By Paul Mayne

It’s safe to say the DVD burner on Barry Arnott’s computer has been working overtime these last few months.

As archives media assistant with Western Libraries, Arnott receives and burns orders for the Stars of the Town DVD that the Archives and Research Collections Centre (ARCC) released earlier this year.

So far, it has been an unexpected runaway success. “We estimate we’re at about 1,000 DVD orders since February,” says Arnott, admitting the project has taken on a life of its own. “They sure have. We’ve been surprised, that’s for sure.”

The collection of more than 80 black and white films, shot between 1946 and 1949 by Rev. Leroy Massiec, captured day-to-day life in small town southwestern Ontario. The original films were donated to ARCC in 2005 by Massiec’s wife, Marion. Western media specialists Charlie Egleston and Alan Noon converted each one to DVD.

While each community in the series—from Atwood to Zurich—has received a single copy for its archives, community viewings and word of mouth have accelerated sales of the ‘era snapshot’ DVDs.

From the small south-central community of Tottenham, for example, Arnott has received more than 50 orders. “We know folks are showing them in community halls and churches because the orders will suddenly increase for a specific community,” says Arnott, adding there’s a wide variety of interest.

Western Libraries’ John Lutman, head of Regional and Special Collections, and Barry Arnott, archives media assistant, are being kept busy with brisk sales of the Stars of the Town DVDs.
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Founder’s family makes donation to Western

By Heather Travis

Two great, great grandsons of Bishop Isaac Hellmuth made a pilgrimage to The University of Western Ontario last week to make a donation of family artifacts to the McIntosh Gallery. On Sept. 18, Richard Ellis of Cumbria, England and John Broomfield of Creemore, Ont. visited the university founded by Hellmuth to give two miniature portraits of the second Bishop of the Diocese of Huron and his wife, Catherine Maria Evans.

The family was welcomed by President Paul Davenport, saying Hellmuth’s memory is honored at Western in various ways, including the Hellmuth Award for Achievement in Research which is granted annually to faculty members who have made significant contributions in research and gained international reputation for their work.

“Bishop Hellmuth is still present on our campus,” he says. In 1878, Hellmuth founded Western University of London, Ontario, which was later renamed The University of Western Ontario. Ellis inherited the gold-framed portraits from his mother, whose lineage is connected to Hellmuth. Concerned about the fate of the paintings in the future, he decided to return the Bishop, literally and symbolically, to his Western roots.

“The best place for them to come to a resting place at Western for the pleasure of future Hellmuth scholars,” he says.

Broomfield, who is also connected to Hellmuth by his mother, was pleased to reconnect with his past.

“My mother … she would be very happy her son has come back and re-established the connection,” he says. “It’s great to be here.”

The portraits will be placed in the McIntosh Gallery’s Collection/Storage and Study Centre. The gallery will also be conducting research to find out more information about the undated artifacts.

“This is a wonderful gift,” says Davenport. “We will treasure them.”

Recycling spot checks planned

By Brandon Watson

Everything is in place for a successful recycling program at Western, but audits indicate its full potential is not being realized.

This academic year, Physical Plant is issuing a challenge to the campus that will complement some of the other awareness programs that are underway.

Western spends roughly $500,000 each year to maintain its waste and recycling program. Of the more than 5,000 metric tonnes of refuse collected on campus, near half is properly disposed of recyclables. But there can be better.

Although there had been substantial improvement to our recycling habits in the past, EnviroWestern’s Waste Audit earlier this year has indicated a slight relapse.

The audit reports that recyclables made up roughly half of refuse headed for landfill - a slip of roughly 20 per cent. One year of the greatest challenges was a 10 per cent increase in recyclable/compostable paper products. If all recyclables found their way to the appropriate blue bin, only a quarter of Western’s total refuse would go to landfill.

This year, recycling will take a front seat as a campus priority.

Hospitality Services continues to expand its Sustainability Central depots at select on-campus eateries. EnviroWestern is developing labels to help users determine exactly which items go in which blue bins. Waste Management has improved user convenience by deploying more recycling bins than ever.

In a similar effort to support the proper disposal of recyclables, Physical Plant is issuing the Western Recycling Challenge to the campus community. Through unannounced, random audits, the challenge will encourage campus building inhabitants to be mindful of their waste by comparing their results to one another.

Each month, roughly a half-dozen buildings will be audited. A reasonable sample size (bags of trash) will be taken from those select buildings and separated into two categories: recyclables and non-recyclables. The buildings with the smallest ratio of recyclables to waste in their trash bins will be the monthly challenge champion.

At the end of the year, most campus buildings will have been audited and the one with the smallest percentage of recyclables in the trash will be recognized with the Western Recycling Challenge award and be crowned as a model facility for recycling.

Each audit will be conducted under the watchful eye of the EnviroWestern team, which has orchestrated similar audits over the past five years.

The recently launched Environment & Sustainability website (http://www.uwo.ca/ppd/sustainability) will host the challenge information and publish the results.

President outlines final set of priorities for university

For the last time, President Paul Davenport has set his priorities for the coming year - his 14th and final year at the helm of The University of Western Ontario - at last Friday’s Senate meeting.

“As in past years, my top priority will be to maintain a sense of solidarity and commitment among our faculty, staff, students and alumni, which is the foundation of all our achievements,” says Davenport in his presentation to Senate members.

“That solidarity is based on support for our mission and an understanding that while we have done well in recent years, we can certainly do better, both in student experience and in research.”

Overall, Davenport says his priorities will support the 2006 Strategic Plan (Engaging the Future) and 2007 Campus Master Plan.

He adds he owns a special duty to prepare the way for the new president’s success, and to work effectively with him/her during the time of the Board of Governors announcement and June 30, 2009 - his last day as president.

Priorities have been set out in four broad categories, included here with a selection of individual goals for various categories.

SETTING DIRECTIONS

■ Assure academic and budgetary planning is sufficiently flexible to allow the new president to set his/her own directions.

■ Build support for signature areas, as called for in the Strategic Plan.

■ Keep the construction of the Long-Range Space plan on budget and on time. The 2008-09 budget shows 18 projects over $1 million in size currently underway, with a total value of $262 million.

PUTTING ACADEMIC PRIORITIES FIRST:

■ Fulfill the plans for graduate growth, a key part of the university’s financial planning, and ensure the mission of building a research-intensive university.

■ Continue to ensure a supportive and respectful working environment on campus and promote the Safe Campus Community Initiative.

■ Increase the recruitment and retention of aboriginal students.

ENSURING OPEN ADMINISTRATION AND EFFECTIVE COMMUNICATIONS

■ Work to maintain positive relations with faculty, staff and student associations, and with the affiliated university colleges, Fanshawe College, and health research partners in London.

■ Build the tech transfer brand with continued growth in medical devices, alternative fuels, and materials and biomaterials.

■ Complete a crisis communications plan, working with Campus Community Police Service, ITS and the campus community.

STRENGTHEN TIES WITH THE EXTERNAL COMMUNITY

■ Prepare for the launch of the $500-million fundraising campaign in the fall of 2009. This involves raising a substantial share of the funds during the quiet phase of the campaign prior to the formal launch.

■ Continue to work with the City of London and university neighbours on student housing issues.

■ Work with the city and Thames Valley Conservation Authority such that current definitions of flood plain and flood fringe lands are appropriate for the Thames River as it passes by Western’s campus.
LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

EMAIL SERVICE NOT RELIABLE

The Internet and e-mail have been established for more than a decade. Many undergraduates will arrive having grown up with the technology. The University of Western Ontario’s status as a major Canadian university and research institution will lead many to believe that its electronic communication infrastructure is solid.

