YEAR IN PHOTOS

From classrooms to playing fields, from long-serving legends to our freshest faces, Western News presents the best photographs of 2014.

PAGES 8-13
Coming Events

DEC. 4-10

4 // THURSDAY

MCINTOSH GALLERY EXHIBIT
The Grant and Peggy Reuber Collection of International Works on Paper. Curated by Catherine Elliot Shaw. Video Zoom: Between-The-Images. Curated by Louise Déry. mcintoshgallery@uwo.ca.
Runs until Dec. 6.

PHYSICS & ASTRONOMY COLLOQUIUM
Vivek Maheshwari, Department of Chemistry, University of Waterloo. Cell-graphene hybrids as materials for device application and nanoparticle chains as active electrochemical systems. 1 p.m. P&A 100.

APPLIED MATHEMATICS COLLOQUIUM
Gergely Rost, University of Szeged, Hungary. Malana dynamics in seasonal environment with long incubation period in hosts. 2:30 p.m. MC 204.

MIGRATION AND ETHNIC RELATIONS COLLOQUIUM SERIES
Beatriz Mamigonian, Universidade Federal de Santa Catarina. Between Legal Reasons and Political Considerations: The Rights of Africa-Born Freedpersons to Citizenship in Nineteenth-Century Brazil in Atlantic Perspective. 4:30 p.m. A18, Huron.

5 // FRIDAY

ANATOMY AND CELL BIOLOGY SEMINAR
Ann Zumwalt, Boston University School of Medicine. The use of gaze tracking to document learning in gross anatomy. 12:30 p.m. MSB 282.

DEPARTMENT OF EPIDEMIOLOGY & BIOSTATISTICS

10 // WEDNESDAY

TOASTMASTER’S CAMPUS COMMUNICATORS
Build your confidence in public speaking. 9119.toastmastersclubs.org/. Contact Donna Moore, dmoore@uwo.ca or 85159. 12-1 p.m. UCC 147B.

THE CHINESE PROGRAM AT HURON UNIVERSITY COLLEGE
Lunch and conversation. Anyone wishing to speak Chinese and meet people who study Chinese at Huron is welcome. Bring your own lunch and join the conversation. hwc@huron.uwo.ca. 12:30 p.m. A18, Huron.

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Did HIV emerge from the worst genocide in modern human history?

BY ERIC ARTS

Everyone looks for a scapegoat with human tragedy. With a devastating human disease like AIDS, I have heard a number of opinions and rumors of its origins from the general public, perpetuated by sensationalized half-truths from the uninformed.

AIDS was not spread by inappropriate behavior with monkeys. And AIDS was here long before our Canadian ‘patient zero’ was blamed for the North American epidemic in the 1980s. Sex is enjoyed around the world as much as it is in Africa, so AIDS was not spread by some misguided perception of increased promiscuity in Africa.

Chimpanzees and other monkeys were frequently a source of meat. Some of these same primates were also infected with SIV, which rarely caused disease in the chimps.

Even the most experienced butcher cuts himself at times, suggesting that SIV may have been transferred to people through blood contact.

Once SIV from chimps is transmitted to humans, the virus must still adapt into the pathogen HIV, but theories predict the modern disease of AIDS was not a one-off event. For centuries, HIV may have spread sporadically through a limited number of humans in a village or tribe, but remained contained from the rest of the human population.

Did HIV start spreading and killing Belgians and other foreigners due to interactions with the Congolese? Why did it take another 30-40 years for the first reported cases in Europe and explosion of AIDS in 1980s?

It's hard to guess, considering AIDS may have been masked by malaria, sleeping sickness and other tropical diseases that were killing a high proportion of the foreign henchmen and workers. Also, during the period of SIV adaptation to humans we now suspect HIV disease may have progressed even slower, or may even have been eradicated, in some infected people.

But let's not speculate and simply look at the facts.

HIV Type 1 comes from chimpanzees. Fact. SIV jumped into humans to start the current global pandemic between 1900 and 1950. Fact. HIV-1's closest relative is an SIV found in chimpanzees living today in the Congo basin.

FACT. Of the 33 million people currently infected and the 40 million who have died of AIDS in the past 35 years, their HIV has an evolutionary root to HIV-1 in the Congo basin. Fact. Leopold II ruled, pillaged, raped and killed two to 10 million Congolese from 1885, the date he got the deeds to Congo, until he died in 1909. Fact.

Is one man's greed responsible for stimulating the worst epidemic in the past 200 years? There may never be convincing proof of his link to AIDS, but HIV may have emerged from the worst genocide in modern human history.

Eric Arts is the Department of Microbiology and Immunology chair in the Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry.

