By Bob Klanac

A performance hall for The University of Western Ontario has been talked about for years and Robert Wood wants to do something about it.

Wood, Dean of Western’s Don Wright Faculty of Music, says there’s a pressing need for a performance hall of around 1,000 seats.

“I think there are three options,” he says. “The renovation of Alumni Hall, building a new hall contiguous to the existing music building or a new hall built on another location on campus.”

Wood says although he’s been active on the issue as a long-time member of the London Arts Centre Committee and most recently the City of London’s Creative Cities Committee, the trigger for recent interest was a spring performance by Western’s music students in Toronto’s 1,000-seat George Weston Recital Hall.

“Everybody was just knocked out by this opportunity,” he says. “It was an eye opener as to what a wonderful space can do.”

As well, this past summer Western’s role as host campus to the National Youth Orchestra drew positive reviews from participants and organizers on all fronts, except for the venue for their free farewell performance.

“Even though at 1,500 people, it was the best attended concert of their tour, Alumni Hall was not.

Continued on Page 15
HONORARY DEGREE NOMINATIONS
The Honorary Degrees Committee of the Senate will meet in December to select candidates for honorary degrees to be awarded at Western's 2008 Spring Convocation. To ensure that consideration is given to as many worthy candidates as possible, the Committee invites the submission of nominations from any member of the University Community.

Nomination forms may be obtained from the University Secretariat, Room 290, Stevenson-Lawson Building, or from the following website: http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/senate/hondeg.pdf. Nominations should be submitted to the Secretary of the Senate prior to November 30th, 2007, for consideration by the Honorary Degrees Committee.

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Stronger Rwanda ties key Western initiative

By Paul Mayne

Continuing its support of Rwanda's Kigali Health Institute, a number of Western's top administrators, including President Paul Davenport, will travel to the east-central African country later this year.

Ted Hewitt, Vice-President (Research & International Relations), along with Davenport, deans Franco Berruti (Engineering), David Wardlaw (Science) and Carol Herbert (Schulich) will be in Rwanda to review the progress and build on existing initiatives in the area of health care.

One such project is the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) — funded work of Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry professor David Cechetto and School of Nursing professor Carol Iwasiw.

The primary focus of the program is to educate nurses and build capacity at the KHI by implementing and developing a curriculum that can be sustained.

While in Africa, the university's expertise is also being sought directly by Rwandan President Paul Kagame and his senior government ministers, who visited Western's campus in April.

"We will also be looking to establish new collaborative projects with colleagues in Rwanda in areas including environmental remediation, renewable energy, and conflict resolution," says Hewitt.

"Once the projects are identified, we would be looking for support for partners in Canada including the International Development Research Centre, NSERC, SSHRC, and the Canadian International Development Agency."

The university would also like to expand the Western Heads East project, now active in Kenya, to Rwanda, to strengthen what has become a beneficial relationship for Rwanda and its institutions as well as to Western.

"First off, we are provided with electronic assistance to the KHI for use by the Institute.

"We are also sending our students to Rwanda to work alongside faculty from both Western and our partner institutions in the field.

"This provides an outstanding educational opportunity."

The university is also sending electronic assistance to the KHI with a soon-to-be shipment of computers.

"More than 30 machines, with Windows 2000 or newer, will make the long journey to Rwanda for use by the Institute.

"Our activities in East Africa are also a concrete demonstration of this university's commitment to internationalization, and enhance Western's reputation as a global player with much to offer."

During their last visit to Rwanda, Hewitt and Davenport witnessed first-hand the need for basic instructional and research equipment.

"Defining the priority areas for meeting this need is more difficult," admits Hewitt, but adds in the case of the computers, it was a response to a specific request of the president of the Rwandan National University, who visited Western last spring.

Cechetto, who last year spearheaded the collection and shipment of unused books and equipment to help nursing education in Rwanda, along with his administrative assistant Nicole MacLeod, is preparing to ship the computers, which he expects to arrive later this year.

"The campus community really helped us out once again," says Cechetto, who will also travel this fall to Rwanda.

While other institutions talk about their global involvement, Hewitt says this trip by so many top administrators shows Western's commitment to truly making a difference in the world.

"Our activities in East Africa are also a concrete demonstration of this university's commitment to internationalization, and enhance Western's reputation as a global player with much to offer."
How to get ahead at Western

A course geared to providing university staff with career advancement advice filled within three hours of being announced although names are being taken for a future course.

Data have not yet been set but interested persons are being urged to contact Nancy Stewart in Learning and Development at nstewart@uwo.ca to put their names on a list.

For the filled October session, Human Resources is partnering with David Tucker, a career development specialist, and WIL Employment Connections of London to offer an intensive three-part career advancement program. The program is designed for staff seeking career opportunities within Western.

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

The program features a number of components:

- Career Assessment: charting the right career path - discover your interests, strengths, and the direction you would like to take in advancing your career at Western.
- Resumes that get results
- Winning interview strategies

To determine whether future programs would fit your needs, visit www.uwo.ca/humanresources/learning for program details.

Law plans public forum on electoral reform

The Faculty of Law has organized a debate and information session on the upcoming referendum on electoral reform in Ontario.

Scheduled for Sept. 24 at 7:30 p.m. in the Moot Court Room of the Law Building, the faculty is inviting members of the general public as well as the campus community to learn more about this important decision.

The referendum will be on the ballot of the Oct. 10 provincial election.

Panellists – all from Western unless otherwise noted – include: Grant Huscroft, Law; Laura Stephenson, Political Science; Peter Wootstenco - Political Science, University of Waterloo; and Paul Barker - Political Science, Brescia University College.

The moderator is Jennifer Hall from A Channel News.

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Western opens doors to London again

By Bob Klanac

Western doesn’t typically do things low-key and last year’s Doors Open London tour was no exception.

In 2006, two of the eight Western sites, Gibbons Lodge and the Boundary Layer Wind Tunnel, represented the campus particularly well with about 1,500 visitors to each facility over the two-day event.

“They were two of the most popular sites on the Doors Open London tour,” says Marcia Steyaert of Western Community Relations. “We were overwhelmed by the response.”

Doors Open London 2007, taking place September 22-23, allows public access to London locales, not normally accessible to the public.

Western is offering ten sites up for exploration this year. Gibbons, and the Boundary Layer Wind Tunnel, the Arthur and Sonia Labatt Health Sciences Building, Conron Hall and Huron University College will be open again this year in addition to the museum of Ontario Archeology, the Archives and research Collection Centre in Weldon Library, the National Research Council, Spencer Lodge / Spencer Park and Brescia University College.

“While we encourage Londoners to visit campus throughout the year we are particularly proud to have so many sites on the Doors Open tour,” says Steyaert.

She notes that in recent years the popular event has added sites not specifically falling under the heritage description.

“That noted, they are places that hold intrigue for Londoners such as the wind tunnel, the Arthur and Sonia Labatt Health Sciences Building and others in the city.”

Last year at Gibbons Lodge, Steyaert says the historic building was enhanced by some visitors with their own history.

“We had a relative of Miss Gibbons’ limousine driver stop by to talk,” says Steyaert. “We also had a former maid of Miss Gibbons’ who hadn’t been in the house since she worked there more than 50 years ago.”

For more information on Doors Open London, go to www.door-openlondon.ca.

Police promote safety methods

With a number of sexual assaults occurring at other Ontario universities in the last couple of weeks, Campus Community Police Service is reminding students to maintain a high level of awareness for their own safety and the safety of others.

Recently, a woman was sexually assaulted while working at night in a lab at Carleton University; several women were sexually assaulted while returning to campus at Laurentian University after having been out for the evening; and two women were sexually assaulted at York University after two men together entered six different unlocked residence rooms while the women were sleeping.

In addition, some thefts have already occurred from residence rooms and bike racks at Western.

Police encourage students to learn these helpful safety tips:

■ Keep your doors locked when resting, studying or away from your room (even if you’re only away for a minute or two).

■ Do not use an “open door” approach.

■ Only hold the front door at your residence open for people that you are sure live in the building.

■ Use “floor watch” and look out for one another.

■ Use a buddy or Foot Patrol when walking on campus in the evening (661-3650).

■ Pay attention to who you see in your buildings.

■ Report immediately any suspicious persons or activities to the front desk or Campus police at 911.

