Strategic plan gets tune-up

By Paul Mayne

As university officials prepare to craft the institution’s next four-year academic, operational and budget plans, they have identified four areas in the Strategic Plan (Engaging the Future) potentially worthy of greater priority.

At Friday’s Senate meeting Provost and Vice-President (Academic) Janice Deakin spotlighted a stronger focus on raising the university’s international profile, enhancing the quality of undergraduate/graduate programs, enhancing faculty/staff support and expanding educational reach in the region and around the world.

“We are paying attention to some of the wishes of our government and understanding how we at Western are going to respond to the idea of increased enrolment,” says Deakin. She notes the provincial government’s desire for 70 per cent of all Ontarians to boast a post-secondary education and the accompanying commitment to 50,000 new seats provincewide between now and 2014.

To raise its international profile, Western will look to expand selectively the number of active partnerships with preeminent international research and teaching institutions. That effort will focus on joint/dual degrees for undergraduate/graduate students, along with using the Endowed Chairs Matching Program to attract and retain internationally recognized scholars.

In the area of enhancing programs, the university plans to integrate teaching and research by embedding a research focus into undergraduate curriculum, as well as increase career counseling, professional development and employment search support for all students.

In an effort to increase support for faculty/staff, the university hopes to increase the attention paid to career mentoring for faculty, emphasize staff access to professional development and training, and increase diversity among the group, with the aspiration of surpassing the national averages for representation of certain designated groups.

To expand its educational reach, Western looks to increase the number...
Science honours its own

On Sept. 23, The University of Western Ontario Faculty of Science honoured its own at a Faculty and Staff Recognition Day banquet. The recipients were:

Professor emeritus: M.B. Fenton and P. Handford, biology; P. Gutherie, R. Martin and P. Norton, chemistry; R. Kane and P. Milnes, mathematics;

Retiring: A. Downing, computer science;

Awards of Excellence for Undergrad Teaching: Jisuo Jin, earth sciences, and Carol Jones, physics and astronomy;

Award of Excellence Outreach and Recruitment: The Astronomy Group;

Awards for Excellence in Graduate Student Mentoring: David Shoe smith, chemistry;

University Students Council (USC) Teaching Award Recipients: Robert Hudson, chemistry, and Jan Minac, mathematics;

Dean’s Special Award of Merit: Sharon Kennedy, dean’s office, and Patrick Whippay, physics and astronomy;

OCUF Teaching Award: Cam Tsujita, earth sciences;

USC Teaching Honour Roll: Allan Maciasac and Adam Metzler, applied mathematics; Michael Butler, Irene Creed, Norm Huner, Daria Koscinski and Jennifer Waugh, biology; Kim Baines, Nathan Jones and Felix Lee, chemistry; Michael Burrell, Claudette Critchley, Mark Daley, Lucian Ile, Lila Kari and Sylvia Osborne, computer science; Stephen Hicock, Jisuo Jin, Gordon Oisinski and Gerhard Pratt, earth sciences; Andre Boivin, Jan Minac and Gordon Sinnamon, mathematics; Eugene Wong, physics and astronomy; Bruce Jones, Rogemar Mamon, John Mereu and Serge Provost, statistical and actuarial sciences;

Distinguished Research Professorship: Bernie Kraatz, chemistry;

Florence Bucke Prize: Dan Christensen, mathematics;

Faculty Scholars Award: Robert Hudson and Bernie Kraatz, chemistry; David Riley, mathematics; and Eugene Wong, physics and astronomy;

Western Award of Excellence: Mitch Zimmer, dean’s office, and John Brunet, earth sciences;

Staff Award of Excellence: Sherri Waring, biology, and Brian Dairymple, physics and astronomy;

New Staff: Hillary Bain and Monica Chriguel, biology; Monique Durr, Biotron; Allison McInnis, Centre for Environment and Sustainability; and Kate Baker, dean’s office;

NSERC Accelerator Award 2010: Chris Guglielmo, biology;

Electrochemical Society Canadian Section Electrochemical Award: David Shoemesh, chemistry;

Canadian Association for Computer Science Outstanding Young Scientist Award: Research Prize: Eric Schost, computer science;

CBA Lawson Medal: Paul Cavers, biology;

GM & R&D Innovation Award for Fundamentals of Interfacial Tribology: Peter Norton, chemistry;

Green Umbrella Award: Jane Bowles;

Ontario Green Chemistry and Engineering Award: Leo Lau, chemistry;

Mitacs Mentorship Award of Excellence: Marc Moreno Maza, computer science;

John C. Polanyi Award of the Canadian Society of Chemistry: T.K. Shaw, chemistry;

Distinguished Service Award from the American Institute of Physics Teachers: Patrick Whippay, physics and astronomy;

Ranked Top 10 by the Microsoft Academic Search in the area of Scientific Computing: Stephen Watt, computer science;

Early Researcher Awards: Victor Staroverov, chemistry; Neil Bantner, earth sciences; Giovanni Fanchini, Sarah Gallagher and Tamie Poeppe, physics and astronomy;

CSPP Gold Medal: Norm Huner, biology;

Best paper award at the 2010 IEEE/IFIP Network Operations and Management Symposium: Mike Bauer (and R. Bahati), computer science;

Best paper in North American Actuarial Journal: Rogemar Mamon (coauthors Christina Erdwein and Tak Kuen Siu), statistical and actuarial sciences;

CRC Chairs, new: Brian Branfiren;

CRC Chairs, renewals: Martin Housse, physics and astronomy; and Rick Jardine, mathematics;

Chairs completing terms: John deBruyn, physics and astronomy; 25 years service: Robert Dean and Tom Haffie, biology; Anna Vandendries-Barr, chemistry, Sue Brown, dean’s office; Robert Merc er and Areski Nait-Abdallah, computer science; Lex Renner, mathematics; and Mike Debruyn, physics and astronomy; 35 years service: David Bellhouse, statistical and actuarial sciences; 40 years service: Alan Noon, biology; 25 years service: Brian Branfiren, computer science; and Mike Debruyn, physics and astronomy;

Promotion to professor: L. Wahl, applied mathematics; D. Christensen, mathematics; S. Basu and P. Brown, physics and astronomy;

Promotion to associate professor with tenure: C. Guglielmo, H. Henry and E. MacDougall-Shackleton, biology; N. Jones and P. Ragogna, chemistry; P. Corcoran, earth sciences; T. Foth, mathematic s; R. Shafikov; mathematics; P. Wegert, physics and astronomy; W. He and R. Mantim, statistical and actuarial sciences;

New faculty: Brian Branfiren and R. Zabulionis, biology; Robert Linnen, earth sciences.

– Staff reports
Cymbal of excellence

Grammy-winning drummer Joe McCarthy was at The University of Western Ontario’s Don Wright Faculty of Music this past week to offer a few tips to a handful of music students. An adjunct professor of drumset and Afro-Cuban percussion studies at Georgetown University, McCarthy worked with the faculty’s jazz ensemble, percussion majors and gave a Latin percussion demonstration.

Time to reevaluate investment policies

BY HEATHER TRAVIS

The global recession caused many economic players to reevaluate their investment strategies and The University of Western Ontario is among those taking a step back with hindsight in mind.

At the Tuesday meeting of Western’s Board of Governors, the Investment Committee provided a report outlining the performance of the operating and endowment investment portfolio and the recent activities of the committee.