This has proven not to be the case and it is with growing frustration and disappointment that I write to complain about the unreliability of Western’s webmail to conduct my work. I am well aware that my situation is not unique. Professors have lamented in class about the difficulty receiving and responding to student emails. I have reviewed the list of known issues on the ITS web site. In many cases the problem is not consistent. For example, sometimes a user can log in without difficulty, other times there is either a delay or the password or username won’t be recognized. I made my first contact with ITS a few weeks ago. In their response I was informed that my request for assistance had already been canceled because they were experiencing technical issues at the time. Yet I clearly indicated that my problem had been ongoing.

And the list of challenges continues to increase. ITS confirms my recent experience with a loss of formatting in composed e-mails. The fact that nothing about my setup has changed, yet new problems are adding to the existing hassle of campus e-mail, suggests the system is fundamentally broken and needs to be overhauled. I have been forced to start using a personal account since I can no longer be certain that my Western e-mails will be received. Considering the amount that I am paying per term, this is inexcusable.

Michael Manchester  
MLIS student

LOOKING BACK FROM THE WESTERN NEWS ARCHIVE – SEPTEMBER, 1993

THE WAY WE WERE: 1962

Re: “Police step up bridge enforcement”, Western News, September 11, 2008

Kudos to Elgin Auburn and the Campus Police for their recent initiative using pylons along the centre line to remind motorists that it is illegal and dangerous to pass cyclists on the University Drive Bridge.

In 16 years of crossing that narrow bridge regularly on a bicycle, I have had many near misses caused by impatient drivers or, despite signage that could not be more visible, were in such a hurry that they felt compelled to pass either me or another cyclist travelling in the opposite direction.

It is encouraging to see that our Campus Police take cyclists’ safety seriously, and have allocated resources to this initiative to educate motorists. But the pylons are only a temporary measure, and a labour-intensive one due to the need for personnel to set them up, monitor them, and take them down.

So what is Physical Plant wait-ing for to install a permanent barrier along the centre line on the bridge to keep motorists in their lane, in the interest of cyclists’ safety – a serious injury or a fatal-ity?

Jeff Tennant  
Department of French Studies

When your next-door neighbour is Western

By Marjorie Ratcliffe

London’s 247 noise by-law prohibits noise made by a loudspeaker or amplified musical instruments that “is likely to disturb” neighbours. The greatest offender is, on the whole, not the student population but rather the university that knowingly and intentionally breaks this by-law.

Last year, following complaints from residents about excessive noise from loudspeakers during Orientation Week, President Paul Davenport asked university staff to look into this. If any problems were resolved at that time, it was not clear this year.

When more concerts were planned for O-Week 2008, a meeting was convened by ward councilor Nancy Branscombe, with residents, a city hall by-law official, a representative of Western’s Housing Mediation office and a London Police Services officer to discuss noise and related issues.

The police officer said anyone guilty of violating noise by-laws would be charged; there would be no special privileges. There were reassurances that new, expensive, directional speakers would no longer be used from being heard off campus.

Some residents then tried to reach the university’s contact for O-Week activities but there was no response to emails or telephone calls. USC representatives did not immediately answer enquiries.

Eventually, a USC representa-tive made it clear in an email that she did not understand the noise by-law.

“When this year’s Thursday night activity does feature live acts, they have been scheduled to end before 11 p.m. as per noise by-laws.” She added: “Our live performance programs on Friday and Saturday night will generate noise, as these are the main events for our incoming students in their first week in London.”

USC fully expected to make noise and, according to London Deputy Police Chief Ian Peer, had not even bothered to apply for an exemption to the by-law.

A large stage - with two-storey tower loudspeakers - was erected at the base of UC Hill. Not surprisingly, the noise on Wednesday night led to complaints by resi-dents. Saturday night was worse and caused even more complaints. Sound could be heard from Doon Drive north east of the campus to Blackfriars to the south. London Police were called and charges were laid.

Although USC, not the univer-sity, will bear the brunt of charges, responsibility should be shared. The university owns the land and encourages the “best experience” mentality which, apparently, includes making noise and breaking laws.

Western and USC planned to make noise and, ostensibly, assumed they were above the law. O-Week organizers and others justify the open-air concerts by arguing that 6,000 students have to be entertained on campus for their own safety and as part of the adjustment process which, apparently, is integral to their future studies.

The other explanation is these events protect neighbourhoods from drunken vandalism. This may be true for some first-year students who live on campus but does not include upper-level, off-campus students nor the hours after the events when they move from alcohol-free venues to house parties where there are no con-trols.

The university’s mission is to educate future generations, not entertain them. This can best be done by setting an example. As one neighbour stated: “It is ironic that UWO encourages students to be respectful of their neighbours when off-campus, but decides to begin first-year students’ orienta-tion with an example of excessive noise that goes unchecked. Great example.”

One need only look at the bro-ken car and house windows, the police cruisers, the ambulance and the fire truck called to Steele Street or the senseless vandal-ism on The Parkway and Saint George. Why does the university believe that students will obey its academic code of behaviour when, by its very example, the university breaks London’s by-law?

There must be a better solution to this annual confrontation. A short term suggestion is to move the concerts inside where the noise will not aggravate neigh-bours. At a more fundamental level, the whole concept of Ori-entation Week needs to be examined. Let’s do away with this Party U mentality.

After nearly 20 years at West-ern, I should not be surprised by the university’s attitude. My disappointment with its duplic-it and insufferable arrogance is, however, nothing compared to that voiced by my neighbours who look to me and other com-munity members to somehow mediate these aggravations. All I can say to them is that, as an institution, Western is expert in public relations and image manage-ment.

By its behaviour and lack of leadership during O-Week, West-ern demonstrated contempt for London, its neighbours and the law.

The writer is a professor of Mod-ern Languages and Literatures

Contributed by Alan Noon (anoon@uwo.ca) London Free Press Collection/ Western Archives
What do you want in a rebuilt UCC?

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

INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH

Pressing need for global citizenship

ACT! Active Citizens Today: Global Citizenship for Local Schools has been a collaborative project between the University of Western Ontario’s Faculty of Education, the Thames Valley District School Board (TVDSB), and the non-governmental organization, Free the Children.

Marianne Larsen, an assistant professor at the Faculty of Education and Dorianna Rosati, Social Studies, History and Geography Curriculum Consultant at the TVDSB drafted the details of the ACT! project in early 2006. A proposal for funding to carry out the project through CIDA’s Global Classroom Initiative program (www.acdi-cida.gc.ca/gci) for details) was successful and the project began that summer.

The project was initially comprised of three parts:

1. To develop a teaching resource kit to prepare middle school students to understand Canada’s connections with the world and learn what it means to live and act as global citizens.
2. To provide teachers with opportunities to learn about infusing an action-based form of global education across the social studies curriculum and specifically how to use the resource we develop with their Grade 6 students.
3. To follow up on the implementation of the resource through a research project to support teachers piloting the teaching kit and evaluate the effectiveness of the resource before revising and distributing the final version in the fall of 2007.

Additional funding was obtained in the spring of 2008 to translate the teaching kit into French and provide professional development workshops for French immersion social studies teachers to use the resource in their classrooms.

During the summer of 2006, a writing team consisting of two Thames Valley teachers, with Larsen and Rosati as facilitators/writers, and Lisa Faden, a doctoral student at the Faculty of Education who was research assistant/writer, conceptualized the framework for the teaching kit and writing the 40+ lessons and culminating tasks.

The rationale behind the ACT! Teaching Kit lies in the recognition that schools must teach students that they live in an interconnected and interdependent world and that education for global citizenship requires educators to help students develop the knowledge, skills, and attitudes that they need to effect change both locally and globally.

Global citizenship education aims to foster in students a sense of belonging to this global world and to build a global culture of peace and social justice through the promotion of values, attitudes, and behaviours which enable the realization of democratic ideals, sustainable development, and human rights for all.

The project also consisted of a research study. In the fall of 2006, an information letter about this project and request was made for teachers to participate in a study to pilot the resource.

Twenty teachers volunteered for the study. Data for the study consisted of an online pre-survey to measure their attitudes and perceptions about global citizenship education, a post-survey to measure changes in teachers’ values and perceptions, notes from classroom observations of teachers using the ACT! resource, recorded interviews with teachers, and a final written detailed questionnaire about the resource itself.