For more information on safety issues, call the campus police non-emergency number at 519-661-3300 or visit www.uwo.ca/police.
Study Time

It may only be the second full week of school, but students are already hitting the books. Third-year English student Lindsay Freeman was able to find some quite time in D. B. Weldon Library. Check out Weldon information, including titles of new books, at www.lib.uwo.ca/weldon/

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Doors Open London is made possible through the generous assistance of our sponsors:
Robert Wood, Dean of the Don Wright Faculty of Music, is flanked by second-year music student Heather Hutchison and James McKay, Chair of Music Performance Studies. Wood holds drawings for a potential project that could convert Alumni Hall into a music performance space. The renovation is one of three options Wood says. No projects have been approved by the university.

Renovated Alumni Hall ‘would be beautiful’

supporting their performance,” says Wood.

As a first step Wood has commissioned drawings detailing how Alumni Hall could be converted into a 1,200 seat performance hall.

“If it was renovated, it would be beautiful,” he says.

It would however be smaller than its current capacity of 2,300, which would create issues for other types of events the facility currently supports.

“There is a domino effect,” he says. “For example, there has to be a place for basketball.”

Not surprisingly, Wood has considered the impact on convocation, which sees up to 2,300 people crowd into Alumni Hall for a number of convocation sessions annually.

“With 1,200 seats, there would have to be a rethinking of convocation,” he says. “However, at UBC (University of British Columbia), they do it in the Chan Centre for the Performing Arts, which also has 1,200 seats.”

Wood notes that other educational institutions are investing in performance facilities, citing Wilfrid Laurier University’s Mau- reen Forester Hall, Queen’s University’s recent commitment to a performing arts centre, McGill’s Schulich recital hall, and the University of Toronto’s McMillan Theatre.

Wood’s quest for a hall has been matched by music student Heather Hutchison’s parallel drive for a similar facility, which arose entirely separate from Wood’s project.

Hutchison’s efforts are not surprising to Wood because music students, perhaps more than anyone, know the value of such a hall to their education.

“They’ll be hearing and listening to performances in this hall and learning about performing from that.”

The drive for a dedicated performance hall has been a familiar theme in London for the last 20 years. Wood knows the issues well as he’s been involved in those efforts. While he admits the city could be a partner in Western’s efforts to secure a hall, he’s wary of tying his efforts too closely to London’s.

“That shouldn’t deter us from looking at them but right now my focus is on campus and we’ve got to do something,” he says.

“I have to say that the provost (Fred Longstaffe) has been very supportive in this, I think the senior administration in general has shown support. There’s obviously a financial issue to this but this is a positive administration.”

For the time being, Wood and like-minded colleagues have been talking up the issue among alumni and friends of the faculty.

“We’re coming to a point of gathering together a steering committee to advise and maybe take some steps,” he says.

“As soon as possible I believe, with goodwill, this could move very quickly. I’m an eternal optimist and that’s where I’m going to sit.”
Lecture series tackles history of peace

Margaret MacMillan, Warden of St. Antony’s College (University of Oxford), will share her thoughts on the ‘uses and abuses in history’ as part of the annual Joanne Goodman Lecture series Sept. 25-27.

Every autumn a distinguished historian is invited to The University of Western Ontario to deliver three public lectures on consecutive afternoons to students, faculty and members of the London community.

The lecture series was established in 1975 by the Honourable Edwin A. Goodman and his family of Toronto to perpetuate the memory of their beloved elder daughter, a second year History student who died in a highway accident in April of that year. MacMillan, who took on her new role this past July, had previously been Provost of Trinity College and professor of History at the University of Toronto.

Her publications include Peacemakers: the Paris Conference of 1919 and Its Attempt to Make Peace. The latter was published in North America as Paris 1919: Six Months that Changed the World and won the Duff Cooper Prize, the Samuel Johnson Prize for non-fiction, the Hessell-Tiltman Prize for History, the Silver Medal for the Council on Foreign Relations Arthur Ross Book Award and the Governor-General’s prize for non-fiction in 2003.

In addition, MacMillan is a Fellow of the Royal Society of Literature, a Senior Fellow of Massey College, University of Toronto, and in 2006 was invested as an Officer of the Order of Canada.

The topics of the talks include

- Sept. 25 - History: Producers and Consumers
- Sept. 26 - History as a Tool and as a Weapon
- Sept. 27 - History and Decision-Making

The series will be held in the McKellar Room in the UCC beginning at 4:30 p.m. each day.

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Maragaret MacMillan to speak of the ‘uses and abuses in history’.
Should laptops be allowed in the classroom?

Have an opinion on this question? Visit the ‘At Western’ feature on Western’s homepage at www.uwo.ca

Mitchell Brocklebank
Biology II

I don’t see why not. It’s a matter of preference right? Some people prefer pen and paper, some prefer laptops. I don’t find them too distracting or anything so I can’t think of any reason why they wouldn’t be allowed.

Jonathan Giles
Linguistics II

Well, I don’t think they’re necessary to begin with. Personally I don’t have one. What I find is that if I don’t sit in front of the class, in front of all the laptops, I’m distracted. Because more often than not with the wireless access, you find people who are chatting on MSN or going on a funny website and that distracts me and a lot of other people. I’m not sure if I have an explicit problem with people having laptops because there are people who use them for the advantages that exist but it does annoy me more often than not.

Marissa Neilly
MIT I

I think that’s up to personal opinion. I personally don’t use a laptop because I find it distracting for me. I think it’s not good to be distracted but I think it should be the individual’s decision.

Lisa Beachamp
Nursing II

Well yeah I do because lots of times lectures go really fast and they’re all on slides and you don’t get a chance to copy everything down. I have 10 times the notes in my computer than if I was just writing them in pen. If a student is looking from behind at someone with a laptop looking at their Facebook that’s the student’s choice to participate in the lecture or look at someone else’s laptop. But if the student themselves is on Facebook and stuff, then yeah it’s a huge distraction for that actual student.

Victoria Bentley
MIT / Political Science double major II

I believe that Internet access is a bit of a challenge. I think it distracts students especially those that don’t have laptops who can see over the shoulders of people in front of them. But it’s also very efficient to use it for typing, for word processing. So I think they should be allowed but perhaps a lock can be placed over an account so the student can’t access the internet and look at things that aren’t related to the class material.

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Students seek campus sustainability solutions

By Jordan Kemp

In almost two weeks, the Sustainable Campuses, National Conference will finally begin at the University of Western Ontario.

In partnership between the Sierra Youth Coalition, a branch of the Sierra Club of Canada, and EnviroWestern, the conference will serve to launch sustainability initiatives on campus.

Drawing 150 students from across Canada, the National Conference will train and educate students on how to conduct a reliable sustainability assessment and implement change.

The conference is the only event of its kind in North America, bringing the next generations of leaders together to improve the sustainability of campus communities.

In addition to training delegates, the conference will host several keynote speaker sessions open to the entire university. On Sept. 28, Western’s Charles Trick, Beryl Ivey Chair of Ecosystem Health.

Hans Schreff of London Hydro’s conservation program will discuss the importance of utilities, the private sector and the individual in improving energy efficiency.

On September 29th, Penn Kemp will open the evening with a reading of her work “Poem for Peace in Many Voices.”

Evan Peter, the national director of Native Movement, will give the Saturday evening keynote entitled “Steps Towards a Balanced World.”

The Sustainable Campuses, National Conference, 2007 seeks not only to train students across Canada on improving sustainability on their own campuses, but to inaugurate initiatives within our own community. This event will showcase our successes while providing a means for community members to effectively reduce their own ecological footprint.

The writer is a member of EnviroWestern and coordinator of the Sustainable Campuses, National Conference. To learn more about the event, visit www.syc-cjs.org/sustainable.
MUSTANGS TO WATCH

A snapshot of Western’s top athletes

Tanja Ness
Education Major
Brechin, Ont.
Women’s Rugby

With six tries and a convert for 32 points in two games last week, Tanja Ness earned her stripes as Mustangs female athlete of the week. Her five-try performance against the Laurier Golden Hawks on Sept. 16 at the Rugby Fields led Western to a 62-0 victory. Ness scored one try and added a convert in Western’s 57-0 win over Brock on Sept. 12. Ness is tied to lead the nation in scoring with 32 points with teammate Joannah Clift, in just two games. The Mustangs are now 2-0, outscoring the opposition 119-0. The education major is back for a final year at Western and begins a teaching placement in St. Thomas, Ont., this month. Western hosts the CIS women’s rugby championships Nov. 2-4 at St. George’s Society Rugby Fields in East London.