Endowed funds are gifts made to the university with the intention of holding them in perpetuity and directing their returns toward the purpose for which the endowments were created. Non-endowed funds are funds the university has the discretion to invest from all other sources, including capital funds, ancillaries, trust funds, research and the operating budget.

Within the downturn in the global markets, Western’s accumulated investment returns were essentially wiped out, which forced the university to bring ongoing expenditures in line with ongoing revenues. This included the elimination of positions across campus, as the university was relying on non-endowed investment earnings to support ongoing operating expenses, including salaries. Making a change to its policy, the university now uses non-endowed funds to support one-time expenditures only.

After several weighty blows, Western’s investment portfolio has seen improvement.

Having spent two years in the red, the investment performance of the portfolio is back in the black, earning a policy return of 8.6 per cent for the fiscal year ending June 30, and annualized for four years, the policy return is 1.3 per cent. This is good news considering after losing 2.5 per cent of its value in 2008, the portfolio dropped another 10.3 per cent in 2009, leaving it in the negative.

“We’ve certainly recovered the vast majority of our ground since we had the global economic downturn and we lost the funds in our investment portfolio,” says Gitta Kulczycki, vice-president (resources and operations), adding much of the recovery has been since March 2009.

The operating and endowment portfolio, as of June 30, has a book value of $365.706 million and a market value of $398.038 million.

It may be premature to start smiling about surviving the storm, Kulczycki warns. Rather, it is better to heed the cautionary notes in the marketplace and reevaluate the lessons learned from the worldwide market crash.

“If we look at the tailwinds and headwinds of what is going on in the global marketplace, there’s a lot of cautionary notes … about whether we are entering a period of inflation/deflation. Governments around the world are using different approaches to deal with their huge budget deficits. What that might mean for our equity returns or our overall investment returns – it’s very hard to predict that,” she says.

“It’s fair say that in terms of our expectations going forward, generally speaking … our expectations for investment returns are not what they would have been in the early 2000 decade. We’re probably in a number of years where we are going to see far more modest returns in our endowment and non-endowment portfolio, as is everyone else who is out there in the investment marketplace.”

As the investment world has changed, it might be the right time to review Western’s investment policy, says Kulczycki.

“It’s a good time to relook at everything, given that we went through this global downturn. We had a 100-year event; it’s a good time to have a look at what our expectations are moving forward,” she says.

One of the things under consideration is the Investment Committee’s objective to earn a 5 per cent real rate of return over the long term, meaning to earn 5 per cent over the rate of inflation, as measured by the Consumer Price Index. Inflation has averaged 1.7 per cent per year for the past five years and 2 per cent for the past 10 years.

For the four years ending June 30, the annualized real rate of return was 0.1 per cent, consisting of a nominal return of 1.6 per cent less inflation of 1.5 per cent. For the five years ending June 30, the annualized real rate of return for the portfolio was 1.1 per cent, which consists of a nominal (actual) annualized return of 2.8 per cent less 1.7 per cent for inflation. What this means is the five-year annualized return does not meet the Investment Committee’s performance objective of a real rate of return of five per cent.

At one time, setting the real rate of return objective at 5 per cent made sense and Western was able to achieve that expectation, Kulczycki says. But these are different times.

Given the current asset mix, “that’s probably not realistic,” she says.

“We are talking about ‘geez, is it a 5 per cent real return, which means 5 per cent, plus inflation, plus those costs you incurred to generate income, is that realistic?’ Based on a discussion we had with the Board (of Governors) as part of the retreat, the consensus was probably not; it’s probably not realistic,” she says.

The Investment Committee suggests given the current asset mix, this “unrealistic” objective and the policy statement be modified or changes be made to the asset mix.

As well, the committee raised questions about what a realistic spending policy rate is and whether Western’s spending policy is still reasonable. It was also proposed that a detailed review be conducted of the asset policy mix and spending rate every three years.

Any changes would require final approval by the Board of Governors.
Western

Western News is a weekly newspaper and electronic news service, published every Thursday throughout the school year and operates under a reduced schedule during December, May, June, July and August. An award-winning weekly newspaper and electronic news service, Western News serves as the university’s news service, Western News continues to provide timely news, information and a forum for discussion of postsecondary issues in the campus and broader communities.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

There remain only five years until the deadline to achieve or hopefully surpass the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) which were set in September 2000. Recently, the United Nations (UN) hosted the MDG summit in New York to try and push to meet these goals.

Throughout the past decade we’ve seen sobering challenges with matching our rhetoric with results. Most recently, at the 2010 G8 hosted here in Canada, our government led the charge to promote child and maternal health internationally. Though admirable as a goal, this seemed to quite closely resemble the promises we made at the 2008 G8 in Italy, with food security as the main focus. We have not yet met the 2008 goal so who is to say we will meet our new ones? The issue which this brings up is what holds us accountable to these promises? Canadian aid spending is in need of systemic reform. What we should instead be focusing on is not how much we spend but how well we spend it.

The Canadian organization Engineers Without Borders is currently pushing parliament to address three main issues: Accountability, creativity and transparency (ACT).

What is meant by accountability is to create a standard for the tracking and monitoring of our international aid commitments. The taxpayer’s dollars should be spent only on projects which are being held accountable for both completion and monitoring after compensation to ensure that they continue to provide the services they were meant for.

Creativity, just as it sounds, is a push for new ideas to be considered. A small portion of the aid funds being spent on promising initiatives means more learning and a chance to find better solutions to the problems.

The last idea, transparency, addresses the larger issue of open information disclosure. A project having succeeded or not should not determine how much is shared; mistakes are one of the best things to learn from. The Canadian Development Agency’s (CIDA’s) work and spending is currently shared only as brief overviews of the areas impacted. CIDA’s annual reports to parliament need to provide more specific details regarding spending, location, impact, and future monitoring if we want to improve our impact’s quality.

Parliament has just started up again and now is when the public can show their MPs what they support so that those MPs can properly represent their constituents. Write a letter to parliament, send your MP an email or even make a call. The government can only speak for us if we tell them what it is that we believe in.

Tanner Jerreat-Poole
Civil and Environmental Engineering, IV

THE WAY WE WERE: 1960

Completion of Middlesex College brought a new dimension to the campus scene - SOUND. On Oct. 11, 1960, workmen began installation of the clock faces in the tower. Each one weighed 400 pounds and had a diameter of 8 feet. Manufactured by Gillett and Johnston of London, England, the bells had a combined weight of more than 3 tons and chime in tones B, E, F and G-sharp. In 2007 the bells were decommissioned due to expensive repairs needed to refurbish the bell hammers.

Contributed by Alan Noon (anoon@uwo.ca)
Editorial: Universities start ranking the rankers

Released earlier this month, U.K.-based Times Higher Education (THE) magazine's World University Rankings 2010-11 continues to generate controversy across Canada.

While Harvard University unsurprisingly took the top spot in the rankings, the University of Toronto was the first Canadian university to chart (17) followed by the University of British Columbia (30), McGill University (35) and McMaster University (93). In all, nine Canadian universities made the Top 200. The University of Western Ontario failed to make the cut.

What follows below is an editorial from the Edmonton Journal offered for context and commodification.

* * *

**MAYBE U OF A SHOULD RANK THE RANKERS**

Whether we admit it or not, most of us enjoy “Top 10” or “best of” lists. Sometimes, they are groundless and unassailable, such as yearly murder stats ranking Canadian cities. Sometimes they’re just fun – say, the countdown that helped make David Letterman famous. Or simply factual, like movie box office takes or leading scorers in hockey.