The goal was to evaluate the effectiveness of the lessons themselves in meeting their stated objectives and the overall enduring understandings of the teaching kit. We were most interested in measuring participant teachers’ perceptions, attitudes and beliefs about becoming global citizen educators, and the process of supporting them in becoming global citizenship educators through piloting the ACT! teaching kit.

Early results were presented at the Comparative and International Education Society annual meeting in March 2007 and published later that year in the Brock Education special issue journal on Global Citizenship Education. Our research demonstrates the pressing need to provide supports such as accessible curriculum materials, professional development opportunities and the time to develop meaningful lessons for those teachers who are eager to integrate global citizenship education into their social studies curriculum.

We have had extremely positive response from the teachers who have used the resource in their classrooms. As a result of our promotion and distribution efforts, almost 400 teachers and student-teachers in London have attended our Global Citizenship Education professional development workshops and over 2,000 Ontario teachers have already received copies of the ACT! Resource.

Kits have also been distributed to Faculty of Education Social Studies/History Curriculum instructors and boards of education resource librarians. It is currently being translated into French and this fall will be promoted and distributed to French social studies teachers.

The ACT! teaching kit is available to download for free through the website www.tvdsb.on.ca/act.
CALLING ALL STUDENT ENTREPRENEURS

Nominations are being accepted for the 2009 National Student Entrepreneur Competition, operated by Advancing Canadian Entrepreneurship and presented by CIBC. The competition is open to full-time students at Canadian universities or colleges who are running their own businesses. Nominations will be accepted at www.acecanada.ca until Dec. 12.

PAYROLL SAVINGS

The annual Canada Payroll Savings Program begins Oct. 6 and runs to Oct. 31. Enrolment and access to the program is provided online. If new to the program or wishing to change the deduction amount, visit www.e-campaign.csb.cc.ca. If you have a question, contact Human Resources. Please note the following:

For online enrolment, the employer code for Western is 12215.

- Deductions are taken once a month for Western employees.
- The RSP option is not available to employees.
- Deductions start with the first pay in December.

GRANTS FOR BOOKS, TECHNOLOGY

Ontario is offering a new, annual grant to help pay for textbooks and computer costs. In 2008-09, the grant is $150, rising to $300 per year when fully implemented. Recipients must be a Canadian citizen, permanent resident or a protected person. For more details on eligibility, visit ontario.ca/OSAP. Full-time students who apply for OSAP for 2008-09 will automatically be considered for the grant. If you are eligible but not receiving OSAP, you must complete an online application for the Textbook and Technology Grant.

WANTED: YOUNG WRITERS & VIDEOGRAPHERS

The Canada Hungary Educational Foundation (CHEF), through its web project Hungarianpresence.ca, is holding an essay/video competition for Canadian high school and post-secondary students under the age of 25. The competition is entitled “Becoming Canadian - A Celebration of Refugee and Immigrant Experiences in Canada.” The aim is to examine the refugee or immigrant experience from a personal perspective. Eligible students should submit entries, in the form of an essay, short fiction or video. The deadline is Oct. 31. First prize is $1,000 in each age category. Details, rules and entry form: www.hungarianpresence.ca. Contact: youthcontest@hungarianpresence.ca or info@hungarianpresence.ca.

HANCRYZ INSTALLATION

NOV. 1

Colleen Hanyecz, incoming principal of Brescia University College, will be installed in her new position on Nov. 1. The eleventh principal of Brescia, Hanyecz will be installed at St. Peter’s Cathedral Basilica during a ceremony beginning at 1:30 p.m.

The University of Western Ontario welcomes John Doerksen to his new role as Vice-Provost (Academic Programs and Students) [Registrar]. The former Associate Dean (Academic) at the Don Wright Faculty of Music began his five-year term as Vice-Provost this month, succeeding Roma Harris, who held the position since it was established in 1995. Here, Doerksen enjoys the moment with Vice-Provost (Academic Planning, Policy and Faculty) Alan Weedon, (left) and Law Dean Ian Holloway. At back is Music Dean Robert Wood.

The Faculty of Information and Media Studies is pleased to announce the recipients of the Dean’s Awards for Excellence in Teaching 2008

The Dean’s Awards recognize outstanding contributions to the academic development of students in the Faculty of Information and Media Studies.

Paul Benedetti
Jennifer Noon
Dean’s Award for Excellence in Teaching

Martha Joyce
Dean’s Award for Excellence in Part-Time Teaching

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Western ‘serves up’ community-building

More than 300 helped London agencies

By Heather Travis

No job was too small for the more than 300 University of Western Ontario students, faculty and staff volunteering throughout the London community last weekend.

On Saturday, Sept. 20, student volunteers with Western Serves, a service-learning program designed to increase social awareness for students and faculty, spread out across the city to assist 30 agencies.

Through their various tasks – from painting a classroom, helping seniors build scarecrows and maintaining a butterfly garden to building information packages for the Heart and Stroke Foundation of Ontario and participating in a brainstorming session at the local Schizophrenia Society of Ontario – many students bonded with professors in a non-academic setting.

“A wide-variety of things went on,” says Leah Getchell, Western Serves co-ordinator. “It was a really big success.”

Building on last year’s success, the program continued its goal of teaching students how to become engaged citizens.

“The more we know about various areas of London, the sort of socio-economic challenges and cultural challenges, the better overall citizen we can be. Education is the most important piece to instigate change,” she says.

Looking ahead to next year, Getchell hopes to grow the program and address volunteer retention issues.

“It almost doubled this year and we are looking to keep growing and having it become a household name on campus.”

Hundreds of Western students, staff and faculty fanned out last weekend for Western Serves, to increase awareness about service-learning within the London community. Social Science student Seung Ryoo and Science student Kimberly Yateman were with a group putting a fresh coat of paint on Madame Vanier Children’s Services. Participation in the program nearly doubled this year to more than 300 people.

NEW: Western Medical Accommodation Policy (Medical Notes)

In May 2008, The University of Western Ontario’s Senate approved a new medical note policy, which affects all students. The following is an outline of that policy. For more detailed information and forms, please visit https://studentservices.uwo.ca/secure/index.cfm, and for further policy information please visit http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/handbook/appeals/accommodation_medical.pdf

Documentation from Family Physicians and Walk-In Clinics

A Western Student Medical Certificate (SMC)* is required where a student is seeking academic accommodation. This documentation should be obtained at the time of the initial consultation with the physician or walk-in clinic. An SMC* can be downloaded under the Medical Documentation heading of the following website:  https://studentservices.uwo.ca/secure/index.cfm. Hard copies are available from the student’s home Faculty Academic Counselling Service.

Documentation from Student Health Services

Students obtaining documentation from Student Health Services should sign a “release of information.” This form authorizes Student Health Services to provide information to the student’s home Faculty. Release of information forms are available from, and can be arranged through, the student’s home Faculty Academic Counselling Service.

Documentation from Hospital Urgent Care Centres or Emergency Departments

Students should request that an SMC* be filled out. Students may bring this form with them, or request alternative Emergency Department documentation. Documentation should be secured at the time of the initial visit to the Emergency Department. Where it is not possible for a student to have an SMC* completed by the attending physician, the student must request documentation sufficient to demonstrate that his/her ability to meet his/her academic responsibilities was seriously affected.

*To print or see an example of the Western Student Medical Certificate (SMC) please visit https://studentservices.uwo.ca/secure/index.cfm and click on ‘Student Medical Certificate.pdf’.
Luxury’s point of origin

North Point

www.northpointlofts.ca

Dr. James M. Good
Room

This room was named in recognition of Dr. Good’s many contributions to the Faculty. As Dean of the Faculty (1993-1999) he led the conversion of Conron Hall, preserving it for future generations.