Facebook postings investigated

Campus Community Police Service is looking into two Facebook entries by different authors following recent complaints. Police say if persons are harassed or feel threatened by postings, an investigation will be conducted and access to Western’s computer network could be removed. As well, offenders may face a university Code of Conduct offence which could have academic implications.
Get on track with Grad Studies in Science at Windsor

Science Discovery Event
Info/registration at: uwindsor.ca/scienceday

Plan now to be our guest at the University of Windsor’s Science Discovery Event. You’ll see our extensive research infrastructure and meet dozens of brilliant young scholars like yourself who will choose Windsor for their graduate studies in science. You’ll also meet the researchers here who are making headlines and changing the world.

Visit uwindsor.ca/scienceday to learn more about the itinerary, the hosted travel and accommodation program and how to register for the event.

Register online now and get a free ticket on the “Science Discovery Express.”

Get an Earful of Western’s News

The third season of Western in 5 has just kicked off and those who like their campus news in podcast form will discover a faster-paced program. Students in the broadcast segment of the Journalism program create the weekly program with the assistance of Journalism staff member Wendie Crouch. The program can be downloaded or played from the home of Western In 5 on the Western homepage (www.uwo.ca).

Professorship Name Change

The long arm of mergers and acquisitions can reach even into the heart of The University of Western Ontario. The Nabisco Professorship in Marketing has been changed to the Kraft Professorship in Marketing. According to information presented to Senate, Nabisco Brands Incorporated, for whom the professorship was originally named, no longer exists as a legal entity and has been taken over by Kraft Canada. The original terms of the professorship, approved in 1985, are still in effect.

Canadian Antiques Roadshow

Producers of Canadian Antiques Roadshow have created five episodes of the program from their day at The University of Western Ontario in May. The first two episodes of the will be shown on CBC-TV on Oct. 19 and 26 at 7:30 p.m. Three additional episodes will air in 2008 with dates to be determined.

Get an Earful of Western’s News

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Hong Kong Convocation

The date for the Hong Kong spring convocation has been shifted from March 16, 2008 to March 30, 2008. The date was shifted because of inability to secure a venue in Hong Kong for earlier approved date.

Support Services News

A new website is providing up-to-date details about the move next summer of 700 employees to the Support Services Building, now under construction on Western Road. The building will bring together services such as Human Resources, Institutional Planning, Physical Plant and Information Technology Services, previously spread across Stevenson-Lawson, Services and Natural Sciences buildings. To follow the preparation and construction, including a photo gallery, check out www.ontobewd.uwo.ca.

Calling All Student Entrepreneurs

The National Student Entrepreneur Competition has opened nominations for full-time university and college students operating their own business. Nominations and self-nominations will be accepted until December 7. Rules and applications are at www.acescanada.ca. The national champion will receive a $10,000 cash prize.

Share Your United Way Experiences

Have you been touched by a United Way agency and want to share your story? Do you volunteer your time for the United Way campaign, or throughout the year with a United Way agency? Are you coordinating campus fundraising events for the United Way? If so, we’d like to hear from you. Please contact Marcia Steyaert, Community Relations Specialist, at community@uwo.ca.

Global Anchor on Campus

Global TV anchor and Western alumnus Kevin Newman will bring his news team on a four-day road trip across Southern Ontario, broadcasting live and on-location from Western on Sept. 28. Newman will receive the Professional Achievement Award that evening from the university, part of the 2007 Homecoming celebrations. The award recognizes superior achievement in a professional field. Earlier in the week, Newman and the Global National team will also be making stops in Oshawa, Barrie and Waterloo. The 5:30 p.m. national broadcast, which brings in almost one million viewers nightly, will take place on the University Community Centre’s outdoor balcony.

Campus Police Strengthen Website

Western’s Campus Community Police Service have developed a more thorough and informative website, offering faculty, staff and students tips and prevention information on a wide variety of issues – from personal safety to property issues. You can check website at www.uwo.ca/police.

Western Services

The Centre For New Students and Housing and Ancillary Services are offering a one-day event for all faculty, staff and students on Sept. 22 to spark interest in community involvement. Take part in Western Services to learn more about various community agencies in London. The event runs from 10:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. For information visit www.western-services.uwo.ca

Piled Higher & Deeper

a grad student comic strip

23330

www.phdcomics.com
Faculty & Staff

Lisa Klinger, School of Occupational Therapy, presented a poster on May 26 at the 2007 Annual Conference of the Canadian Pain Society in Ottawa, Ontario. The poster, co-authored by Irene Jaster, as part of her degree requirements, and Robert W. Teasell, is entitled “Whiplash-Associated Disorder: Coping to maintain engagement in activities despite chronic pain.” It describes a qualitative study to explore adaptive strategies that people with chronic pain from whiplash use to maintain participation in meaningful activities. Travel was supported by the Faculty of Health Sciences Travel Fund.

The School of Occupational Therapy had a strong representation at the annual conference. MSc alumna Karla Ludlow presented a poster, co-authored by MSc(OT) alumna Mandy Zimmer and Monique Jardine. The poster, titled “Proverb interpretation: A valid assessment of abstract reasoning?”, was presented by Lisa Klinger, co-authored with MSc(OT) alumna Irene Jaster, and titled “Occupational adaptation to whiplash-associated disorder: Maintaining participation despite chronic pain”. Deborah Laliberté and Lynn Shaw co-presented an extended discussion titled “Occupational science: Reflecting back, moving forward”. Jan Foster co-presented a professional issues forum “Driving and occupational therapy: Changing practice”, and Lynn Shaw presented three additional papers, one titled “Clients’ perspectives on return to work following brain injury: A meta-synthesis”, another titled “Occupational therapy evaluation of work readiness following acquired brain injury”, one co-authored with MSc(OT) candidates Monica Korzycki, Martha Korzycki, Jill Dodman, and Karen Pye titled “Consumers’ self-direction in return-to-work. Lessons from clients”, and another co-authored with MSc(OT) candidates Joan Versnel titled “Optimizing health and occupational potential: The Thalia experience.” Sessional instructor Mary Beth Bezzina co-presented a paper titled “The evolution of a preceptor program for occupational therapy students”, co-authored by MSc(OT) alumnus Catherine Vandersluis and clinical partner Kara Ludlow.

Lynn Shaw presented a paper co-authored with MSc(OT) alumna Anaelise Salces, titled “Occupational adaptation to whiplash-associated disorder: Maintaining participation despite chronic pain”. Deborah Laliberté and Lynn Shaw co-presented an extended discussion titled “Occupational science: Reflecting back, moving forward”. Jan Foster co-presented a professional issues forum “Driving and occupational therapy: Changing practice”, and Lynn Shaw presented three additional papers, one titled “Clients’ perspectives on return to work following brain injury: A meta-synthesis”, another titled “Occupational therapy evaluation of work readiness following acquired brain injury”, one co-authored with MSc(OT) candidates Monica Korzycki, Martha Korzycki, Jill Dodman, and Karen Pye titled “Consumers’ self-direction in return-to-work. Lessons from clients”, and another co-authored with MSc(OT) candidates Joan Versnel titled “Optimizing health and occupational potential: The Thalia experience.” Sessional instructor Mary Beth Bezzina co-presented a paper titled “The evolution of a preceptor program for occupational therapy students”, co-authored by MSc(OT) alumnus Catherine Vandersluis and clinical partner Kara Ludlow.

Academic

Graduates were also prominent in the conference program. MSc alumna Anaelise Salces presented a paper co-authored with faculty member Angela Mandich, titled “The use of Cognitive Orientation to occupational Performance (COOP) in-groups”. MSc alumna and current PhD candidate Anna Park presented a paper, co-authored with sessional faculty member Christine Gospodarek and faculty member Thelma Sumison, titled “Music as a healthy occupation: Students participated despite injury risk”, and rehabilitation sciences PhD alumnus Brenda Vrijik presented two papers, co-authored with Jan Foster, titled “Occupational disruption. Occupational identity crisis. Linking key theoretical concepts” and “Older drivers and co-pilots: Determining the impact on driving safety”. Other past MSc grads presenting included Ingrid Barlow with a paper titled “Wheelchair sealing: A comparison between telehealth and in-person service”; Jane Cox and Leann Merta who collaborated on a paper titled “It’s about time: Preparing for the electronic health record”; Karen Ribeiro with a paper titled “And then I lost that life: Occupational reintegration in schizophrenia” and Joan Versnel co-authored a paper titled “Informed shared decision-making, client-centred care and occupational therapy”. As well, MSc(OT) graduate Lisa Hassarjan presented a poster titled “Videoconferencing with distant augmentative communicative and alternative communication clients: It works!” and Vikki Madden presented a paper titled “Myths, truths, reflections: Occupational therapy within assertive community treatment teams”.