But then there are the lists that are serious to a degree, and have real impact on people or institutions, but are virtually impossible to assess or verify. It is into this final, troubling category that the plethora of annual university rankings fall.

Although every survey’s promoters solemnly declare their findings are rational, scientific and unbiased, it’s amazing how few there are of the results are. In the past month, for example, separate rankings have proclaimed dramatically different perspectives on the place of Canadian universities in the world.

On Sept. 7, the QS World University Rankings pronounced McGill University as Canada’s top post-secondary institution, dropping one point from the previous year to number 19 among 500 international schools. The University of Toronto followed up in 29th place, University of British Columbia at 44, with the University of Alberta coming in at 59.

The top three overall were judged to be Cambridge, Harvard and Yale. Then, as unveiled this week, Times Higher Education in partnership with Thomson Reuters used some of the same data to conclude that the University of Toronto was in fact our primo national school, cracking the global top 20 at No. 17. UBC, McGill and McMaster came in at 30th, 35th and 93rd, respectively, with the U of A clocking in at 127, only three spots ahead of the University of Victoria among the also-rans. Harvard, Caltech and MIT occupied the godhead of this evaluation.

In each case, proponents cited a broad range of criteria to support their findings, from research money to PhD awards, academic papers published, staff-student levels and the like.

Interestingly, clearly superior universities such as the University of Calgary, Queen’s, Waterloo and Western Ontario didn’t even make the top 200.

As in the field of economics, where brilliant minds often fundamentally disagree, evaluating university ranking surveys is like trying to deconstruct pronouncements from of the Oracle of Delphi. Wouldn’t it be better if institutions of higher learning relied on internal and quantifiable external measurements that they have agreed are the things to be judged by?

In hindsight, it’s unfortunate that U of A President Indira Samarasekera chose to set, as a publicly declared goal, becoming the world’s 20th-ranked research university by 2020.

Obviously, considering the U of A’s successes across multiple disciplines and its growing international reputation, it made sense to set very high targets – especially in a country that is only slowly learning to think of it in the top tier. Setting aspirational goals is certainly laudable as a motivational tool. But when you decide to judge yourself by how you put yourself at the mercy of list-makers who may have biases you don’t share, whose ideas about what’s important may be debatable, and whose criteria may be too narrowly cast.

~ Edmonton Journal editorial, Sept. 18

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**IN MEMORIAM**

James (Jim) Woyck
University of Western Ontario History professor

James (Jim) Woyck died Sept. 22 at Chelsey Park Nursing home after a long illness.

Arriving in Canada from Michigan in 1971, he earned an MA and a PhD from the University of Waterloo, before he graduated in Microeconomics and Microbiology and Immunology staff member Maria Gauhoffer. He was named in 1984. (The University of Toronto (1984). Starting in 1990, he taught a wide range of courses on Western's History Department until December 2006. He wrote two scholarly books, edited another and completed, but didn’t publish, a third book before the onset of his illness. He was a tireless fighter for the rights of contract faculty.

A memorial service will be held at Logan Funeral Home on 371 Dundas (at Colborne) at 2 p.m. Saturday. Friends and colleagues are invited to gather at the funeral home at 1 p.m. before the service and to meet later at the Morrissey House to share memories.

Maria Gauhoffer
Former University of Western Ontario Department of Microbiology and Immunology staff member Maria Gauhoffer died Sept. 16 at the age of 64. Gauhoffer had 43 years of service at Western.

Doug Hayes
Long-time Western Mustangs men’s and women’s basketball coach and football coach Doug Hayes passed away on Saturday, Sept. 25 at the age of 68. Hayes was hired in 1969 as a lecturer in the Department of Physical Education at Western and was professor emeritus in the School of Kinesiology. He coached six Ontario Championship teams, eight League Champions and assisted in one CIAU Championship team. He was named OUA Coach of the Year in 1976. As an administrator at Western, Hayes was men’s athletic co-ordinator (1988-1997) and acting chairman, Intercollegiate Athletics (1995-96).

He is survived by his loving wife Laurel and their three children, Derek, Kelly, Tim, and brother, Gary. The funeral will be held 1 p.m. Friday at Westview Funeral Chapel (709 Wonderland Rd. N.). Family, friends and colleagues are invited to attend a reception following the service celebrating Hayes’ life at Aroma Restaurant, 717 Richmond Street. Donations can be made in Hayes’ name to the Alzheimer Outreach Services of St. Michael’s Hospital (AOS) or a charity of your choice.

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**Proving an old boss right**

By Jason Winders
Associate Director, Editorial Services

Favourite publisher once offered me his lunch money to a successful life in newspapers: “The news takes care of itself. Just don’t mess with comics or obituaries.”

I knew the loyalty rendered by these long-time staples. He understood messing with either was a fool’s game, one where even the most logical changes would stir emotions.


Similarly, readers form emotional attachments to obituaries. Yes, their existence reminds us of loved ones lost. But obituaries also reassure many readers of one final word to the world about what they accomplished. Obituaries have always been more for the living than the dead.

Both attachments are unreasonable, illogical, overly sentimental. And completely understandable.

I saw this over and over in my career. But sometimes, in the name of what needs to be done, I broke my former boss’ Golden Rule and braced for backlash.

So when we announced last week that Western’s obituaries would be posted on the Faculty and Staff News homepage instead of the soon-to-be evolving homepage, I expected consternation. To most, it means changing their bookmark, then checking a daily page everyday for obits or so. But to some, this unofficial tradition was a reminder that, as one writer put it, “UWO as an institution truly cares about its people.” Changing it, in their eyes, meant the university somehow cares less.

“The deceased deserve better recognition after long years of service than to be shuffled off … to the end of site,” one faculty member wrote.

“It is unreasonable to expect me to search that out …,” another explained. “I’m really disappointed at UWO’s decision that smacks of the crassness of business put before the dignity of the community.”

“Maybe U of A should take a look at the Edmonton Journal offered for context and commodification.”

Reader after reader looked to obituaries. Yes, they like concrete reminders of day-to-day consistency. Without obituaries would be posted on the Faculty and Staff News homepage, in fact, long before obituaries appeared on its homepage, in fact, long before there was a homepage (or even Internet). Please don’t mistake placement for respect.

This university takes great pride in honouring its own. Turn to Section 3.6 of The University of Western Ontario, Policies and Procedures. Western’s respect isn’t arbitrary, but woven into the bureaucratic fabric. Updated over the summer, revised from 1965 wording, the policy outlines what happens when a member of the community dies.

Many proudly point to the fact when any member of the university community dies the flag atop University College is lowered to half-mast. The policy also sets provisions for a floral tribute (or donations to charity in lieu of flowers) and a letter of condolence from the president. Also, upon the death of a faculty or staff member, one month’s salary is paid to the spouse or estate.

That’s the official policy. But beyond that, this university community has a long memory, one filled with the names and contributions of the countless colleagues who have left us. These memories, unlike a fleeting appearance on a homepage, never fade.

And that’s how an institution shows it truly cares about its people.
The University of Western Ontario Staff Association (UWOSA) will hold a strike vote on Tuesday, Oct. 19.

