton artist Andrew McPhail responds to his own HIV-positive status with an installation called all my little failures. McPhail will present a free walking tour on Nov. 6 at noon. Dr. C. Y. Kang, a Western professor of virology, will speak on “Can we stop the HIV/AIDS epidemic?” on Nov. 17 at 12:30 p.m. The other exhibit features additions to the permanent collection. The exhibitions, opening Nov. 5 at 5:30 p.m., run until Dec. 5.
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PhD Lectures
Jushin Wang - Geology, Brachipods from the Middle Devonian Hamilton Group of Southeastern Ontario, Canada. Oct. 29, Room 106S, BGSG, 1 p.m.


Ivy Kiyi-Poku - Business Administration, Toward a Better Understanding of Fairness in the Workplace: The Role of Psychological Uncertainty and Burnout. Oct. 30, Room 1005, Ivey, 9 a.m.

Appointments
Peter C. Williamson has been reappointed as the Tanna Schulich Chair in Neuroscience and Mental Health in the Department of Psychology until June 30, 2024.

Please send submissions to revised@uwo.ca

Careers

A central Web site displays advertisements for all vacant academic positions. The following positions are among those advertised at www.uwo.ca/psf/facultyreverntions/jobs/index-2004.html. Please review, or contact the faculty, school or department directly.

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