Academic Press

A co-edited volume by Kim Clark (Anthropology) and Marc Becker (Highland Indians and the State in Modern Ecuador, was published by the University of Pittsburgh Press in August.

Please send submissions to newseditor@uwo.ca
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Several avenues are available for communicat-ing through Western News. They include:

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

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

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Have you presented an important scientific paper, earned a milestone appointment or pub-lished a new book? newseditor@uwo.ca

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

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

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

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

STUDENT SERVICES BULLETIN

'BWelcome Back' Extended Hours - Room 190
Student Information Services - until Sept. 28 Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays, Fridays - 9 am to 5 pm, Wednesdays - 10 am to 5 pm
Telephone Helpline: 519-661-2100
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OSAP Pick-Up
From Sept. 17 to Sept. 21, OSAP loans can be picked up in Room IBS, Stevenson-Lawson Build-ing from 9 am to 4 pm. Students must present their Social Insurance Card and Photo ID to pick-up their loans. Check the availability of loans for pick-up at www.registrar.uwo.ca.

Bursaries, Need Based Awards, and Work Study
For information on applying for bursaries, need-based awards, or work study for the 2007-2008 academic year, please visit the Student Financial Services website at www.registrar.uwo.ca/FinancialServices/index.cfm. The application to apply for these programs for upper year stu-dents is now available.

Autumn Graduation
Autumn Convocation packages will be mailed by the end of September to all students who applied to graduate by the Sept. 8 deadline. For more information, visit our website at www.registrar.uwo.ca.

Supplemental Fee, Service Changes
The Registrar’s Office is changing the following supplemental fees and services: tuition deferral fees; late payment charges; late registration fees; courier fees; mailing of diploma fees; pro cessing of late application for graduation fee; official statement letter and transcript fees and service; reissuing of non-current fee bills. For up-to-date information, please visit our website at http://www.registrar.uwo.ca/InfoSe-rvices/Fees.pdf.

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

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Faculty of Arts and Humanities, Department of Psychology. Applications are invited for a probationary (tenure-track) position at the rank of Assistant Professor, to begin July 1, 2008 in the Philosophy of Science. Applications must be received by November 16, 2007.

Faculty of Arts and Humanities, Department of Philosophy. Applications are invited for a probationary (tenure-track) position at the rank of Assistant Professor, to begin July 1, 2008 in AOS: Philosophy of Mind or Philosophy of Languajes, AOC: Epistemology. Applications must be received by November 16, 2007.

Richard Ivey School of Business. Applications are invited for the 3-year (257) 7:30 p.m. to 9:00 a.m. and/or 3:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.? If you have answered yes to these questions, then we have the ideal job for you!

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COMING EVENTS

September 20
Organizing the Search for Tom Thomson - London artist Jeff Willmore re-examines the impact of the Group of Seven on the Canadian approach to contemporary landscape painting and the changes exerted by industrial use and human incursion. Runs to October 28. McIntosh Gallery: www.mcmintoshgallery.ca

Centre for the Study of Theory & Criticism - "Cries of Money" a lecture on the concept of trauma in postcolonial cultural critique and a critical assessment of its feasibility in describing how power operates today in light of the East Asian financial crisis of 1997. Pheng Cheah, UC Berkeley. Somerville House Rm. 3317, 12:00 p.m.

Understanding Canadian Culture & Employment - This session, organized and presented by The Career Centre @ Western, discusses Canadian customs as they relate to the work environment. This workshop will be of particular interest to students new to Canada or unfamiliar with employment practices in Canada. Room 291, located inside Student Development Centre (Room 210, UCC) 1:30 - 3:30 p.m. Register at career.uwo.ca/students.

How to Succeed in Graduate School - Join SDS’ Learning Skills Services to discuss important strategies to succeed in graduate school and to learn about helpful resources. Topics include effectively managing your time and an overview of GRADUpdATE, SDS’ bi-weekly e-mail overview of GRADUpdATE, SDS’ bi-weekly e-mail newsletter that includes time management tips and helpful resources. SDS’ Learning Skills Services to discuss important strategies to succeed in graduate school.

SDS’ Learning Skills Services to discuss important strategies to succeed in graduate school.

September 21
Department of Physics Colloquium - Blain Neatby, Trinity, Dublin. "Cosmics, the Basic Structure, and the Family" TC 341, 3:30 p.m.

Department of Earth Sciences Colloquium Series - Gail Atkinson, W.B. Joyner Memorial Lecture, "Predicting earthquake ground motions: Myths and Mysteries" 1:30 p.m. B&G room 116

September 22
Don Wright Faculty of Music - A masterclass with Leslie O’Dell on Acting for Singers. 10 a.m.

Men’s/Women’s Cross Country - A masterclass with Leslie O’Dell on Acting for Singers. 10 a.m.

Don Wright Faculty of Music - A masterclass with Leslie O’Dell on Acting for Singers. 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. RB 245 and 104

Doors Open London - Admission is free and all are welcome. Areas participating at the university are: Western Archives, Arthur and Sonia Labatt Health Sciences Building, Conron Hall, Brescia University College, Huron University College, Museum of Ontario Archaeology and the National Research Council - Integrated Manufacturing Technologies Institute. Map Guides are available at all sites, Tourism London and London public libraries. Visit doorsopenlondon.ca for further information. 10 - 4 p.m. (most sites)

September 23
Doors Open London - Admission is free and all are welcome. Areas participating at the university are: Western Archives, Arthur and Sonia Labatt Health Sciences Building, Conron Hall, Brescia University College, Huron University College, Museum of Ontario Archaeology and the National Research Council - Integrated Manufacturing Technologies Institute. Map Guides are available at all sites, Tourism London and London public libraries. Visit doorsopenlondon.ca for further information. 10 - 4 p.m. (most sites)

Men’s Hockey - Ottawa at Western, 7:30 p.m.

September 24
Physiology and Pharmacology Seminar - Dan Tong, Western “Roles of connexin43 during mouse ovarian folliculogenesis” DS8 2008, 4 p.m.

September 25
Senior Alumni Program - Our Home and Native Land, Aboriginal land rights. Michael Cakou, Faculty of Law, Western. McKellar Room, UCC, 9:30 - 11 a.m.

Oncology Grand Rounds - Glenn Bauman, London Regional Cancer Program, Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry “Image Guided Radiotherapy” Room A3-904a/b, 12 noon - 1 p.m.

September 26
Department of Modern Languages and Literatures presents “La Tertulia” - Spanish Conversation Group. Anyone wishing to speak Spanish and meet people from different Spanish-speaking countries is welcome. Wednesdays 3:30 p.m. UC 107


Please send submissions to comingevents@uwo.ca

Men’s Rugby - Brock at Western, 1 p.m.

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WESTERN NEWS  SEPTEMBER 20, 2007  3

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Members of the Faculty Association/Employer Joint Sub-committee on Student Evaluations of Teaching will be present to hear your views as part of their mandate to review current practices and policies and make recommendations for change.

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Volunteers Wanted

Infusion Canada student volunteers Erika Emerson (left) and Vanessa Jordan (right) take a break during the University Students’ Council Volunteer Week in the UCC atrium. Emerson and Jordan, both cancer survivors, are seeking volunteers for a December fashion show being staged by Infusion. The national organization, which started on the Western campus five years ago, has raised $50,000 for the benefit of cancer survivors between the ages of 13 and 33.

What Do YOU Think About Western’s Teaching Evaluations?

Full and part-time faculty are invited to attend a town hall meeting and SPEAK OUT TUESDAY, SEPT. 25, 4:30 PM, UC 30 OR WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 26, 12 NOON, VA 100 OR THURSDAY, OCTOBER 4, 4:30, SH 2355

Members of the Faculty Association/Employer Joint Sub-committee on Student Evaluations of Teaching will be present to hear your views as part of their mandate to review current practices and policies and make recommendations for change.

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REMINDER:
DEADLINE FOR NOMINATIONS
FOR BOARD OF GOVERNORS
AND SENATE MEMBERSHIP

Nominations for Board of Governors membership in the graduate student and undergraduate student constituencies close at 4:00 p.m. on Thursday, September 27, 2007.

Nominations for Senate membership in faculty, administrative staff, graduate student and undergraduate student “At Large” constituencies also close at 4:00 p.m. on September 27, however, undergraduate students should note that the deadline for nominations for students who wish to run in an “Academic” constituency rather than At Large is 4:00 on Monday, September 24.