UWOSA, which represents nearly 1,100 staff working in faculties and administrative units across campus, has been involved in four months of contract negotiations with the university. UWOSA’s Stewards’ Council recently decided to call for a strike vote, which will be put to the membership at a general meeting on Oct. 5 in the Great Hall.

The current contract agreement expired June 30. Although there has been progress in the contract negotiations, the union cites many monetary and job security proposals among the many outstanding issues. In mid-August, UWOSA asked the Ontario Ministry of Labour to appoint a conciliator to assist the two parties in reaching an agreement. The next meeting with the conciliator is scheduled for October.

“It really is a case of making sure UWO sits up and takes notice,” says Stephanie MacLeod, UWOSA vice-president. “We’ve reached a point in our negotiations where we do absolutely have to know that our membership is solidly behind us. We are confident that they are and it’s going to give them a chance to have a voice in this.”

In a media release, UWOSA points out that a positive vote does not mean the union will go on strike, as less than 5 per cent of strike votes have resulted in strikes.

“We have a negotiation date set for October and we will be going ahead with negotiations. A strike vote doesn’t mean negotiations have stopped,” says Helen Connell, associate vice-president of Communications and Public Affairs at Western. “We remain really optimistic and we will be working hard at the table to reach a negotiated settlement.”

Last week, The University of Western Ontario Faculty Association (UWOFA) Board voted in favour to hold a strike vote after authorization from its membership. UWOSA will hold a strike vote Tuesday-Friday of this week.

The University of Western Ontario invites applications and nominations for the position of Dean of the Faculty of Education, with the appointment to be effective July 1, 2011 for a term of five years, renewable.

Through its twelve Faculties and three Affiliated University Colleges, The University of Western Ontario offers more than 60 different degree programs to over 35,000 full-time and part-time students in undergraduate, graduate and professional studies. It has approximately 1,400 full-time faculty members, generates more than $250 million in external research support and is one of Canada’s most respected medical/doctoral universities. For further information about the University, please visit the website at www.uwo.ca.

The Faculty of Education at The University of Western Ontario, one of Canada’s largest faculties of education, is dedicated to the highest standards of professional education for preservice teachers, career development for teachers currently in service, and research-intensive graduate study. It is internationally recognized for research and development in four broad areas: social justice and equity in education; language and literacy; mathematics, science and technology education; and distance education. In addition, the Faculty of Education continues to focus on Aboriginal Education, Early Years and International Education as core pillars of its strategic plan.

The Faculty of Education is also home to two renowned research centres: the Centre for Inclusive Education and the Centre for Research and Education on Violence Against Women and Children. The Faculty of Education offers a B.Ed. for over 800 students annually, an M.Ed. in both Education Studies and Counselling Psychology, and a Ph.D. in Education Studies. It is a leader in online continuing teacher education with over 5,000 registrants yearly, focusing on Additional Qualifications short courses and the Principal’s Qualifications Program.

The Dean will lead a Faculty that is distinguished in both professional education and scholarship. As part of the senior academic/administrative team reporting to the Provost & Vice-President (Academic), he/she will guide the continuing development of the faculty’s academic programs, research, and creative life within the Faculty, the University, and the professional community. The Dean of the Faculty of Education will be a respected and innovative leader with academic qualifications and research achievements relevant to the academic mission of the Faculty, a knowledge of educational policy and the professional environment, and the interpersonal skills and judgment to build strong relationships with public and independent education communities, school boards, government and other stakeholders.

The University of Western Ontario is committed to employment equity and welcomes applications from all qualified women and men, including visible minorities, aboriginal people and persons with disabilities. The search committee will begin considering potential candidates immediately and will continue until the role is successfully filled. A letter of introduction, curriculum vitae, and the names of five references who will not be contacted without consent of the applicant should be submitted electronically, in confidence to:

Laverne Smith & Associates Inc.
1 Yonge Street, Suite 1801
Toronto, Ontario M5E 1W7
westerneducation@laverne smith.com
The original image above comes from the cover of the Western Homecoming 1955 football game program.
Research Western is pleased to announce the following competition:

**Graduate Thesis Research Award**

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 – Maximum of $1500

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

For more information on this program and to apply, please visit: www.uwo.ca/research/funding/internal/graduate_thesis_research_fund.

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

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

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**Western**

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**Veterans Class marching home**

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**BY PAUL MAYNE**

Howard Cameron, an alumnus of The University of Western Ontario, will donate the remnants of his old military uniform to Saturday’s reunion – one he valiantly wore more than 70 years ago – and proudly made his way to campus for Homecoming.

The Second World War veteran is one of a handful of members of The Meds '50 class who will reunite for their 60th anniversary of graduating from medical school.

“We got about 12 fellas returning in a class that graduated 93, which was a big class back in those days,” says Cameron, a London resident who served as president of the 1950 graduating class and organizer of this weekend’s class reunion.

“I always look forward to this day. Going through medical school was a big part of our lives, and since we had all been in service, most of us felt pretty lucky to even be there at medical school.”

– Howard Cameron, alumnus, The University of Western Ontario

Note:

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**University Secretariat**

**2010 Fall NOMINATIONS FOR MEMBERSHIP on the BOARD OF GOVERNORS**

The Board of Governors will hold elections on October 5 and 6, 2010 to elect members in accordance with the provisions of The University of Western Ontario Act (1982). For this election the following members are required:

- one member of faculty  
  - from November 15, 2010 to June 30, 2011
- one member of staff  
  - from November 15, 2010 to June 30, 2011

*(Board terms in transition so that they start in July; rather than in November. As a result, the terms for the representatives elected in the Fall of 2010 will run from November 15, 2010 to June 30, 2011. In January 2011, nominations will again open for a regular 4-year term (July 1, 2011 to June 30, 2015) for these positions. The incumbents will be eligible for re-election.)*

The following nominations have been made by the deadline:

**Faculty**

- FLORYAN, Jerzy M., Professor and Chair, Mechanical and Materials Engineering, Engineering Science
- MILLER, Linda, Vice-Provost (School of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies)

**Staff**

- GRINDROD, Susan, Associate Vice-President, Housing and Ancillary Services
- RODRIGUEZ, Ryan, Associate Director, Alumni Outreach, Alumni Relations and Development

Full information on the Board elections (including candidate and voter eligibility, the election schedule, the nomination form and voting procedures for each constituency) can be found at: [http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/elections/](http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/elections/)
Research Western is pleased to announce the following competition:

International Research Award Competition

Funded by the Office of the Vice-President (Research & International Relations), Western’s International Research Awards are offered to support the cost of international research projects of modest scope in the subject areas of Arts, Social Sciences, and Humanities. This program provides seed money for one-time requests and projects of short duration, which involve a significant international component and enhance knowledge generation or information exchange between Canadian and foreign academics. Please note that “international” refers primarily to the subject of the research and not simply to the means by which it is carried out. Applicants are encouraged to describe any plans for scholarly interactions with researchers while abroad.