Paul Mayne, Western News

A driving force behind the preservation and restoration of Conron Hall, former Arts and Humanities Dean James Good, has been recognized with a room named in his honour adjacent to the hall (Room 225A). The tribute also acknowledges James and Eva Good’s philanthropic contributions to the university.

Notices to join the academic procession
292nd Convocation - Autumn 2008

Autumn Convocation takes place at 3:30 p.m. on Thursday, October 23 and at 10:00 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. on Friday, October 24. Members of Faculty, Senate, the Board of Governors and Emeritus Professors/ Librarians/Archivists are invited to take part in the Academic Procession. Full information on joining the academic procession (including order of ceremony, honorary degree recipients, assembly and regalia) may be found on the Senate Website:
http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/senate/academic_procession.pdf

Announcement

Academic Development Fund - New Research and Scholarly Initiatives Award
Small Grant Competition – Fall 2008

As approved by Senate, at least 8% of Academic Development Funds is to be awarded through a Small Grant Competition. Approximately $160,000 will be available to the Small Grants competition from the ADF in 2008-09. The value of individual grants will not exceed $8,500.

The Subcommittee on Priorities in Academic Development acknowledges the importance of providing continued funding for small projects in light of a steady decline in other resources for research initiatives of this scale.

Applicants are advised that significant permanent changes have been made to the application process. ADF project proposals will be administered in electronic format only; thus eliminating the need to submit sets in hard copy format. Application forms and guidelines for the Fall 2008 competition can be obtained at the University Secretariat web site: www.uwo.ca/univsec/ grants or by contacting the SUPAD Secretary at 661-2111 extn. 84540 (email: msoswald@uwo.ca). The deadline for submission of completed electronic applications (Adobe PDF file) to the SUPAD Secretary will be Wednesday, October 15, 2008 at 4:30 p.m.; however, applicants are asked to submit applications to the relevant Dean’s office for signature at least one week prior to the deadline date. Decisions for the Fall 2008 competition will be available by mid-December for a start date of January 1, 2009.
One Week Job guru serial career hunter

By Heather Travis

Imagine starting a different job every week for an entire year. This is how The University of Western Ontario’s Career Week keynote speaker Sean Aiken spent 2007 in search of the ideal job. Graduation is an exciting monument in a student’s life. However, some people may approach the day with trepidation about what comes next.

To help Western students turn their degrees into dollars, The Career Centre @ Western is hosting Career Week from Sept. 26- Oct. 3.

Like many students approaching graduation, Aiken was unsure about the transition to the employment world.

On Friday, Sept. 26, the 27-year-old Vancouver native explains how he turned that uncertainty into a myriad of job opportunities for the One Week Job project. He will be speaking at The Wave from 12:30-2 p.m.

“I graduated from school and I didn’t know what I wanted to do for a career,” says Aiken. “I wanted to do something that I am going to be happy doing, something I am passionate about.”

As a business administration graduate, Aiken didn’t want to leap into a career without exploring all of his options. He started a website asking businesses and individuals to offer him a job. But, rather than paying Aiken for his services, he asked employers to make a donation to Make Poverty History/ONE Campaign.

Turning his career search into a smorgasbord of one-week jobs, Aiken became a veterinarian’s assistant, a Hollywood producer, a firefighter, an astronomer and more.

“I wasn’t really looking for the exact career. It was more about learning about the characteristics of the career that made me happy. “I really enjoyed actually doing something different all the time and learning something new,” he adds.

Sleeping on friends’ and strangers’ couches, hitch hiking, riding the bus and living off a $1,000-monthly stipend from NiceJob.ca, Aiken traveled across North America for 52 weeks.

He documented his journey in a blog and partway through the adventure friend Ian MacKenzie joined him on the road to capture the job experience on film.

Aiken says the biggest mistake most graduates make is focusing on a career, rather than what it takes to do the job and whether the position will be satisfying. He recommends volunteering, which allows students to try out a job before making a long-term commitment.

Aiken is writing a book about his experience and collaborating with MacKenzie on a documentary. As for his future career, Aiken says it remains uncertain.

“I realized I would like to be in a situation where what I am doing is greater than myself … and bigger than the bottom line,” he says.

Students attending the session will see film clips of Aiken tackling various jobs. A reception will follow the presentation and lunch will be provided.

But Western students don’t have to take 52 weeks to find out about career options locally and abroad.

Throughout Career Week, students will get to speak with employers and company representatives, hear about volunteer and internship opportunities and get advice on career development.

On Friday, Sept. 26, The School of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies and the Teaching and Learning Centre is offering a one-day event on professional development, non-academic careers, academic job searches, interviews and negotiating faculty contracts in The Great Hall from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The keynote speaker for the event is Lionel Laroché, a cross-cultural trainer and author of a book on recruiting and retaining culturally different employees.

Job opportunities in London and Alberta will also be highlighted throughout the week, as well as faculty-specific career fairs and information sessions.

career.uwo.ca/careerweek

Between the book industry covers

Two University of Western Ontario alumni offer insight into the skills and qualifications students need to succeed in the Canadian book industry.

On Oct. 1, The Book Store at Western hosts a panel discussion about the diverse roles and challenges of working in publishing and book selling. The Career Week event will be held from noon to 2 p.m.

The panel of six speakers includes a published writer and two Western graduates leading the way at major publishing companies in Canada.

Among them is Adria Iwasutia, who graduated from Western in 2003 with a BA Honors History and she is a senior publicist at Random House of Canada in Toronto.

“One of the most valuable things I developed at Western was an even greater love of reading,” says Iwasutia.

“Perhaps, most importantly, I gained the confidence to share in my experience and passion for a great book.”

Founder of Talk Books, Iwasutia worked with Western’s Student & Young Alumni community to provide an online book club.

In her final year, she participated in Western Reads (now London Reads) as a celebrity reader and chose the winning book in the program’s inaugural year—No Great Mistake by Alistair Macleod.

Nicolette Winstanley, BA 1996, Honors English, is executive editor for Penguin Group Canada in Toronto. She acquires Canadian and international literary fiction, as well as narrative non-fiction.

The panel will also feature Death in the Dordogne mystery novel series author Michelle Wan, London marketing and publicity consultant Bob Cottrell, Pearson Education director of bookseller relations, higher education division, Colleen Cook, and The Book Store at Western’s sales manager Stephen Cribar.

The event is open to all students, but seating is limited. To reserve, call 519-661-3520 ext. 88251 or e-mail ccyoung@uwo.ca.

ACADEMIC DEVELOPMENT FUND - NEW RESEARCH AND SCHOLARLY INITIATIVES AWARD
MAJOR GRANTS COMPETITION 2009-2010

The Academic Development Fund was established by Senate in 1973. Its primary purpose is to provide seed money for academic innovation. A portion of the distributable operating revenue of the University’s budget is made available to the Academic Development Fund to support Special Projects set out in the guidelines.

Applications may be made by individuals, disciplinary teams, and cross-and inter-disciplinary teams, including those with external matching funds, and for projects requiring support in amounts of excess of approximately $10,000. Projects with budgets less than $8,500 will not normally be considered. The ADF is intended to provide support for significant and innovative new directions in research. ADF support is not restricted to equipment.

Application forms, including the Guidelines governing projects eligible for support, are available from the University Secretariat website (www.uwo.ca/univsec) or by contacting the SUPAD Secretary at 519-661-2055 (email: msoswald@uwo.ca). Please note that due to major changes to the application process, applications will be administered in electronic format only. Application forms are available in MS Word and Portable Document Format. Completed electronic applications are to be submitted (as PDF format) to the SUPAD Secretary (email: msoswald@uwo.ca) by the designated deadline. Applications to the ADF are reviewed by Research and Scholarly Initiatives Award will no longer be accepted in print format. (NB: Applications in print or in electronic format issued prior to August 2008 are no longer valid.)