Details and nomination forms are available at the following Website: http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/election

Women’s movement archive finds home at Western

BY BOB KLANAC

It was a perfect match. Some women in the London community wanted to create an archive of their gender’s history in the city and The University of Western Ontario Archives and Collections wanted to do the same.

Such was the smooth birth of a new collection of materials currently being acquired and processed by Western.

Robin Keirstead, archivist with Western Libraries, says the project started a few years ago when the department was contacted by a couple of women looking for a home for some documents relating to the history of the women’s movement in London.

“Their concern at the time was that the issue wasn’t very well documented and that no one was actively pursuing it,” he says.

The women proposed a partnership to Keirstead whereby they would continue collecting material and donate it to the university. The women included former London mayor Jane Bigalow, Mary McKim and Jean Hewitt, as well as the London Status of Women Action Group.

“They were very aware and well connected in the community,” says Keirstead.

Part of it was collecting the papers of the women who were involved over the years, brochures and flyers related to women’s issues in the city, newspaper clippings, those sorts of things.

“The group consists of both volunteers and a hired contract person who does the initial archival work.”

Keirstead assisted the women’s community group in arranging for financial assistance for the project. Western has received the first 15 to 20 boxes and the materials will soon be officially signed over to the university.

Although Keirstead says it’s too early to nail down the collection’s value, the potential is significant.

“The thing for us is that it gives us the opportunity to observe what was going on,” he says. “It adds to our London history first of all. It also reveals London as an example in terms of broader issues in the women’s movement compared to what was going on nationally.”

Further, Keirstead says, it provides an avenue for comparison between what was happening on the Western campus and what, if anything, was taking place in the London community.

Keirstead says that after processing the material for archiving it will be available as a research resource.
Christians, Muslims, Jews: Our tangled histories

By Randa Farah

One would have expected a retired professor of psychology who taught at respectable Canadian universities to use his scholarly knowledge and life experience to promote the ideals of peace, understanding and coexistence among peoples and cultures. Alas this is not the case with Heinz Klatt, a professor emeritus of psychology.

In a venomous article that appeared in Western News, Klatt fulminates against a wonderful piece of art by award-winning artist Jamalie Hassan, whose multi-media works – exhibited in Canada and abroad deal with colonialism, patriarchy, militarism, sexuality and cultural identity. Her public artworks are not only displayed in national and international art galleries, but also at the cancer clinic, Victoria Hospital, London Health Sciences Centre, and in Conron Hall, University College at Western.

Klatt goes on an insidious rampage concocting specious connections between a beautiful Arabic word reproduced in art form, and a series of tendentious images such as Ottoman sultans killing Christians in the 15th century, contemporary jihadist madrassas, and Iranian threats to kill Jews and wipe Israel off the map.

The article is so unabashedly racist that a full response is unnecessary: Canadian readers are simply too sophisticated and will easily discern his dangerous biases. His writing strategy is to go on the offensive (much of which sounds like the American media blitz to justify the war on Iraq) to force us into a defensive position, thereby leaving little narrative space to talk about what really matters. Thus, while I base my response to Klatt’s hate, resentment and bigotry, I will use this opportunity to draw attention to two issues, which Klatt selectively ignores, but the consequence of which is the distortion of reality and the historical record.

The first pertains to Klatt’s adoption of Huntington’s morbid theory which suggests that civilizations such as the ‘East’ (Muslims) and the ‘West’ (Christians and Jews) are doomed to clash because they are inherently antagonistic and mutually exclusive. In this theory, as clearly reflected in Klatt’s article, the dark forces are the Muslims and the enlightened civilization is located in the West. However, nothing could be further from what the historical record actually tells us and the few examples I will refer to, show that it is quite impossible to untangle the history of ‘Western’ civilization from that of the ‘East’.

Another reader of history knows that the Arab-Islamic civilization helped pull Europe out of its Dark Ages propelling it towards the Renaissance period. This happened between the 7th and 15th centuries, when in Arab Spain (al-Andalus) great Arab or Persian scholars (Muslims, Christians and Jews) imparted and disseminated their civilization to the rest of the world, especially to Europe. Arab Andalusia was one of the most enlightened, multicultural and tolerant centres in the world.

During that period Hebrew poetry, philosophy, theology, and Jewish culture in general enjoyed a Golden Age, and Christians were treated with the same openness and respect. Cordoba, the well-known Andalusian city prided itself as having the largest library, while Al-Hamra Palace in Granada remains even today a major tourist attraction, and a silent witness to the genius of Arab architecture.

Yet Arabs opened hospitals and universities in Andalusia, where – according to Sindi - they taught students from all over Europe various subjects that included geometry, astronomy, chemistry, optics, meteorology, engineering, pharmacology, medicine, botany, anatomy, zoology, and philosophy.

The traces of Arab civilization may also be found in numerous Arabic words that became part of the English language, such as: alchemy, algebra, algorithm, alkali, borax, check, coffee, cotton, gauze, guitar, hazard, jar, lacquer, lemon, magazine, mattress, nadir, orange, pistachio, racket, safari, sherbet, tariff, typhoon, zenith, zero.

The word ‘algorithm,’ for example, is coined after Mohammad al-Khawaruzmi (780-850), and the Arabic word al-jabr, or Algebra comes from the title of his major work, Kitab al-Jabr wa al-Mugabalah (“The Book of Integration and Equation”).

Similarly, the word ‘chemistry’ comes from the Arabic word alchemy (or al-Keen’ya’). Another Muslim medical scholar is the Persian Abu Ali Ibn Sina (aka Avicenna: 980-1037), who discovered that disease was contagious and can be transmitted, for example, through water. In philosophy and metaphysics, St. Thomas Aquinas (1224-74) borrowed a great deal from the Arabic writings of Abu al-Walid Ibn Rushd (aka Averroes: 1126-98), the Arab Muslim philosopher. Andalusian Muslims in cordoba to this civilization and wrote in Arabic, such as the philosopher/poet Abu Haroon Moussa (a.k.a. Moses Ibn Ezra: 1060-1139), and the philosopher/physician Abu Imran Moussa Ibn Maymun (a.k.a. Moses Maimonides: 1135-1204), the personal physician of the great Salal al-Din (Saladin) who liberated Palestine from the Crusaders. Arab contributions to Western civilization are not limited to the above examples but include the fields of pharmacy and pharmacology, zoology and veterinary medicine, agriculture, geography, sociology (Ibn Khaldun), literature, music, art and architecture.

Instead of pointing to this rich history of cultural exchange, or Arab Muslim tolerance and civilization, Klatt, in a typically selective manner, yanks certain anecdotes out of context and marshals them to prove that Arabs, Persians or Ottomans are inherently violent and, as Muslims – he does not talk about the heterogenous mix of peoples and religions in the region – they are innately predisposed to hate Christians and Jews.

I hardly need to remind professor Klatt that over the centuries various armies attacked the city of Constantinople, including European and Crusader armies; or of the horrific massacres and violence perpetrated by the Crusaders against indigenous Muslims, Christians, and Jews – all lumped together as ‘infidels’ and all that in the name of Christian-ity. Nor do I need to remind the learned professor that it was to Morocco and the Arab/Islamic countries of North Africa, as well as other parts of the ‘barbaric’ East that Andalusian Muslims fled for protection from invading Christians in 1492.

Nor, yet again, do I need to remind him that it was Europe that committed the horrific crimes and the Holocaust against the Jews, not the Arabs or Muslims who provided them with a safe haven from European anti-Semitism.

The second point that needs to be made here relates to our responsibility as academics to stand for truth, honesty and universal ethics and values that promote living peacefully with ‘different others’. History has shown us that the alternative for such a model is genocide, ethnic cleansing and apartheid regimes enforced by concrete walls, like the one being built in the occupied Palestinian territories. Do we follow the example of a Nelson Mandela who gave his life for human dignity, freedom, justice and reconciliation, or should we blindly follow those who call for destructive wars, incite hatred and disseminate lies out of greed for power and wealth?

It is rather sad that Klatt was unable throughout his career as a psychologist to overcome his deep-seated biases and selectively cultivated paranoias. Otherwise, he would not have warned untruthfully that Israel might be wiped off the map, but would have revealed the truth that Israel has already wiped Palestine off the map and has not ceased its ethnic cleansing of the Palestinians since 1948.