Grant Amount:
Up to $7,000

Deadlines:
Dean’s Deadline           November 1
RD&S Deadline           November 15

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

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

Schulich Dentistry Research Day
presents

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John T. Hamilton
Distinguished Lecture

featuring

Dr. David T. Wong, DMD, DMSc
Associate Dean of Research
UCLA School of Dentistry
President - American Association for Dental Research

Salivary Diagnostics: Scientific and Clinical Frontiers

October 6, 2010
2:00 - 3:30 pm

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DENTISTRY RESEARCH DAY
22.00 pm
STUDENT RESEARCH PRESENTATIONS & REFRESHMENTS
DSB - Dental Research Laboratories (Lower Ground Floor)

ALL WELCOME!!
Meighen provides something ‘right’ for Western

BY KELLY MEIGHEN

Belinda Chou first year as the lone female varsity wrestler at Western had the...
John B. Lee’s time in London and at Western gave him his first taste of “city life,” and pushed him to expand his career horizons. “I went out into the world with the lifeline of learning and experience garnered at Western,” Lee says.

A high school teacher for 13 years, Lee chose to leave teaching for a full-time career as an author, and travelled the world reading his poetry, presenting writing workshops, teaching university students and serving as a writer-in-residence at libraries and schools throughout Canada.

With more than 50 books published and editor of seven anthologies, including two best-selling works, Lee is a recipient of more than 70 prestigious international awards. One of his more significant awards is the 2010 Community Service Award. The Community Service Award pays tribute to alumni who have made outstanding contributions to the community and through this generous gift of time and talent, have enriched the lives of others. Recipients have championed civic, charitable, philanthropic and social welfare causes.

Wayne Dunn
BA ’60

Wayne Dunn took his life-changing experience at Western and used it to change lives in the London community.

“Western provided me with a solid foundation that I have used throughout my business career and life,” he says.

The co-owner of County Heritage Forest Products Ltd., a company that manufactures and distributes wood doors and mouldings, Dunn has been in business since 1976 and employs approximately 65 people at the London location.

Volunteering in the community for more than 20 years, Dunn has been involved in a number of roles within the London and Ontario chambers of commerce, a past board member of Junior Achievement and St. Joseph’s Health Foundation, current board member of the London Hunt and Country Club, committee member of St. Joseph’s Tribute dinner, member of Senate at Western, and co-chair of the annual Business and Professional Women’s Christmas Food Drive.

“Wayne will never know the thousands of lives he has touched through his incredibly active involvement in the London community,” says Ed Holder (BA’76), MP for London West, who nominated Dunn. “For all of us who are privileged to know and be inspired by this caring, powerful person, clearly our city and this community is a better place because Wayne Dunn calls London home.”
Alumni and friends of The University of Western Ontario will be welcomed home with a busy schedule of events in the coming days. Here is the rundown of activities for Homecoming 2010:

**Thursday, Sept. 30**
- Homecoming kickoff and Alumni Western AGM, 7-9 p.m., TD Waterhouse Stadium

**Friday, Oct. 1**
- 36th annual Alumni Awards Dinner, Reception 5:30 p.m., dinner 6:30 p.m., The Great Hall, Somerville House
- Six Degrees of Homecoming, 9 p.m., The London Tap House

**FACULTY OF INFORMATION & MEDIA STUDIES**
- Homecoming lecture and reception, featuring Lisa Given, 2 p.m., North Campus Building, Room 117

**SCHULICH SCHOOL OF MEDICINE & DENTISTRY**
- Western Homecoming Sport Medicine Symposium 8 a.m.-5 p.m., University Hospital, Auditorium A
- Dentistry Alumni of Distinction Award Reception, 7:30 p.m., Airners Room, Ivy Spencer Leadership Centre, 550 Windermere Road

**Saturday, Oct. 2**
- Homecoming parade, 9 a.m., Along Richmond Street
- Football game - Western Mustangs vs. Queen's Golden Gaels, 1 p.m., TD Waterhouse Stadium
- Golden anniversary dinner, Reception 6 p.m., dinner 7 p.m., The Great Hall, Somerville House

**FACULTY OF ARTS AND HUMANITIES**
- An Interactive Experience special lectures, workshops and theatre, 9:30 a.m.-5 p.m., University College, Room 224

**FACULTY OF EDUCATION**
- Education @ South End Zone Lunch, 11:30 a.m., TD Waterhouse Stadium

**FACULTY OF ENGINEERING**
- Western Engineering Annual Open House Reception, 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Claudette-Mackay Lassonde Pavilion

**FACULTY OF HEALTH SCIENCES**
- Open house tours, 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Arthur & Sonia Labatt Health Sciences Building
- Nursing Alumni Homecoming, 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Arthur & Sonia Labatt Health Sciences Building
- Pancake breakfast and reception, 10 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Arthur & Sonia Labatt Health Sciences Building
- Health Sciences @ South End Zone Lunch, 11:30 a.m., TD Waterhouse Stadium

**FACULTY OF LAW**
- Dean’s brunch, 10:11 a.m.-3 p.m., Faculty of Law building, Common Lounge
- Law @ South End Zone Lunch, 11:30 a.m., TD Waterhouse Stadium

**SCHULICH SCHOOL OF MEDICINE & DENTISTRY**
- Homecoming Continuing Medical Education Event, 8-11 a.m., Medical Sciences Building, Room M-166

**Homecoming best bets**

The University of Western Ontario’s Homecoming is a great place to rekindle old flames and show off former stomping grounds to younger generations. With so many events and activities to choose from to show your purple pride, here are Western News’ Top Five picks for the Oct. 1-3 weekend:

**1. Celebrate fellow alumni - Homecoming**
   - Kick off with the Alumni Western annual general meeting 7-9 p.m. Friday at TD Waterhouse Stadium. Fellow alumni will dot the event with those who have made a name for themselves and who get back to the community, as well as special athletes.
   - Several facilities will honour their own during homecoming ceremonies. Share in Western’s glory as hundreds of alumni return for the reunion weekend.

**2. Parade of champions - Nothing says homecoming like the parade of floats traveling down Richmond Street to the beat of the Western Mustang Band and enthusiastic shouts by purple-clad students. Stake out a spot along Richmond Street, or set up a lawn chair along the route on campus to catch fellow Mustangs show their spirit.**

**3. Take in a game or two - Football isn’t the only sport on the ticket for homecoming. Western Mustang Athletics has an action-packed weekend of games from women’s and men’s basketball and soccer to fencing, baseball and volleyball, there are enough events lined up to satisfy the sports fan in everyone.**

**4. Visit your old faculty - Ever wonder if the name you etched in a chair at the back of a lecture theatre is still there? Take a walk through the halls of your former faculty, check out the old familiar classrooms and shiny new ones. It might bring back a flood of memories of late-night studying, sharing lecture notes and budding friendships. If you haven’t been here in a while, you might be surprised at the changes and the things that stay the same.**

**5. Tour the city - See the growth beyond the university limits. London was “home” during your years at Western, so take a walk through your old neighbourhood, visit shops and restaurants along Richmond Row or enjoy a pint at the local pub - all of the things that made the Forest City a great place to live and study.**

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**Kings University College**

- Religious Life Lecture Series with Susan Aglukark, 7:30 p.m., Elizabeth A. Bessie Labatt Hall

- Alumni Association Annual General Meeting, 10:30 a.m., Elizabeth A. Bessie Labatt Hall
- Unveiling of the Student Life Centre building plans, 11:45 a.m., Elizabeth A. Bessie Labatt Hall
- Social Work wine and cheese reception, 4:30 p.m., Elizabeth A. Bessie Labatt Hall
- Post-game reception downtown, 5 p.m., The London Tap House, 545 Richmond St.