New facility puts Western on HIV/AIDS research frontier

SPECIAL TO WESTERN NEWS

Western unveiled plans this week for a new 4,200-square-foot, state-of-the-art facility, which firmly places Western researchers, like Eric Arts and Chil-Yong Kang, on the cutting-edge of investigating HIV and other complex human pathogens. The Imaging Pathogens for Knowledge Translation (ImPaKT) Facility at Western’s Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry will be the only one of its kind in Canada and will combine sophisticated imaging technology with a world-class biocollection facility.

COMMEMORATING WORLD AIDS DAY, Western unveiled plans for a new 4,200-square-foot, state-of-the-art facility, which will firmly place its researchers on the cutting-edge of medicine, science and technology in the study of HIV and other complex human pathogens.

“The Imaging Pathogens for Knowledge Translation (ImPaKT) Facility at the Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry will be the only one of its kind in Canada and will combine sophisticated imaging technology with a world-class biocollection facility,” said Eric Arts, Schulich’s new chair of the Department of Microbiology and Immunology.

“This provides support for many HIV-related pathogens, but also hospital-acquired infections like MRSA (Methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus). This facility will not only engage in basic research but it will also be a focal point for patient treatment monitoring, new vaccine developments and new drug discovery.”

Considered one of the most important researchers studying HIV/AIDS in the world today, Arts was recruited to Western this year from top-ranked U.S. institution Case Western Reserve University.

The Department of Microbiology and Immunology is globally recognized thanks, in large part, to the groundbreaking discoveries of Chil-Yong Kang, a Western researcher currently clinically testing a preventative AIDS vaccine.
Publisher’s Letter

Pay tribute today, start paying attention from now on

HELEN CONNELL
Western News Publisher

Do you remember Genevieve Bergeron? How about Anne-Marie Edward? Does Annie Turcotte ring any bells?
If those names don’t conjure information on who these women were, you’re not alone. I didn’t recognize their names when I saw them listed. But how about Marc LePine? His name will be back in the media this week because Dec. 6 marks the 25th anniversary of his rise to infamy. It was on that day, the 25-year-old walked into École Polytechnique de Montréal carrying a semi-automatic gun into an engineering classroom. After separat- ing the women from the men, he murdered women and then wandered out to the halls, continuing to shoot before ending the rampage by killing himself. In total, he murdered 14 women. And his reason? According to the suicide note he left, feminists ruined his life. A simple web search for LePine is a stark reminder that often the killer is remembered long after the memory of his victims’ names has lapsed from our collective memory. At the time of the killings, there was a debate about whether these murders represented the act of a deranged individual or whether they were sym- bolic of a much deeper society issue. Many women argued LePine’s actions were just an extreme expression of the violence against women in our society. The women were right.
What caught Canada’s collective attention was not that a man was so angry with women that he killed. What made LePine memorable was he killed so many women and in a postsecond- ary institution – a place where young people come to mould their futures not meet their deaths. Every day in this country, women are beaten and sexu- ally assaulted, and too often killed, in their homes, usually by men they wanted to love them. Ontario’s Domestic Violence Death Review Committee report, released earlier this year, looked at 20 instances of death resulting from domestic vio- lence in 2012, involving 26 homicide victims and six perpetrator suicides. In 18 of the 20 cases the committee reviewed, the perpetrators were male. This is not to suggest that men are exempt from domestic violence. West- ern’s Centre for Research & Education on Violence Against Women and Chil- dren (CREVABC), with the support of the Canadian Labour Congress, conducted a Canadian-wide study into the impact domestic violence has in the workplace. More than 8,400 people responded to the survey and, not surprisingly, the majority of respondents were women. Of the respondents, 37.6 per cent of the women and 17.4 per cent of the men reported experiencing domestic violence over their lifetime. When asked about the high propor- tion of men who reported having experi- enced domestic violence, Peter Jaffé, CREVABC director, said research has found when it comes to the broad cat- egory of domestic violence – pushing, shoving or throwing something – men’s and women’s involvement is roughly the same. But women are five times more likely to experience repeated domestic violence to the degree that results in injury, living in fear, missing work because of violence or being killed. As a society, we’ve responded by trying to take care of the victims. We will continue to pray over the dead and do our upmost to patch up the physi- cal and emotional bruises surviving women encounter. We will continue to support shelters that act as temporary refuge to women and children. But nothing is really going to change until the good guys decide they’ve had enough – until men not only say they’re appalled by domestic violence, but decide they no longer want to be silent bystanders. It’s when they begin to seriously challenge themselves, and each other, about the role of violence in society and the impact it has on the next generation of men, that we will see real change.
On Saturday, let’s pay tribute to the 14 women murdered in 1989. Let’s also spend a few moments thinking about the many women abused every day in Canada. And let’s hope that this the year the good guys find their voice.