If Klatt had moral courage he would have shared with the readers the fact that in 1948 Israel emerged on the ruins of Palestinian society, when it destroyed and forcibly depopulated some 530 Palestinian villages, several urban neighbourhoods and expelled Bedouin tribes out of their traditional territories. A writer who believes in the critical role of intellectuals in contributing to a better world, would have joined John Dugard, the South African Professor of Law and the Special Rapporteur for the United Nations on the situation of human rights in the Palestinian territories, in pointing out that Israeli practices constitute an apartheid regime worse than the one that existed in South Africa.

Kian, is a beautiful Arabic word, which among its meanings are: ‘being’ and ‘entity’; a derivative word is al-Ka’en or the ‘Being’ mentioned in the Bible in reference to God. It is singularly regrettable that professor Klatt should use the occasion of the display of such a beautiful work of Arabic calligraphy to launch such an unbelievable tirade.

Beauty is indeed in the eyes of the beholder. What a pity that he missed the opportunity to marvel at the elegance of Kian that rises above the walls behind him which he wants to separate ‘us’ from ‘them’.

The writer is an associate professor of anthropology at the University of Western Ontario.
Should Ontario adopt electoral reform?

The Oct. 10 provincial election includes a crucial referendum on how Ontarians elect representatives. Western News presents two points of view on the proposal.

**NO**

Power would shift to political parties

**By Arzie Chant**

Next month’s provincial referendum in Ontario will be a major step in assessing the state of our political/ideological system.

At issue is the proposal by the Christian People’s Assembly to move from our current electoral system to a “Mixed Member Proportional” electoral system (MMP). Regrettably, while most agree that the need for electoral reform is clear, the proposed change to MMP on the October 10 ballot would deliver us into a deeply flawed system that would alienate voters and cement partisanship and polarization in our system.

MMP proposes to cut the number of local representatives in Ontario by 17, allocating these 22 newly created spaces to legislators to be selected by political parties based on their popular vote in the election. These legislators, referred to as “list candidates”, would have the rights of parliamentarians elected in local ridings, but would not be directly accountable in the riding candidates are.

This precarious situation means that nearly one third of the representatives would instead serve at the pleasure of their party. For list candidates, pleasing their party would be paramount. Incompetent representatives could continue to serve so long as they curry favour within their party’s leadership, while out-spoken members, popular with the public, but not with the party brass, could find themselves out of a job. By eliminating 17 ridings for list candidates, ridings in rural and remote regions will be reduced to a few who evoke feminist sentiments. I am glad Sue brought up Marc Lepine because when he killed the 14 women he blamed feminists for ruining his life. However, does anyone know whether the women he killed actually took on the label? Does that even matter? All I know is that the slain women were in the male dominated field of engineering. Furthermore, Sue is assuming that I am solely holding men responsible for what happened. Perhaps because Sue often wrote “Labia Majorca Carnage” is male. I do not think that at all. I have encountered many women who are some of the worst perpetrators of sexism. They have levied discriminatory allegations against other women and even internalized self-destructive gendered behaviours. If men were to blame anything, I would blame a system of patriarchy that sexualizes male and feminizes women to a degree that appropriates our ability to truly love one another, women.

In addition to constructions of masculinities, the consequences from imposed threats to male livelihoods, hegemonic masculinity, need to be analyzed much more thoroughly.

On a more personal note, it would also be nice if all individuals who evoke feminist sentiments were not lumped into one homogenous group and then analyzed accordingly.

**YES**

More moderate government likely

**By David Empye**

On October 10, we have an historic opportunity to change the way we elect our provincial legislators.

Under the proposed new system (called Mixed Member Proportional representation, or MMP), each voter has two votes. The first vote - like the current system – elects a local riding candidate (and the number of ridings would be slightly reduced from 103 to 90). The second vote would be for a party, and would elect 30 members from lists determined by each party. The share of this second “list” vote determines the percentage of seats each party elects in the legislature. List members would be elected, in the order they appear on the lists, when a party’s share of seats is based on the number of riding members elected falls short of the party vote percentage.

This is a change we should support. MMP will produce more representative results: The number of seats each party receives will closely match the percentage of the popular vote.

Consequently, few majority governments will be elected under the new system. This isn’t a bad thing.

Parties will have to form coalitions or seek support from issue by issue in the legislature to govern. However, this will result in decisions which more closely represent the majority will of the electorate. It will also offer protection against ideological governments (such as the Mike Harris government).

Since governments will have to seek support from other parties most of the time, they are likely to be forced to moderate policies which would likely be good for the majority support of the electorate.

MMP will also increase the presence of smaller political parties.

Under the current system, it is almost impossible for such parties to win seats (because support is rarely concentrated in a single riding or a small number of them). Any party which receives three per cent of the party list vote will receive at least one seat (the Green Party almost reached this threshold in 2003).

The possibility of actually winning seats may lead to greater participation by those dissatisfied with the mainstream parties, and Ontarians whose votes are now lost will have a voice. Smaller parties will also increase the diversity of ideas and perspectives in the legislature.

MMP has other benefits: It will stimulate diversity by allowing parties to use their lists to target regional or under-represented groups; it will allow more choice by voting for both a party and a local candidate separately; and list members will create a second avenue to seek representation (in addition to local members). MMP offers significant advantages while maintaining the integrity of the party system, not significantly increasing the size of ridings (as long as care is taken when new boundaries are drawn, especially for rural ridings), and without unduly increasing the size of the legislature (it will return to the numbers of members it had in the late 1980s). MMP makes sense for Ontario, and we should vote “yes” on October 10.

David Empye is normally employed in The Book Store, but is currently president of the University of Western Ontario Staff Association.
On the persistence of Heinz Klatt

By Michael Bechar

There is a passage in the Christian scriptures where Jesus encourages people to be faithful and steadfast in prayer. The passage almost suggests that even if God is not convinced of the intention provided for, that God will eventually answer the prayer for no other reason that he finds the constant petition of the woman almost intolerable. If for no other reason than his persistence, I hope that Heinz Klatt (Western News, Sept. 13) is heard by God because for many of us, he is a voice which we hope will stop asking for a forum by which he may expound what I deem to be an Islam-phobic cry.

In the last week, the issue of KIAN has been addressed in The London Free Press, The National Post, in countless e-mails sent to King’s and in an afternoon segment of CBC. Klatt has been the spokesperson for the anti-KIAN campaign. I am quickly tiring of the entire debate.

As a matter of fact, I tried of this debate about two weeks ago. Yet, I fear that Klatt will not be placated until his particular sense of Christianity and his address to the academy has been accepted and endorsed by all readers in this forum and any other publication which will provide him a soap box.

Frankly, I am not sure what else need be said to Klatt or to the claims which he makes that King’s University College has caved to Islamic influence and to Islam’s deceptive and increasing subversive influence in the west. As often as he has stated that KIAN is a symbol of domination, scholars more reputable than he have stated to the contrary that KIAN can be appreciated in a number of ways, none of which prophesy the destruction of Christianity in Canada or our Catholic identity at the corner of Waterloo Street and Epworth Avenue.

As my letter was published in The National Post, I can only reiterate that King’s University College is committed not only to tolerance and diversity but, as an institution sponsored by the Roman Catholic Diocese of London, that we are deeply rooted in the theology of the Second Vatican Council. This watershed moment for the Catholic Church in the 20th century heartily endorsed the promotion of inter-religious dialogue and called for Christians to work towards a greater appreciation of the common heritage shared amongst all of Abraham’s children. I invite Klatt and anyone else interested in the issue to read Nostra Aetate (www.vatican.va/archive/hist_councils/vat-ii_decl_19651028_nostra-aetate_en.html) which speaks to the reality that this promotion far transcends some fringe and leftist movement at King’s.

In the next few days, KIAN will find its new home in a garden between Lenard Hall and the new faculty building. With KIAN will also be installed a piece of art honouring the Jewish tradition. Finally, the KIAN will be juxtaposed with a hammered steel cross and three interwoven copper coils. The symbolism of this final piece is fairly simple. The cross points to the sacrifice of Jesus the Christ and the three circles point us towards the fundamental Christian belief that God is ‘three in one and one in three.’ It will be a beautiful place to share a meal, to engage in conversation and maybe even reflect on some of life’s bigger questions.

While I readily admit that our garden will not bring about unity amongst Abraham’s children, which have been fighting for some 2,000 years, my prayer is simple: May the art which we provide promote dialogue amongst all people and hasten us together to that great day where justice and peace will be known by all.

Rev. Michael Bechar is chaplain of King’s University College.