- Alumni Association Annual General Meeting, 10:30 a.m., Elizabeth A. Bessie Labatt Hall
Rich, wild history highlights Homecoming’s past

By Heather Travis

The Homecoming of yesteryear would likely recognize parts of its younger self, but what might have been commonplace during the weekend event in the late 1940s and 1950s has evolved in recent decades.

The University of Western Ontario has a rich Homecoming tradition going back six decades, preceded by many informal and faculty-based gatherings.

But exactly how old is Western’s Homecoming? That number is up for debate.

According to the book, Western’s First Century, by J.R.W. Gwynne-Timothy, the annual celebration started in 1949. “Class reunions at London were organized on a five-year basis and in 1949 the first Alumni Homecoming Day was started,” Gwynne-Timothy writes.

“This included a parade of floats made by various entities and units within the university. This annual occasion, held prior to an intercollegiate football game, became a major attraction of the school year and was a highlight of alumni interest.”

If this date is correct, Western is celebrating its 61st Homecoming. But not everyone would agree with this anniversary date.

While faculty celebrations have been organized for several years prior, The Gazette, Western’s student newspaper, cites the first Homecoming weekend as being in 1950. The “Old Home” weekend on Oct. 7, 1950 was said to be the “first annual Homecoming weekend” and featured floats, football and a dance.

Taking a trip through The Gazette archives shows there are some steadfast traditions to Homecoming, such as the parade of floats and a crowd-rousing football game. These customs never get old.

But some have changed as generations revamp the weekend program to accommodate new trends and ideas, such as saying goodbye to variety shows and Homecoming queens.

Convocation Hall, now known as Alumni Hall, was the site of the first official Homecoming weekend in 1950. Western President G. Edward Hall addressed alumni, numbering more than 10,000, about university expansion plans and other university activity, followed by a luncheon served in Thames Hall by the Women’s Undergraduate Society.

Taking the celebrations into the streets, a parade of floats attracted the attention of Londoners and alumni lining the curbs and hanging out of office windows as it weaved through the downtown to J. W. Little Stadium. Setting the tone for future activities, the “Old Home” weekend was complete with a football game against the Queen’s University Gaels and alumni danced the night away to the sounds of Alf Tibbs and his orchestra.

Skipping ahead 10 years, variety shows among the highlights of the 1960s, but nothing overshadowed the football games led by celebrated Mustang coach John Metras. Fans could be counted on to fill the stands and show their purple spirit.

In 1970, five Mustang beauties crowed for the coveted crown and Homecoming queen title. But as political and social views changed, some Homecoming traditions like this one fell – befell the wayside.

The earlier years of Homecoming proved to be fairly temperate, with an endless parade of floats, football games and big band music. But as it went on, and Western’s party atmosphere grew in reputation and occasion, things got bigger and rowdier.

In 1980, a mail service strike threatened to show Homecoming plans and the alumni office was forced to take to the phones to notify alumni of the more than 70 class reunions at their alma mater. The message was delivered, as approximately 1,000 people closed down Western Road for a street party at 12:30 a.m. on Sunday. Two house parties converged on the street after the hosts locked their doors and turned off the lights.

“Our next-door neighbour had his baseball bat out,” one of the party hosts reported to The Gazette, adding to the eventful weekend, blues band Canned Heat opened to a disappointed crowd on the Friday night. Newspaper reports say the band was too stunned to notice the crowd reaction.

The 1980s turned out to be a record-setting decade.

In 1994, two parties turned sour and police, forced to break up a world-record party by the 1994-95 Western Student Recreation Centre. The 1990s turned out to be a record-setting decade.

As organizers tried to get a handle on the student antics of the earlier decade, safety and organization became a priority. Many alumni revisited former stomping grounds like The Ceeps and cheered on the home team at the football game.

Enter the new millennium, where Western put its wild past behind and returned to its roots of family fun and student camaraderie.

The word “Arts” was spelled out in the Thames River with old sandals in 2004, before the current made the letters drift away, and streakers ran for cover through TD Waterhouse stadium to the cheers of a roaring crowd.

The alcohol policy enforced at the football game deterred much of the disorderly spirit and many other varsity teams have joined in the weekend festivities, giving sports fans more to watch.

These minor indiscretions and a shift in focus show how Homecoming shed the skin of its wilder past in favour of a calmer, more subdued event of faculty reunions and family-focused activities.

Homecoming 2010 promises to return old friends and new traditions. Undoubtedly, it will be another one for the history books.

Ready for a Homecoming double-take?

Just like a fee of our graduates, Western has built up a bit. He worries - the old families are there. The University Bridge. UC Hill. Convocation Hall. But Western is a growing presence on Canada’s teaching and research landscape. Some old families are getting an overhaul and some places are entirely new. Here’s an abbreviated look over the last five or so years.

■ Western Hall: Formerly Western College, the hall has traded dorm rooms for offices. Home now to the External Portfolio (including this newspaper and Homecoming organizers) and Psychology.

■ The Botron: Botron is one of the world’s top climate change facilities and can mimic most environmental conditions.

■ Stevenson and Lawson halls: Formerly SLB and the main administration centre. Stevenson and Lawson are under renovation. They will regain their original individual profiles, and become home to academic units as well as the president’s office.

■ The Student Services Building. This multi-storey building attached to University Community Centre brings together all student services under one roof.

■ Support Services Building. Overlooking Western Road near Saunier-Mallard Hall, this is the main administration building for parking and it to the Physical Plant.

■ B&G Building. You have to go inside to appreciate the $25 million overhaul to one of the main science buildings.

■ Western Student Recreation Centre. This stunning new centre attached to Thompson Arena and the country-wide interest. A success from Day 1.

■ New Richard Ivey School of Business building. A new 300 million building is under construction on Western Road in front of Brescia University College. With huge growth, Ivey has outgrown its current space.

■ Alumni Riverwalk. Talk a stroll along the Thames and under University Bridge. Western alumni built this path – so take a bow, and that is just on campus. A research facility near London Airport tests the impact of extreme natural events on our homes; another on Wonderland Road North leads the way in conversion of farm byproducts to useful materials. Construction begins soon along Veterans Memorial Highway (formerly Highway 920) on a world-first hexagonal wind tunnel that could attract a wind industry complex to London.

— David Dauphinee

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Western’s Design and Print Professionals
Are you a postdoctoral scholar (postdoc) at The University of Western Ontario? If so, have you ever wondered:

Who are the other postdocs at Western?
Am I missing out on career/professional development opportunities or services?
Where do I go to address concerns or issues?

Is there an opportunity for me network and feel less isolated?

The Postdoctoral Association at Western (PAW) is devoted to answering these questions and building the postdoctoral community. As such, PAW will be holding monthly get-togethers on the last Thursday of every month.

Postdoctoral scholars are newly qualified researchers with PhD and/or MD backgrounds undergoing additional training to become independent researchers. There are two types of postdocs: Postdoctoral fellows (PDFs) are considered independent contractors, whereas postdoctoral associates (PDAs) are considered employees of the university. In either case, you fall under PAW.

There are an estimated 250-400 postdocs at Western, playing a vital role in the university’s research and development. However, there is still no centralized registration process for postdocs. It is still unclear exactly who is a postdoc, or even how many are present at Western.

Through the help of the School of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies (SGPS), postdocs are getting some recognition. Officially formed in 2004, PAW serves as a collective voice for postdoctoral scholars. PAW provides a liaison between postdoctoral scholars and Western administration. Stephanie Dixon, PAW president, stresses it is important to note that while PAW represents the postdoctoral community, it is not involved with union disputes. She explains PAW has two primary goals this year: Build more awareness of postdocs on campus, and strengthen the postdoc community.