The deadline for applications to the 2009-2010 ADF Major Grant competition is 4:30 p.m., Monday, November 17, 2008, and this deadline will be strictly enforced.
Western strives to be good neighbour

A packed house of senior alumni listened to a lecture about the impact of the student population on the London community

By Heather Travis

The beginning of a new school year brings an influx of thousands of students and among them can be a few bad apples. But, The University of Western Ontario is making strides to create a positive relationship with its London neighbours.

Helen Connell, Associate Vice-President, Department of Communications and Public Affairs, says London garnered national attention over the past month with headlines focused on student disturbances in the community.

Although most of the problems were not associated with the university, Western has still taken some heat over the impact of students on surrounding neighbourhoods during the school year.

Facing the criticism head-on, Connell painted a different picture of Western – highlighting the numerous activities on campus designed to encourage community engagement and promote the university’s presence in London during her Senior Alumni lecture on Sept. 23.

“We know there are people who think Western is not doing enough to be a good neighbour,” she says. “It’s very frustrating … when we see so much attention paid to a small group of students this time of year.”

On Labour Day, Western welcomed more than 33,000 students to campus. Such a large population increase cannot help but have an impact on the London community, says Connell. However, the university’s ongoing efforts to minimize problems, such as working with London Police on Project LEARN (Liquor Enforcement and Reduction of Noise), rarely receives equal media attention, she says.

“I need to stress that things are so much better today ... (But) I’m not going to make any excuses for students who cause problems.”

In 1984, rowdy behaviour by Western students was splashed across news pages, including a Homecoming incident that resulted in police firing tear gas on a crowd of 1,200 students. Over the years, Western has worked to rebuild a positive relationship within the community by taking a proactive approach towards neighbourhood relations and meeting regularly with city council members and local residents.

“There is a relationship between Western and the city that is a complex one and goes back 130 years,” she says. “We rarely stop to think about how we’ve evolved together.”

The university makes significant contributions to the economic development and cultural aspects of London, she adds. Western also participates in several community outreach programs.

Western does not want to displace its neighbours, and believes it benefits from the diversity of people living near campus, says Connell. “We know the importance of preserving the neighbours around Western.”

In spite of efforts to dissolve problems around campus, Connell says Western cannot always be held accountable for the actions of students. Western’s code of conduct is difficult to enforce outside of the university gates, she adds.

“Students have the same rights as every other citizen. If Western students break the law, they should face the same consequences as any other resident.”

Alumnus Lloyd Smith was pleased to hear about Western’s efforts to address public concerns.

“It’s always a small group of people. It’s a minority that gives us a bad name,” he says. “It’s nice to hear the university is doing things to strengthen the relationship.”

Both Kay Holdershaw and Jessie Pfaff live near the university and enjoy the company of their young neighbours.

“We live quite close to the university and we have no complaints,” says Holdershaw.

“We have a lot of students living around us and they are a delight,” adds Pfaff.

But not everyone is completely satisfied.

Margarete Maksymyk says the biggest problem is pedestrian traffic around Western.

“I have every respect for the students, but the discipline in the traffic areas is gruesome,” she says, adding jaywalking students pose a risk for even the most cautious driver.

“That’s my only serious concern ... They should follow the same rules as everyone else, particularly the traffic signals,” she says.

Public gets inside look at Western sites

By Heather Travis

Hundreds of people took in the sights at The University of Western Ontario during Doors Open London last weekend.

On Sept. 20-21, five locations around the university welcomed local residents for free tours. Among the 51 participating sites across the city, Western opened its doors to Brescia University College, Gibbons Lodge, Huron University College, McIntosh Gallery and the Boundary Layer Wind Tunnel Laboratory.

Gwyn Hayman, Manager, Finance and Marketing for the Wind Tunnel and site co-ordinator for Doors Open, says more than 450 people toured the facility over the two days. “It was very well attended. It was very successful,” she says.

However, Hayman says the number of visitors has declined over its three years participating in the weekend event.

“I suspect that a lot of people came the first year because it was the first year it was open,” she says. “There are new sites to see so they’ve moved on.

“In the future, they may well come back … to see what else we’ve been doing,” she adds.

Although it was only open for one day, Julie Malby, Alumni Relations Officer at Brescia University College says the turnout for the Ursuline Hall tours was great – more than 130 people.

“It was really gratifying to see so much interest in Brescia,” she says. “The people who toured Ursuline Hall were fascinated by the building, the artifacts, the history and really enjoyed meeting the Sisters who were present as well.”

Similarly, Huron University College reduced its open house to one day.

Helen Connell, Associate Vice-President, Department of Communications and Public Affairs at Western, listens intently to the concerns of a Senior Alumni member following her lecture about Western’s role in London at Tuesday’s Senior Alumni Program.

Heather Travis, Western News
‘The hardest decision I’ve ever made’

Music student Tim Richard faced going to war or leaving his country.

By Shobhita Sharma

Walking across the campus, M.A. student Tim Richard seems no different from other students. He enjoys hanging out with friends, hates homework, and needs a coffee fix to carry on with his day.

But Richard has had to make tougher life decisions than your average Western student.

In 2006, Richard was faced with the dilemma of fulfilling his duty as a soldier in the United States Army and serving in Iraq, or standing by his beliefs and opposing American involvement in the war-torn country. He decided to stand-up and oppose.

“Being a soldier was always a part of my identity. That was just me. I was that uniform. When I finally had to remove that uniform for the last time and talk about the thing that I had been supporting for the past six years; that was really gut-wrenching,” Richard says.

“If I had gone to Iraq, it would have been such a gross violation of my conscience that I couldn't reconcile with, especially knowing that this was wrong. So, I decided to come to Canada instead.”

Born to a Canadian father and a British mother, Richard was able to claim Canadian citizenship when he arrived two years ago. After living with his mother in B.C. for a while, Richard chose to come to The University of Western Ontario to study music under Tim Baerg. He looks forward to finishing his master's in Music Literature and Performance.

He says he was secretive about his past at first, but now he is more open to questions and discussions.

“People in music (and at Western) are very open, very receptive and very sympathetic about the cause. This is who I am and no one seems to have a problem with it. When people come up to me and ask me questions, that’s something I don’t mind at all,” he says.

And the 26-year-old is certainly vocal about his opinion when it comes to supporting American war resisters such as himself. He has been an active member of the London Resisters, a war resisters group in the city that organizes events to raise funds and awareness about the cause.

He is also passionate about Canadian laws protecting U.S. soldiers seeking residence in Canada. He is somewhat satisfied with the negative balance in his bank account. It just rubs me the wrong way sometimes.”

He says he tries to keep music and activism apart, but often feels political choices can’t bug me. “I sit there thinking, this guy is going to war for some ambiguous political thing which is beyond his grasp. It just rubs me the wrong way sometimes.”

The writer is a master’s student studying Journalism.

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Avoid email scammers: Never, under any circumstances, email your username and password in response to an email request.

Western will never ask you to email your username and password.
Universities across the country are undergoing a sustained period of growth. Some of that expansion is coming in some surprising shapes, including seniors’ residences and dorms for entrepreneurs. That construction is certainly being felt at The University of Western Ontario where two major projects have just reached completion.

The $30-million Biotron Experimental Climate Change Research Centre – a facility shared with Agriculture Canada and the University of Guelph – opened to great fanfare last Thursday. In addition, the $15-million Materials Science Addition, featuring glassed-in laboratories and technology geared to ease the recording of experimental results, has just begun to receive students.

The following items, culled from recent media reports, represent a small portion of what has been reported.

Western News will offer updates on other construction projects in future editions of Universities in the News.