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3M Teaching Fellowships

Call for 2008 Nominations

The Society for Teaching and Learning in Higher Education (STLHE) and 3M Canada invite nominations for the 2008 3M Teaching Fellowships. Up to 10 awards, presented annually at the STLHE conference in June, recognize exemplary contributions to educational and teaching excellence in Canadian universities.

Awards are open to all individuals currently teaching at a Canadian university, regardless of discipline or level of appointment. The selection committee looks for independent evidence of excellence in teaching over a number of years, principally (but not exclusively) at the undergraduate level, as well as commitment to the improvement of university teaching with emphasis on contributions beyond the nominee’s discipline or profession.

A letter of support from the Provost and Vice-President (Academic) must accompany the nomination documentation. Please submit nominations to the Provost’s Office by:

**Deadline Date - Friday, November 2, 2007**

Nominations are available at: [www.mcmaster.ca/3Mteachingfellowships](http://www.mcmaster.ca/3Mteachingfellowships)

The Teaching Support Centre will host a workshop on “Preparing a Nomination for a 3M Teaching Fellowship” on Wednesday, October 3, 2007, 2:00 p.m. in Room 121, Weldon Library. RSVP by e-mail: tsc@uwo.ca

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Rhodes Scholarships

Eleven Rhodes Scholarships, awarded for the fall of 2008, are available to Canadian men and women students. Applications are invited.

The Scholarships are tenable at Oxford University, England, and the award covers both university fees and a stipend for living expenses. Scholarships are normally granted for two years, with the possibility of a third year. Scholars, who may follow courses of study of their own choice, will be enrolled at Oxford in October 2008.

Quality of both character and intellect is the most important requirement for a Rhodes Scholarship. Candidates must: 1) be Canadian citizens or domiciled in Canada; 2) have been born between October 2, 1983 and October 1, 1989; and 3) except for medical students, have received a degree before taking up the Scholarship. Candidates may be married or unmarried.

The eleven Scholarships are allotted as follows: two each to Ontario, Quebec and the Maritime Region; three to the Western Region; and one each to British Columbia and Newfoundland. Candidates may apply from their home province or from the province in which they attend university.

Information and application forms are available at the Office of the President, Stevenson-Lawson Building, Dr. Dalin Jameson, Executive Assistant to the President and the Provost, will be available to meet with potential candidates (telephone 84133 or email djameson@uwo.ca). Completed applications and supporting documentation should be sent to Dr. Dalin Jameson, Office of the President, by Monday, October 1, 2007.

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Graduate Thesis Research Award – Western Internal Grant Competition

Funds for these awards are provided jointly by the Office of the Vice-President (Research & International Relations) and individual faculties. The purpose of the Graduate Thesis Research Award is to help support the costs of research undertaken by graduate students at The University of Western Ontario that are directly related to the successful completion of their thesis/dissertation requirements.

**Grant Amount:**

- Set by Faculty/Dept. – Maximum of $1500

**Deadline:** Dean’s Office - November 15, 2007

**Program Details:**

[http://www.uwo.ca/research/rels.html](http://www.uwo.ca/research/rels.html)

**NOTE:** Applications will be adjudicated by individual Faculties and require Supervisor and Chair approval.

**Contact:**

Joella Moore

Internal Grants Coordinator

Rm 728 Stevenson-Lawson Building

University of Western Ontario

London ON N6A 5B8

519.661.2111 x84500

Internalgrants@uwo.ca

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Research Western is pleased to announce the following competition:

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http://www.uwo.ca/research/rels.html
Surgeon ‘proud’ to serve in Afghanistan

By Paul Mayne

It’s safe to say this past summer was a tad different for Vivian McAlister.

While the general surgeon and Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry professor performed a number of operations, his patients and the location of the surgery were far from the confines of University Hospital. For two months, McAlister, along with surgeons from across Canada, spent two months in Kandahar, Afghanistan working at the Canadian-run NATO hospital that treats soldiers and wounded civilians. In fact, it was his former student, anaesthetist Brian Church, that motivated McAlister into making the decision to head to the troubled country. “I went because I wanted to follow in Western’s tradition of supporting our military when it faces danger, but I myself was never in any danger,” says McAlister, now back in London. Ninety per cent of the patients he treated were Afghan, including a young boy shot through the liver. “It was something I felt I had to do.”

McAlister refers to the work of Dr. Edwin Seaborn, who organized the 400-bed No.10 Canadian Stationary Hospital in Europe during the First World War, as well as to the university’s support of Canadian soldiers in the Second World War, as solid examples of Western’s dedication to its country. McAlister says the true heroes are the medical staff who put themselves in harms way to retrieve wounded soldiers from the field. “The courage needs to go to the medics in the armed forces who are out there rescuing the soldiers, in many instances while taking on fire,” says McAlister.

The job of the surgeons, says McAlister, is to treat everyone equally. He recalls a day where two enemy soldiers and a Canadian soldier were brought to the hospital. “In this case one of the enemy soldiers received care first,” says McAlister, noting the decision was made due to the severity of his injuries. “But in no way do Canadian soldiers receive less care.”

Even though his stay was brief in comparison to the rotation of Canadian soldiers, McAlister is thankful he had the opportunity to help the Canadian mission. “I was affected by it because Canada’s mission in Afghanistan is a noble thing that people from all over the country are doing and I was very proud to have been associated with it,” he says.
NOMINATIONS INVITED
SENATE COMMITTEES

The Senate Nominating Committee submits to Senate for its consideration nominations for membership on Committees, Subcommittees, Councils and Boards. The Nominating Committee invites the submission of names of members of the University community who are either personally interested in serving on these committees or who are known to be particularly qualified for membership. On the work of Senate committees please refer to: http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/senate/cceetems.

Nominations for the committees should be sent by email to nmartine@uwo.ca. In making nominations for membership, nominators are required to seek the agreement of the candidate to serve on the committee prior to suggesting the individual for membership.

Upcoming Nominating Committee Agenda Items (plus additional notes) may be found on the following website: http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/senate/newnoms.pdf

Western Vice-Provost (Academic Programs & Students) [Registrar]

Applications and nominations are invited for the position of Vice-Provost (Academic Programs & Students) [Registrar], The University of Western Ontario. The appointment, to be effective September 1, 2008, is for a period of five years, renewable.

The Vice-Provost (Academic Programs & Students) [Registrar] leads a team of more than 200 people who are responsible for providing central academic and administrative support to undergraduate students and programs. The Vice-Provost (Academic Programs & Students) [Registrar] also provides leadership for the overall academic direction of undergraduate education at Western. The Vice-Provost (Academic Programs & Students) [Registrar] reports directly to the Provost and Vice-President (Academic). Key areas of responsibility are: (1) to support the Faculties in their efforts to attract outstanding students to Western and to provide an optimal student environment and educational experience; (2) to provide advice and input on enrolment planning and management, student recruitment and admissions, scholarship programs and student services, and trends related to undergraduate academic programs and student services; (3) to support and encourage coordination among Western's many administrative service areas and its academic programs; (4) to act as a conduit for student concerns and provide responses through individual interventions and referrals, system review and advocacy of policy and program changes and renewal; and (5) to act on behalf of the Provost in a number of roles, such as participation on selection committees for Department Chairs and Directors of Schools (shared with the Vice-Provost (Academic Planning, Policy & Faculty)).

The successful candidate will have the following characteristics:

- an established reputation as an academic researcher and teacher, and significant administrative experience
- familiarity with, and aptitude for dealing with, student issues and an openness and sensitivity to the personal dimensions of the student experience
- an ability to combine long-term institutional vision with attention to detail
- an appreciation of the value of multidisciplinary study and diverse academic cultures
- excellent communication skills, and
- familiarity with University policies and procedures

Nominations or applications should be received by Friday, September 28, 2007. The Selection Committee will begin its consideration of candidates shortly thereafter. Nominations and applications should be submitted to: Dr. Fred Longstaffe, Provost & Vice-President (Academic), Room 115, Stevenson-Lawson Building, The University of Western Ontario, London, Ontario, N6A 5B8. Telephone (519) 661-3110; Fax (519) 661-3676. Applications should include a curriculum vitae and contact information for at least three referees.

The University of Western Ontario is committed to employment equity and welcomes applications from all qualified women and men, including visible minorities, aboriginal persons, and persons with disabilities.

Former WIN leader takes back night

BY BOB KLANAC

A student satirized in the university student newspaper’s controversial spoof issue last spring plans to speak about the experience at the Take Back The Night march.