As part of the goal to build up the postdoc community at Western, PAWS invites all postdoctoral scholars to attend the first monthly info-social, which is being held 3:30-5 p.m. today at Natural Sciences Centre, Room 2. Snacks and refreshments will be provided. Please register for the first info-social online at grad.uwo.ca/events/?id=23. Future info-socials will be held at the Grad Club.

Visit the organization’s website postdocs.uwo.ca and join the mailing list.

Group offering a voice to postdocs

Western DEPARTMENT OF MODERN LANGUAGES & LITERATURES

As part of the chair selection process, external consultants will be visiting the Department of Modern Languages & Literatures on October 21st and 22nd to speak with faculty members, staff and students. If you wish to speak with the consultants, please contact the Department of Modern Languages & Literatures to arrange a time. While this invitation is directed particularly to those affiliated with the Department, participation from all members of the University community is invited during these times:

Thursday, October 21st 1:30 – 4:30 p.m.
Friday, October 22nd 9:00 – 11:30 and 1:30-3:00 p.m.

Written submissions should be sent to Donna Pennee, Dean, Faculty of Arts and Humanities, 112 University College, and will be transmitted to the consultants independently and confidentially. The consultants for this review are:

- Karin Bauer, McGill University
- Norman Cheadle, Laurentian University

Comments, perspectives, and recommendations with regard to programs, teaching and scholarship, administration and governance in the Department of Modern Languages & Literatures are invited as part of this review. I urge you to participate.

Donna Pennee
Dean, Faculty of Arts and Humanities
President says ranking snub cannot be ignored

Continued from page 1

of highly competitive, upper-year entry undergraduate programs that fill distinctive national niches, develop more high-quality professional master’s degree programs in high-demand areas and design/ implement a strategy for distant education and online learning to increase participation in these areas.

“This is just to serve notice that we need to think about those things at Western, to commit to the fact that work will be undertaken in respecting and using the processes that exist here for consultation and discussion, but that we will need to work on that as we are also engaging on the next four-year planning cycle,” Deacon says. “We need to understand where we need to be four years on, with regards to undergraduate enrolment, research intensity and graduate enrolment.”

THE ART OF RANKING

With Western’s latest omission from the Times Higher Education’s World University Ranking Top 200 list, some members of the university community have asked the same question: “Why?” President Amit Chakma says while problematic in its methodology, the survey’s results give strong enough reasons not to ignore them.

“I can give you hundreds of reasons why we should be dismissive of this ranking, but let me give you a reason why wouldn’t,” says Chakma. The president spoke of a friend of the university and how these results are making it difficult for him to convince his son to look at Western as opposed to the University of British Columbia.

While not being on the list needs to be addressed, Chakma admits he has “no hesitation in saying that overall we are better than some of the others that made the list.”

But he quickly adds since Western is not on the list, it is important for the university to understand why it didn’t make the cut. “We shouldn’t ignore it, but we need understand what it is,” he says. “We have to pay attention to these barometers.”

CHAIR NAME CHANGE

Established in 2002, the Ontario Women’s Health Council has since been succeeded by a new agency, Echo - Improving Women’s Health in Ontario. The Chair in Rural Women’s Health sponsored by the organization has been renamed accordingly. Western and the Ontario Women’s Health Council each provided $1 million toward the program.

“I can give you hundreds of reasons why we should be dismissive of this ranking, but let me give you a reason why wouldn’t.”

– Amit Chakma, Western president

DANCING ON THE MOVE

Initially administered by the School of Kinesiology, dance courses have now been transferred to the Faculty of Music. Dance has been offered as credit courses as a component of the Physical Education program. With a shift in emphasis in the kinesiology program toward a medicine/exercise focus, dance courses have become more peripheral and perhaps less effective as an option in the program.

NEW SCHOLARSHIPS/ AWARDS

Sandra Oosterhoff Memorial Bursary. Awarded annually to a full-time student registered in any year in the Faculty of Law, this bursary was established in memory of Sandra Oosterhoff (BA ‘61, LLB ‘64), whose character and courage in the face of adversity inspired those who knew her. Valued at $800, this bursary was created through Foundation Western by friends, family, classmates and faculty colleagues of her husband, Albert Oosterhoff.

Allen K. Philbrick PhD Scholarship in Cultural Geography. Awarded to a full-time PhD student studying cultural geography, they must be in years two-four and undertaking research on some cultural process or cultural phenomena’s spatial impact on the human environment. The award, valued at $1,000, was established through Foundation Western.

Brian Innes Health Studies Rural Health Award. Awarded annually to an undergraduate student in the School of Health Studies, with preference given to a student who has excelled in the third-year rural health courses. This award, valued at $1,000, was established through Foundation Western in memory of Brian Innes, who was a faculty member in the School of Health Studies.

Men’s Basketball Futures Scholarships. Awarded to full-time undergraduate and graduate students in any year of any degree program at Western (including all affiliate colleges) who are making significant contributions as members of the men’s basketball team.

The two awards are valued at $3,500 and $1,500. Western Athletic Financial Awards Committee will select the recipients based on its evaluation of academic performance, written recommendations from the head coach assessing athletic performance, and team/campus leadership. These scholarships were established by Peter Schmidt (BA ‘95), Jonathan Dingle (BSc ‘97) and Doug Morton (BA ‘99).

Gudaitis-Bluzas Health Sector Scholarship. Awarded to a full-time student entering the Masters in Business Administration program at the Richard Ivey School of Business who is enrolled in the Health Sector Stream, based on academic achievement and demonstrated community leadership. Valued at $10,000, this scholarship is made possible by Edward Gudaitis (MBA ‘93).

ATHLETIC FINANCIAL AWARDS

The Western Athletic Financial Awards Committee reported they allocated $372,811 in awards for Western athletes in 2009-10. Female student athletes received $187,045; male student athletes received $185,766.

Ontario University Athletics rules state 70 per cent of student-athletes may receive an athletic financial award if they meet academic criteria, and that allocations must be gender-balanced. Since 2007-08, more than $825,000 has been awarded to Western student-athletes.
Engineering opens doors to girls

Female students in Grades 7-10 will have the opportunity to explore the exciting world of engineering at Go ENG Girl, a free one-day workshop full of fun hands-on activities and information sessions for parents.

“Go ENG Girl is a fun opportunity for girls to meet others who share similar interests,” explains Lesley Mounteer, University of Western Ontario Engineering’s associate director (external services) and Western Go ENG Girl co-chair. “We have been participating in this province-wide event for six years now and every year we are thrilled to see interest grow.”

More than 1,000 girls are expected to participate in Go ENG Girl at 11 locations across Ontario. Western anticipates 100 girls, and their parents/guardians, will attend the event in London Oct. 16.

Western’s event will have an international theme this year with hands-on activities such as making a water filtration system and constructing a waterproof roof. The keynote talk will be delivered by fifth-year engineering student Lauren Hockin, who recently returned from a summer in Malawi, a southeast African country, where she worked as a junior fellow with Engineers Without Borders.