LAURENTIAN SEeks ARCHITECTURE SCHOOL
Sudbury ratepayers are being asked to contribute $10 million over 10 years toward development of a school of architecture at Laurentian University. The proposed school of architecture will cost an estimated $35 million to develop. Federal and provincial governments would be asked to contribute the remaining $25 million in capital costs if Sudbury council approves the gift. The new school – projected to have 420 students, faculty and staff – would be built in downtown Sudbury and generate a direct economic impact of more than $10 million annually. - The Sudbury Star

NEW RESEARCH CENTRE FOR MCGILL
McGill University has opened a new Life Sciences Complex, a $73-million facility for 600 scientists in bio-medical, developmental biology and cancer research. The four-building complex of laboratories is located on the flank of the mountain and includes the Francesco Bellini Life Sciences Building and McGill Cancer Research building as well as nearly $20 million in upgrades to the Stewart biological sciences and McIntyre medical sciences buildings. The Bellini building honours former McGill chemistry professor Francesco Bellini who founded BioChem Pharma and contributed $10 million to the project. McGill received more than $41 million in funding from the Quebec, and $27 million from the Canada Foundation for Innovation. – Montreal Gazette

NEW STADIUM OPENS AT MCMASTER
McMaster University has opened Ron Joyce Stadium, named after the Tim Hortons co-founder, who contributed $10 million. The 6,000-seat stadium will host training sessions, as well as professional and recreational athletic events. Local community sports teams will also compete at the stadium. – McMaster Daily News

$22M STUDENT CENTRE PLANNED
Canadore College and Nipissing University have students in favour of a new fee to help pay for a $22-million student centre expansion. Construction would begin next summer, and the centre is scheduled to open by the fall of 2010. Only 844 of a possible 6,000 students voted in the referendum. – North Bay Nugget

ASPERS BANKROLL MANITOBA STADIUM
Winnipeg’s David Asper says he plans to build a $180-million football stadium/fitness centre at the University of Manitoba’s Fort Garry campus for the Winnipeg Blue Bombers and University of Manitoba Bisons. Asper is seeking at least $35 million in funding from the provincial and federal governments. – Winnipeg Free Press

WATERLOO LAUNCHES DORM FOR ENTREPRENEURS
The University of Waterloo is launching what it calls “the world’s first student residence designed to enable budding entrepreneurs to work with like-minded colleagues on mobile communications and digital media.” VeloCity is a ‘dorm-cubator’ for top students who want to turn bright ideas in Web, mobile and digital media applications into successful businesses. The idea was inspired by successes such as Facebook, Google, Microsoft and the Blackberry, also started with students. Beginning this fall term, 70 upper-year and graduate students will develop ideas related to mobile communications and digital media. They will form project teams, each paired with an industry mentor to help create effective technical and business strategies. At the end of the term, students will present the results of their collaborative work at a symposium to be attended by industry partners and potential investors. The students would own the rights to their inventions. – Waterloo Communications

HEALTH SCIENCES GOES GREEN
Simon Fraser has opened a $56.9-million three-storey complex for its fledging Health Sciences faculty in the greenest building on campus. Named Blusson Hall for Vancouver philanthropists Stewart and Marilyn Blusson who contributed $12 million, the structure exceeds LEED Silver standards with features such as a planted roof, sustainably harvested wood products, limited use of off-gassing construction materials, storm-water collection for irrigation, radiant-floor heating and abundant natural light. It includes Level 3 bio-containment facility. – Simon Fraser Communications

MAKE ROOM FOR ... SENIORS
A number of Canadian universities are building on-campus seniors’ residences. The University of British Columbia plans to open a 180-unit seniors’ residence within two years, following on the heels of the University of Guelph. Trent University and Université Laval are considering such projects. On-campus retirement communities are considered an attractive means to boost endowment funds, with residents also serving as ready research subjects for human kinetics and nursing students. – University Affairs

ALBERTA ADDS 5,400 SPACES
The Alberta government will ante up $425 million to create space in Calgary for an additional 5,400 post-secondary education students. SAIT Polytechnic and Bow Valley College will receive $419 million to expand facilities and capacity. The University of Calgary will receive $3 million a year to lease downtown Calgary space for 400 nursing and business students. – Government of Alberta

WILFRID LAURIER EXPANDS IN BRANTFORD
Waterloo’s Wilfrid Laurier University hopes to build a $20-million university centre in downtown Brantford. Featuring bookstore, cafeteria, offices, lecture rooms, patio and an 84-room residence, the new facility is expected to open in September 2009. The centre will be the keystone of Laurier’s Heritage Block, which already contains Post house student residence, a student centre, Journalism House and Wilkes House. - Brantford Expositor

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Western in 5 podcast at www.uwo.ca
Lecture brings to life French Impressionists

By Paul Mayne

The great names of French Impressionist art roll easily off the lips of President Paul Davenport. While an economist by specialty, a passion for the arts is never far below the surface.

With a standing-room only crowd at downtown London’s The ARTS Project, Davenport opened the University of Western Ontario’s Classes Without Quizzes lecture series. He delivered the first lecture of a six-part series “Footsteps of the Impressionists” which he presents each year through the Continuing Studies program.

Davenport took those in attendance for an historical and sensory walk through the streets of late 19th Century Paris to discover the neighbourhoods that gave rise to Impressionist painting, great literature and wild operettas.

Following in the footsteps of Monet, Renoir, Morisot, Zola, and Maupassant, Davenport painted his own scene of the exciting Monet, Renoir, Morisot, Zola, and operettas. “I’m always nervous that there is a real art critic in the audience who will call me out on something,” laughs Davenport.

While he readily admits to enjoy sharing his love of art, he jokes there is a minor concern before he speaks on the subject. “I’m always nervous that there is a real art critic in the audience who will call me out on something,” laughs Davenport.

Following its successful launch in 2007 and a capacity kick-off crowd this year, the Classes Without Quizzes series will continue Oct. 21 with Psychology Assistant Professor Daniel Ansari delving into cutting-edge technologies in discussing The Mathematical Brain. The free lecture will be held at the Thames Valley District School Board, 1250 Dundas Street, London.

Future speakers include Claire Crooks (Bullying), Jane Rylett (Alzheimer’s), Norma Coates (The Rolling Stones) and Graham Smith (The Myth of Global Brain). For more information, visit classeswithoutquizzes.uwo.ca.

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DEAN, FACULTY OF ARTS AND SOCIAL SCIENCE

Huron University College invites nominations and applications for the position of Dean, Faculty of Arts and Social Science, effective July 1, 2009.

Established by provincial act in 1863, Huron is the founding college of the University of Western Ontario and offers its degrees in partnership with Western. With an enrolment of 1,000 undergraduate arts and social science students, of which 10% are international, Huron is noted for the high calibre of its teaching and for its close-knit campus environment. As reported in Maclean’s magazine, Huron scores at or near the top of Canadian universities in several categories of the National Survey of Student Engagement, including student-faculty interaction, enriching educational experience, and level of academic challenge. Huron faculty members are active researchers within their fields and compete successfully for research support with national granting councils.

The Dean of the Faculty of Arts and Social Science should have a proven record of academic leadership, program innovation, research and publication, and the fostering of teaching excellence. S/he should have an appreciation for the mission of a small liberal arts institution and should be able to function effectively in a leadership team. The Dean will be expected to play a key part in the continued internationalization of Huron, including both the curriculum and the student body. In his/her role overseeing academic support services, the Dean should be able to deal effectively with support staff and with the diverse needs of students.

The successful candidate will have a record of teaching excellence and scholarly publication in one of the departmental areas of Huron’s Faculty of Arts and Social Science, consistent with appointment to the rank of tenured associate or full professor.

Letters of application and nominations should be submitted by November 14, 2008, to:

Dr. Ramona Lumpkin, Principal
Huron University College
1349 Western Road
London, Ontario N6G 1H3

Applicants should include with their letter a curriculum vitae and the names of three references (who will not be contacted without the permission of the candidate).
Hutchison honoured as career ‘newsmaker’

By Paul Mayne

University of Western Ontario Media Relations

Director Ann Hutchison has been honoured for years of service in the media with induction into the London City Press Club Newsmakers’ Hall of Fame.

Hutchison joined philanthropist Steve Plunkett and entrepreneur Hank Vander Laan (also a member of Western’s Board of Governors), along with Labatt’s Brewery as 2008 inductees.