Kathryn Mitrow, a former executive member of University Students’ Council’s Women’s Issues Network, says that while she will talk about the Gazette experience, her focus will be on the reaction on main campus.

“What was great is that we got together and rejected that sort of hate speech,” she says.

Reaction to the article came from across the country. On campus, a town hall meeting saw university administration, individuals and women’s groups express frustration and anger at the Gazette as well as the USC for failing to exercise its responsibilities as owner of the paper. The Board of Governors indicated it would consider withholding collection of Gazette fees pending annual approval of the paper’s conduct by the USC and Western administration.

“I think they knew it was wrong and they were pushing a line,” says Mitrow. “They believed that there would be no repercussion. I think everyone was completely surprised by the reaction.

“They thought they could get away with it.”

This year Mitrow is a member of the Western Conservative Club and is not on the executive of WIN, a decision she says was made prior to the Gazette controversy.

“I want to work on some of those same issues from a political perspective,” she says. “Sometimes women’s organizations aren’t listened to all that well.”

Mitrow and other guests will speak at the 6:45 p.m. kick-off to the Take Back The Night march, held at the Peace Garden, just south of the forks of the Thames Rivers near York Street. She says she will focus on the positive.

“For me it was never a story of victimhood,” she says. “It was a story of these people coming together and actually being able to accomplish something and see results happen. It was a good success story.”

Her hope is that years down the road, any recollection of last spring’s events will bring disbelief.

“I hope they say, ‘I can’t believe that in 2007 you were printing that sexist content,’” she says. “I think there’s going to be a different attitude.”

Weekly spotlight on volunteering, study abroad and service-learning

Leadership experience is learned

Undergraduate students looking for leadership experience should explore the Centre For New Students Leadership Education Program. Tier 3 of the program, entitled Community Leadership & Service Learning, is tailored for students looking for practical leadership experience. The program looks for students willing to invest 20 hours of their time to volunteer in situations ranging from tutoring Grade 1 children to working with victims of crime.

Contact: For more information visit the Centre For New Students in Room 65 of Stevenson-Lawson Building; call 519-661-3898; go to www.registrar.uwo.ca/cfns.

Go ENG Girl on Saturday, October 13

is an exciting opportunity for Grade 7-10 girls across Ontario to learn more about the wonderful world of engineering: “A Caring Profession.”

Sponsored by Ontario’s 15 Faculties of Engineering & the Ontario Network of Women in Engineering

For more information, and to register online, please visit: www.ospe.on.ca/goenggirl

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Bringing business acumen to the union

T he University of Western Ontario Faculty Association (UWOFA) has a far reaching role that extends beyond the more high-profile duties of contract negotiations and grievances, says newly elected president Abhijit Gopal.

An associate professor of information systems at the Richard Ivey School of Business, Gopal joined the school in 2000 after several years at the University of Calgary, where he taught at the undergraduate, MBA, and doctoral levels. He helped design and deliver leadership programs for managers and executives.

Gopal has also taught in MBA and executive MBA programs in Finland, Poland, and the Czech Republic.

Musing through different scholarly ‘religions’, Gopal now counts himself among the ranks of critical, qualitative researchers in information technology and systems.

Annually, Western News presents an interview with the head of UWOFA to assess the state of affairs with the most outspoken union on campus. Reporter Paul Mayne sat down with Gopal to discuss the coming year and how he looks to bring his organizational and business skills to UWOFA.

Western News: UWOFA has played a major role at the university for more than five decades – entering its ninth year of unionization. Do you feel the wider campus has a strong sense of UWOFA’s role?

Abhijit Gopal: Many people do and many people don’t, but I discovered for myself there are places where it’s really understood. It tends to be located in certain disciplines and faculties where they understand the nature of a faculty association and a union.

We’re a faculty association that has become a union (1998) and what happens is the two get identified with each other. Once the union label is added to the mix it creates its own reaction. Interestingly enough, the kind of union that we are, there’s a big difference between other unions and us. Usually in unions you have the management group and then the workers and they’re very separate entities. Here, the workers are also the faculty. We want to make sure we always have the voice of faculty.

It’s (UWOFA) an interesting place for a person who works in the business school - in some ways unusual. Many of my colleagues are not fans of unions.

At the same time what I do find is that people who come into it with a big notion of what a union is, when it comes to actually having something occur where they need our help on things, they do change their mind.

Western News: You have chosen to mod-

ify your academic responsibilities this year while heading up UWOFA. Why is this?

AG: This particular year, under the circumstances, I’ve modified my teaching in a sense. I’m not going into the classroom, but I will still supervise PhD students and that’s a big part of the teaching portfolio. I’m continuing my involvement, just not in the classroom.

Western News: You mentioned UWOFA and the fact it has been unionized. The “union” word can scare individuals. Why do you feel faculty need union representation?

AG: I got my doctorate at the University of Georgia and when I got my first job at the University of Calgary I was a bit surprised there was a union. What are faculty needing with a union? A union you tend to associate with the industrial workforce – people needing representation. These people should be able to represent themselves quite well. The president before Jane (Towell) was Allan Gedalof, and what he would often comment to me was ‘do you know what the meaning of the word collegial is? It comes from the idea of people who make the laws together.’ That is really what a university is all about. It’s been a long time evolving to this idea of a collegial decision-making kind of environment where everyone has a say in the governance.

I have been able to understand is that lots of times a continuous collegial mold of governance sets us apart from most institutions, especially with businesses going the way they are. Most institutions don’t think this way - everyone governing together. Increasingly, businesses have that hierarchical kind of system. Unfortunately, that model of hierarchical management is what has crept into universities. I believe the drive for unionization was driven by a faculty trying to find some model which would allow them to re-enter that realm of collegial decision-making, to be able to have a say.

Western News: So nine years as a union has hopefully quelled any grumblings.

AG: We want people to be involved in the university and want to get over any union negativity. By having people involved hopefully you can also send messages out that you don’t have to have the connotations of unions as being a revolt of the workers or something like that. What we’re doing is basically just making sure that we, as faculty, are represented at the table.

Western News: An array of faculties and departments have been represented in the role of UWOFA presidents. Is this a key to UWOFA’s success?

AG: This is what we strive towards – increasing our participation. We are in our ninth year as a union right now. It started out with nobody really knowing what it was going to be like, to be a union. There were all of these activities that needed to take place - the idea of negotiating a contract, enforcing the contract and the administration of the union in general. We started developing an idea of what it took, how much, by way of resources, we have to put into this and that or the other. As the union has matured, we’ve just come off this major year of negotiations where both the librarians and archivists are a new bargaining unit and the faculty negotiated a collective agreement. Kim (Clark) had her work cut out for her and she did an outstanding job in that role. With no negotiations with library and archivists until 2009 and faculty 2010, and that a little ways away, we are able to stop at this point and say where are we, what has happened?

Western News: So this is a great time to take a deep breath?

AG: One of the things we realized is that the job of the president of the association has grown. There are all kinds of responsibilities. So having come through all of this and understanding that our needs have matured, do we have the organization in place to meet those needs as they’ve evolved… with this much more massive enterprise. I see my role this year as very much of an organizational role. To get the whole system to be organized so that as we go forward we have things in place so we can anticipate things.

That’s why I feel my own experience in the business school will help with this organizational aspect. In that sense, being from this faculty, the timing is perfect.

Western News: The university is focusing on increasing graduate enrolment. How is UWOFA approaching this?

AG: We have to keep ourselves on top of everything the university is doing - everything. For instance, I was at the Faculty of Graduate Studies council meeting this morning. I am, of course, a member of the council, but I was there as my role in UWOFA to see what it is going on and what changes are occurring here to graduate studies, which will affect faculty. And for such things, what we do is get together as faculty, with our members, and we ask them: let’s talk about this; what is going on; how does this affect us. We have to have our finger on every pulse around here. And it’s not just the offices of UWOFA making the decisions and saying here’s our reaction, it’s our job to be consultative and in that process of consultation that is how we are able to bring into play the voice of faculty. One of the wonderful things about working in a faculty union environment is that there is no shortage of expertise available to you.

Western News: So you seem to be excited about your new role?

AG: I have trepidation, I have excitement, and I have self-doubt. They are very important things to have in this situation. I’m excited because it gives me the opportunity as a faculty member to actually see how the university operates at another level and how things work across the entire university. It’s a huge learning experience.

I also have a lot of fear but that’s where I can turn around and consult. You might say that everyone is involved in the presidency of the union, but the president, as the individual, is charged with carrying out that presidency and not allowing it to slip through the cracks.