“Females typically lean toward working in professions that help people and engineering is often dismissed as a career option in this regard,” Mounteer says. “We hope our activities and speakers this year will show the participants engineering truly is a helping profession. Go ENG Girl 2010 will show the girls, first-hand, how engineers work everyday to make a difference to our environment and quality of life, both in Canada and abroad.”

More than 3,000 women have attended Go ENG Girl over the past five years. Feedback shows the support of parents and teachers, combined with the opportunity to meet women in the field and student peers who share similar interests, has inspired participants to consider engineering as a program of study or job choice.

At Western, female enrolment in undergraduate studies is approximately 18 per cent.

Register for Go ENG Girl at engg.on.ca/goenggirl/.

— Staff reports

The 2010 Joanne Goodman Lectures

David Stafford
Leverhulme Emeritus Professor
Centre for Second World War Studies, University of Edinburgh

Portraits from the Secret War, 1940-1945

Tuesday Oct. 5 - Gerry Holdsworth, ‘Maryland’, and No. 1 Special Force Italy

Wednesday Oct. 6 - Andrew Croft, the ‘Balaclava’ Mission, and other Adventurers

Thursday Oct. 7 - Max Salvadori, the Anti-Fascist Resistance, and Liberation

The McKellar Room 4:30pm – 6:00pm

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Western classmate making headlines

The media industry is notoriously competitive. Lots of people want one of the ever-decreasing jobs. And with The University of Western Ontario’s MA in journalism program pumping out 40 budding journalists every year, they know first-hand how hard landing that all important “first gig” can be. But as luck would have it – rather, as hard-work, excellent preparation and great timing should have it – three former classmates are now competitors.

Steven Bull, Rich Garton and Frances Willick, all MA in journalism grads from the class of 2009, have found themselves in Windsor, Ontario, each working for three major media outlets: Bull, CBC Windsor video-journalist/reporter; Garton, A Channel Windsor video-journalist/reporter; and Willick, Windsor Star reporter.

What is that experience like? Here are three questions, to three former classmates-turned-competitors.

Western News: What is the first post-Western journalism gig like?

Steven Bull: CBC Windsor is technically my second “real journalism” position. I was fortunate enough to have been awarded the IDRC International Development Journalism Award upon graduation and spent six months working as a reporter in Nairobi, Kenya, with the National Media Group. Three months with the country’s largest daily newspaper and three with NTV, a national television channel. I felt quite anxious to start reporting. But, at the risk of sounding like I’m spouting Western’s corporate media talking points, I can honestly say the training and hands-on experience I received at Western was fantastic and I was able to hit the ground running ... in a developing country no less.

When I started at CBC Windsor in May, a month after returning to Canada, the transition was seamless. I work with a few other Western journalism grads, and the managing editor who brought me on board had nothing but glowing praise about Western’s program. It’s never a bad thing to have your resume give you that first great impression.

Rich Garton: Graduating from school was a scary thing because it meant the safety harness finally had to be unhooked and real life was set to begin. But when I landed my first job at A Channel Windsor, it took a very short period of time to get into the swing of things and feel confident that I had the skills to do my job properly. There’s always more to learn and every day is a new story, but I’m glad I had the firm educational footing from both the University of Windsor and Western to prepare me for that.

Frances Willick: I started at the Windsor Star about two weeks after school ended. It was the real deal, right from day one. Pitching stories. Taking assignments. Chasing spot news. Meeting deadlines. Everything we learned in j-school was really happening. In the newsroom, there’s no hand-holding or coddling. You have to prove yourself and you have to do it every day. In the year I’ve been at The Star, I’ve covered court cases, fires, murders, strike negotiations, fundraisers, festivals, business, health, obits and everything in between. From tornadoes to monster zucchinis to vomit-inducing plane rides, you never know what you’re going to be doing on any given day. It’s pretty much the best job ever.

What’s the best part of your current scenario?

SB: As happy as I am with my own position, I’m just as happy for my friends and former classmates. Having coworkers come back and say “Hey, I met your buddy Rich the other day” or “Guess who was at such-and-such event? Frances Willick ...” is just a wonderful feeling. And people thought I was being facetious when I repeatedly said the Class of 2009 was the greatest class ever.

Garton, A Channel Windsor video-journalist/reporter; Windsor Star reporter.

What is your favorite experience at Western?

RG: Being classmates was definitely like a family experience, seeing the same faces and ideas and stories every day. So when faced with working for a competing news outlet was a weird thought at first. But when we actually cross paths, it’s a great chance to catch up and chat. We’re still friends and likely closer because we’re in the same city. Windsor is a fairly good-sized city, but the media circle is fairly close. Yes, we all compete for the same audience but we’re not cutthroat, at the end of the day the interesting and compelling stories are told and if I can say a friend of mine told it first, I’m more proud than jealous.

WN: What’s the best part of your current scenario?

SB: As happy as I am with my own position, I’m just as happy for my friends and former classmates. Having coworkers come back and say “Hey, I met your buddy Rich the other day” or “Guess who was at such-and-such event? Frances Willick ...” is just a wonderful feeling. And people thought I was being facetious when I repeatedly said the Class of 2009 was the greatest class ever.

F: Windsor isn’t a highly competitive media market. I’m sure all the news outlets watch and listen to each other’s work, but it’s not a cut-throat environment. When I see other media folks at events, it’s mostly just an opportunity to socialize and talk shop. The best part of working in the same market is that I get to see Rich and Steve all fancied up in their suits every day on television.

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ate and graduate music education courses, research and practice-based courses in his or her area of specialty while also contributing to graduate student supervision. In addition to the Bachelor of Music with Honors in Music Education degree, the Faculty of Music offers the Master of Music in Music Education and the Ph.D. in Music (with an emphasis in music education). The application deadline is Decem-
ber 1, 2010.

Faculty of Science - Chair, Department of Com-
puter Science - Applicants or nominees must be faculty members at UWO. A record of commitment to high quality undergraduate and graduate education, a strong research record, and some administrative leadership experience are preferred. This position is an opportunity for the selected candidate to show leadership in research, administration, outreach, and development. The new Chair is expected to facilitate the implementation of a depart-
mental academic plan that is consistent with Faculty and University plans and that would aim to position the Department within the top tier of Computer Science Departments in Canada. The term of the appointment will be for a maximum of five years, the appointment is anticipated to commence on July 1, 2011. Consideration of applications will commence on November 1, 2010.

Richard Ivy School of Business - The School seeks candidates for Professor, probationary Assistant/Associate Pro-
fessor and Limited Term appointments in the area of Finance. These positions are available to begin in July 2011. Submission deadline is December 10, 2010, although applications will be accepted until the position has been filled. ivy@uwo.ca/Faculty/Career_Dops.htm.

All positions are subject to budgetary approval. Applicants should have fluent written and oral communication skills in English. All qualified candidates are encouraged to apply. However, Canadian citizens and permanent residents will be given priority. The University of Western Ontario is committed to employment equity and welcomes applications from all qualified women and men, including visible minorities, Aboriginal people and persons with disabili-

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Upcoming Fairs

Career Fair

Western’s annual Career Week is January 31-Feb-
ruary 4, 2011. Check online to view and register for our full schedule of events and activities at success.uwo.ca/index.cfm/careers. Get the skills you need for the job you want!

International Opportunities Fair

Please NOTE correction on day: Join us for the International Opportunities Fair on Thursday, October 14th in the Great Hall, Somerville House, from 10:30am-3:00pm.

For more information, please visit us on the web at studentservices.uwo.ca