The 12th annual event was held on Sept. 20 before a full house.

With more than 25 years of working for and with the news media, Hutchison began her career as a radio and television reporter and producer in Kingston, followed by Calgary, Toronto and in London, where she worked at CFPL Television and AM980.

“I was particularly humbled to be recognized this year along with Hank Vander Laan and Steve Plunkett - two men who are true community builders in London, and with a great company such as Labatt Brewery,” says Hutchison.

Hutchison also spent three years as executive assistant and media relations advisor to former London Mayor Diane Haskett. From 1998 to 2007, Ann Hutchison Communications offered strategic communication services to clients such as the London Economic Development Corporation, Fanshawe College and London Transit.

For almost two years Hutchison has been part of the university’s Communications and Public Affairs Department. While she’s thrilled with the award, she says her role is now to help others get their message out.

It is an honour, although I don’t like to think of myself as a newsmaker, but rather as someone who helps others make headlines. That is really what Western Media Relations is all about,” she says.

Hutchison serves on the board of the United Way and is president of the board at Community Living London. Earlier this year, Hutchison and her husband – former AM980 morning host Peter Garland – were named Laudable Londoners by Participation House.

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‘Creative homosexuality’
a longstanding myth

By Heather Travis

The longstanding stereotype that homosexuals are creative has historical roots dating back to Plato, Dante and Michelangelo, says University of Western Ontario professor James Miller.

During a Senior Alumni lecture last week, Miller, a professor of Modern Languages and Literatures, argued the stereotype is not a new phenomenon. Rather, poets, artists and writers have perpetuated the myth for centuries.

The cultural myth has been perpetuated by the belief that “sexual energy is inseparable from divine creativity,” says Miller.

In the 1970s, a study measuring creativity levels in homosexuals and heterosexuals produced no indication that there was a difference between the two groups. In spite of the lack of scientific evidence supporting the idea that homosexuals are more creative, Miller says it continues to be a commonly held belief.

“I want to alert everyone of the irrepressibility of these myths, but also see them for the social role they play,” he says.

The fact that it is a myth “doesn’t mean it is utterly false… or has no value. But, it is a story we have been telling ourselves about the erotic life of homosexuals,” he adds.

Miller credits a book published in 1912 by Edward Carpenter, called The Intermediate Sex, as the first to put the idea of homosexual creativity in print.

“If there is any single book that has promoted homosexuals as creative… it’s this book.”

But the history of the belief can be traced back even farther. Plato, a classical Greek philosopher, used the word ‘Uranian’ in place of the modern term ‘homosexual.’ Miller says the Uranian camaraderie or love between men was believed to generate a higher level of creativity and intellect.

“The very foundation of the Uranian nature is artistic creativity. Generations later, both Victorian writer Oscar Wilde and American poet Walt Whitman, who Miller says never identified himself as gay, also endorsed Uranian love as leading to a higher level of thinking.

More recent authors, including those represented in the Pride Library at Western, also maintain the stereotype.

“Traces of the myth are just beneath the surface of authors that are set against sexual essentialism,” he says.

Turning to artistic examples, Miller argues Michelangelo’s painting of the Last Judgment on the altar wall of the Sistine chapel celebrates Uranian love between two men.

“These men embracing above the infernal burn is a sign of celestial creativity,” he says.

Similarly, artistic and literary interpretations of Dante’s Divine Comedy have also linked a homosexuality and creativity.

Overall, Miller says the myth has played an important role in cultural history and is not easily laid to rest.

“Rather than determining if the myth is true or false, the myth is true insofar as it is a part of our culture,” he says. “It is more of a question of how the myth is used and why.”

Modern Languages and Literatures professor James Miller says the myth of homosexual creativity has played an important role in cultural history.
Largille to guide construction, campus growth

By Paul Mayne

Roy Largille says he’s “always up for a challenge” and eagerly anticipates his role as Western’s new Associate Vice-President (Physical Plant & Capital Planning Services).

“There is nothing better, in my mind, than being part of a team involved in the execution of a major strategic growth plan,” says Largille, who’ll begin his new job Oct. 20.

“I am really looking forward to becoming part of this first-class team.” As Director of Facilities Management at Seneca College for the past six years, Largille comes from the largest college in Canada with 19,000 full-time students and 90,000 part-time students. Prior to Seneca, he served in senior positions with ARMARK Canada, The Credit Valley Hospital, St. Thomas-Elgin General Hospital and Parkwood Hospital.

Largille says his first priority is to meet the staff and stakeholders of the Western community and get to know the people he will be working with.

“This will help me to learn what is working so we can build on our strengths, and find out what isn’t so that we can develop plans to help us improve our service delivery,” he says.

There will be a lot to learn in this new role, one being finding his way around campus without getting lost, he adds jokingly.

But his main goal will be to help guide the department in becoming recognized as the first choice for providing services to the university community.

“Teamwork is paramount,” says Largille. “Enormous tasks are always easier when shared among people with a common purpose. Strategic planning is very important to me and will definitely be a major goal to build on.”

Largille holds a Master of Science degree in Facilities Management and holds a license of 2nd Class Stationary Engineer. He replaces Dave Riddell, who retired earlier this year after 18 years at Western.

“I am confident that Roy will provide excellent leadership as he takes on his new challenges and responsibilities in the Physical Plant Division and I know that you will join me in welcoming him to the university,” says Gitta Kulczycki, Vice-President (Resources & Operations).

Cable replacement should avert outages

To avoid potential power outages due to campus flooding, the university is replacing a portion of the high-voltage feeder loop suspended beneath the University Drive Bridge deck. Work is scheduled to begin in the coming week.

“There are presently two bundles of three cables each that are slung beneath the bridge,” says Electrical Engineer Mike Wolovich. “These cables provide the University Drive residences connection capabilities to two sources of electrical power.”

The benefits in replacing the cables are three-fold, adds Wolovich.

First, it will eliminate above-ground switching terminals west of the bridge that are occasionally threatened by rising levels of the Thames River.

Secondly, it will provide improved mechanical protection to the cables beneath the bridge, as they will now be contained in a new continuous raceway (pvc plastic pipe) that was installed during recent watermain replacement works.

Finally, the continuous raceway installation makes it easier to replace cables if they fail.

“The works will be planned to minimize disruption to the residences,” says Wolovich, adding only one cable set will be replaced at a time. “We are confident that the works will be completed by mid-October.”
‘Bedroom tutorials’ a plus for students, TAs

Continued from page 1

in the same room during the tutorial.
This kind of bedroom tutorial was demonstrated on Sept. 18, when 131 students in potentially an equal number of different locations sent questions through instant messaging and watched formulas magically appear on their computer screens as a male voice boomed out of their computer speakers.

From the Instructional Technology Resource Centre in the Support Services Building, Physics graduate students Peggy Xu and Matt McAlpine conducted one of their first tutorials using the Wimba system.

McAlpine (the omnipotent male voice) gave instructions for physics formulas over a microphone at his computer station as Xu worked through the problems and drew them on her screen.

“I like it,” says Xu, adding the program allows her to teach from home or at school. “We don’t have to be here. It’s more flexible.”

“It’s the first year we are trying this. I’m sure in the near future, when everyone is used to it, they’ll see it’s a great system,” she says.

Zinke-Allmang says the Wimba Live Classroom benefits teaching assistants as well because they prepare one lesson and the same pair repeat it eight times during the week so that each tutorial receives an equal amount of information. Using this method, teaching assistants use up all of their required tutorial hours in just two weeks, he adds.

“The TAs were really interested in it,” he says. “This is a tool that will increasingly be in the workplace … They can put it on their résumé.”

If students feel they missed something during the tutorial, they are able to watch ‘reruns’ of the broadcast on WebCT Owl. Zinke-Allmang is also able to record student participation by checking the WebCT Owl login report.

“It addresses all of the problems which I don’t like about the traditional tutorials,” he says, adding because of the enrolment size, he is always looking for new technologies to make classroom management easier.

“How do you respond to having 900 students and provide the best student experience?” he asks. His answer, “I always look to new technologies … I try to be innovative and find other people who are innovative.”

Old films being discovered

Continued from page 1

in the DVDs.
Many individuals are simply interested in seeing family members, while business development groups looking to recapture town history through faithful renovations are flocking to the DVDs as a valuable guide.
The DVDs themselves are generating stories. Arnott learned of a terminally ill man from Markdale who saw a video that included him at the local barbershop as a child. He died three days later.

“There are a lot of interesting stories that are created through the videos,” he says.

John Lutman, head of Regional and Special Collections for Western Libraries, has also been taken aback with the popularity. Seeing first-hand the excitement it creates at community viewings, he says the video means something different to everyone.

“People see themselves and their family, so in a sense they act as a visual genealogical resource,” says Lutman. “And from a historical perspective, it captures an exciting era.”

The popularity has also become a catalyst for other donations and discoveries of old films, with original films having been found and received from the communities of Dorchester, Tavistock and Lintonwood.

“And the rumour is there’s one for Blenheim out there,” says Lutman.

For more about the video series, or to order a specific community, visit www.lib.uwo.ca/archives/stars_of_the_town.

C-c-cold Storage

Western Biology professor Marc-André Lachance shows off a cryogenic storage unit – what he calls “a large Thermos bottle” – during an official opening tour of the $30-million Biotron Experimental Climate Change Research Centre. A large crowd gathered under sunny skies in the Biotron’s garden area as dignitaries celebrated the opening of the unique facility.

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C-c-cold Storage

Paul Mayne, Western News
ACADEME

PhD Lectures

M. Carmen Romero - Biology, A Proteomic Study of Soybean Seed Cyst (Glycine max), Sept. 26, 8:30 a.m., Room 114 NCB

Seta Stanbouly - Pharmacology and Toxicology, Na + -H + Exchanger (NHE) - Mediated Regulation of Complement (C3a) and Its Role In Phenylephrine-Induced Cardiomyocyte Hypertrophy, Sept. 26, 9 a.m., Room 1002 DSB

Caroline Thompson - Education, Inside School Administration in Nunavut: Four Women's Stories, Sept. 29, 11 a.m., Room 1007 FEB

Igor Khakhine - Applied Mathematics, Computation with Spin Foam Models of Quantum Gravity, Sept. 29, 1 p.m., Room 204 MC

Kendra Maloney - Microbiology and Immunology, The Role of NGF in the Pathogenesis of Burkilliodya Cerevisiae, Sept. 29, 12:30 p.m., Room 304 MSB

Please send submissions to neweditor@uwo.ca

Coming Events

September 25
McIntosh Gallery - Hinterlands, FASTWURMS - Sky Gabluch, Diana Thorneycroft, Colette Urban. Kicking off the new academic year is an exhibition curated by Patrick Mahon, Chair, Department of Visual Arts. For more info contact 519-661-3520 or ccyoung@uwo.ca, McIntoshgallery.ca

Visual Arts Department - Second Year Graduate Exhibition "Get Together Now" runs to October 1 uwo.ca/visarts

Visual Arts Department Speaker Series - Geoffrey Farmer, Mixed-Media/Installation Artist, Visual Arts Department Speaker Series – Second Year Graduate Exhibition "All Together Now" runs to October 1. uwo.ca/visarts

Western’s Caucus on Women’s Studies - Geoffrey Farmer, Mixed-Media/Installation Artist, Virtual Arts Department Speaker Series – Second Year Graduate Exhibition "All Together Now" runs to October 1. uwo.ca/visarts

September 26
Western’s Career Week 2008 – "Get Experienced" Campus career partners have collaborated to bring you a diverse array of representatives from the academic, governmental, corporate and non-profit sectors. To highlight the options available to gain work experience while still in school, or after graduation. Registration is required for most events at: career.uwo.ca/careerweek. Runs to October 3.

Don Wright Faculty of Music - Brahms: The Penderecki Quartet joins forces with Stephen Sylvestre to perform the great Piano Quintet in F minor, Op 39 von Kodler Hall, 12:30 p.m.

Women’s Tennis - Montreal at Western, 3 p.m.

Men’s Tennis - Montreal at Western, 7 p.m.

Department of Philosophy Colloquium - Justin D’Armis, Ohio State University, "Sensibilities and the Instability of Affect" TC 341, 3:30 - 5 p.m.

September 27

Women’s Tennis - UOIT at Western, 3 p.m.

Men’s Tennis - UOIT at Western, 7 p.m.

September 28

Women’s Hockey - Hamilton Jr’s (Exhibition) at Western, 1:30 p.m.

Men’s Hockey - Guelph at Western, 7 p.m.

Women’s Field Hockey - Guelph at Western, 7 p.m.

September 30

Senior Alumni Program - Ian Firtham, Department of Psychiatry, Western, "Finding the Groove - A physician’s personal relationship with music" McKeen Room, UCC, 9:30 -11 a.m.

Oncology Grand Rounds - Department of Oncology and London Regional Cancer Program, Jake Van Dyk, Western, "To err is human - lessons learned from accidents in radiation therapy" 12 - 1 p.m. Room A3-041 a/b

Autumn Writes – Joan barfoot, award-winning author and Western graduate, will launch Autumn Writes, The Book Store’s annual author series. The event includes Joan reading from her new book Exit Lines and an interview by freelance writer, Janis Wallace. Tickets available at The Book Store at Western, UCC, 519-661-5120 or at Central Library, 519-661-5120. For more information visit: bookstore@western.ca, events. Wolf Performance Hall, Central Library, 7:30 p.m.

October 1

Creative and Challenging Careers in the Book Industry: Panel Discussion - Do you have the “write” stuff? Find out about the range of careers, skills, and qualifications to succeed in the Canadian book industry, featuring six professionals. The event will include a facilitated discussion and audience question and answer. Open to all students. Seating limited. Call 519-661-0490, x 88251 or ccyoung@uwo.ca for more information. Open to all students. Seating limited. Call 519-661-0490, x 88251 or ccyoung@uwo.ca for more information. Please send submissions to newseditor@uwo.ca

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Volunteers Wanted
Canadian Association for Girls In Science (CAGIS) is looking for volunteers who are interested in writing short science-related articles for the CAGIS Website. Contact us at cagis@uwo.ca.

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2 spaces available. 18 months and up. North-East London (10 minutes from Western). CPR/first aid and police checked. Health care background in dentistry. Safe, fun and learning atmosphere. smoke and pet free home. Reasonable rates. Contact Keil at: holmes_keil@yahoo.com or phone 519-642-7377.

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ACCESS WESTERN

Opinions
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.

Overheard
Faculty members, have you been interviewed recently by the media? Contact Media Relations at jenness@uwo.ca for possible inclusion in this monthly column. Also, guidance available on obtaining media coverage for your research.

Public Space
Tell campus neighbours about developments in your area in 500 words or fewer. neweditor@uwo.ca.

Tribute
This occasional feature recognizes significant contributions by faculty, staff and students, as determined by off-campus groups. Submit 200 words or fewer about the award and winner. neweditor@uwo.ca.

STUDENT SERVICES BULLETIN

Hours of Operation - Room 190
Student Central
Monday, Tuesdays, Thursdays, Fridays - 9 am to 4 pm
Wednesdays - 10 am to 5 pm
Telephone: 519-661-2090
Regular hours - 9 am to 4 pm
Validation cards
Validation cards are no longer issued. If you require a document to show your current registration, print off a copy of your Statement of Account or visit Student Central, Stevenson-Lawson Building, Room 190 to order a Statement Letter.

Autumn Convocation Packages
Convocation packages will be mailed to all students who applied to graduate for the Autumn Convocation. Mailings will begin at the end of September.

Visit us on the web at studentservices.uwo.ca.

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