MUSTANG MEMORIES

In 1997, the Western Mustangs travelled to Japan to play a Japanese all-star team. Lucent Technologies Canada provided more than one third of the $160,000 needed for the trip which was, according to Darwin Semotiuk, chair of Intercollegiate Athletics, a “remarkable educa- tional, athletic and cultural experience.” Interest in football had been growing in Japan, and members of the Japanese team cautioned the Mustangs they shouldn’t expect an easy win. Despite those warnings, and the difficulties of adjusting to the American rules the Japanese played by, Western won 69-7. After the game, Akira Furukawa, chairperson of the Japanese American Football Association, praised the Mustangs’ skill, stating that “Western is a stron- ger team than Harvard.” Visit John P. Metras Museum on Instagram and Twitter for more photos.

Photos provided by the John P. Metras Museum

Opinions expressed here are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of or receive endorsement from Western News or Western University.

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Commentary

Renewed commitment to women in engineering sprung from massacre

Editor's note: Western Engineering dean Andrew Hyrnyk, chair of the Council of Ontario Deans of Engineering, and Mary Wells, chair of the Ontario Network of Women in Engineering (ONWiE), penned the following letter on behalf of Ontario faculties of engineering commemorating the victims from École Polytechnique on the 25th anniversary of the tragedy.

THIS WEEK, WE remember 14 young women who lost their lives 25 years ago: On this day, known now as the Montreal Massacre, an enraged gunman roamed the corridors of Montreal's École Polytechnique and killed 14 women, 12 of whom were engineering students.

Details of the event outlined how the gunman went into a classroom of engineering students on the last day of classes before exams began. He separated the men from the women and opened fire on the women. Many of these women were in their final year of study in their engineering programs and would have graduated in May 1990.

In 1989, it was an unusual choice for a woman to decide to enrol in and study engineering in Canada. To put things in perspective, enrolment reports from 1989 indicate that of the 33,000 students enrolled in undergraduate engineering programs across Canada, only 13 per cent (or 4,900 of the students) were women.

Statistics Canada numbers also show, at this time, there were just over 3,300 faculty members teaching in these engineering programs. In other words, less than 2 per cent, being women.

The Montreal Massacre sparked renewed interest and commitment to promote women in engineering and technology, to end violence against women and to strengthen Canada's technology, to end violence against women and to promote women in engineering and applied science, to ensure women in engineering, that they committed to supporting the network financially to ensure its viability. Considering all of these women engineering and applied science schools across Ontario educate approximately 40 per cent of all the undergraduate engineering students across Canada, this represents a significant and focused effort toward addressing issues around women in engineering.

While good work has accomplished much over the years, it never hurts to remind ourselves we can do more to ensure our engineering and applied science schools and faculties are inclusive, equitable and safe for all members. We also can use this occasion of remembrance to express our commitment to strengthen our progress on issues related to women in engineering and ensure all of our schools and faculties continue to foster a safe and supportive campus community.

IN REMEMBRANCE

On Friday, Western Engineering will gather at 11 a.m. in the front foyer of the Spencer Engineering Building for a candle lighting and wreath laying in remembrance of the female students killed at École Polytechnique on Dec. 6, 1989, and Lynda Shaw, a third-year Mechanical Engineering student, who died at the hands of a gunman at the university Dec. 6, 1989.

A plaque is displayed at the École Polytechnique in Montreal, in memory of the 14 women who died at the hands of a gunman at the university Dec. 6, 1989.

Letters to the Editor

// Thanks for spotlighting public attitudes on smoking

I was a freshman in 1973 and a militant non-smoker even then. Although I don't think the current discussion about banning smoking across the whole campus is such a big deal, I much appreciated your comments about the early days of the shift in public attitudes toward smoking, especially in public. (Province can put Ontario universities on right side of history with smoking, Nov. 20). I go so far as to say the shift against smoking has been the most significant improvement in the quality of life of the past half century—at least in the spheres where I move.

You wrote “the public smoking debate wasn’t about me, the smoker, it was about the nonsmoker and their right to live and work free of harassment.”

I would like to amplify this idea, if I may. I am a ‘big picture’ kind of guy and I earned my MA in Philosophy, largely because I wanted to understand the scholarly basis for ethics, particularly interactions among us humans in general. My conclusion is that, in any conflict between our activities, it is the passive person who has fundamental priority. By not smoking, I am the passive participant, and that’s why the smoker must defer to my interest. Thanks for putting this in print in the way you did.

I always bothered me when I heard smokers say they could smoke wherever they wanted to, “because it’s a free country.” Nevertheless, I’m glad you didn’t dwell on the public peril of smoking.

Although the peril to the public is not in doubt (at least not since the Surgeon General’s report in 1964), and even though public health concerns may guide policy in many areas, that’s not the reason why non-smokers have priority over smokers.

Imagine, if you will, a magic cigarette that puts out vapours demonstrably beneficial to human health: in principle, that would not change the conclusion.

PETER JEDICKE
B.SC. 1976, MA 1997
Study shows domestic violence no longer stays at home

BY PAUL MAYNE

KIM GIBSON’S HUSBAND would often sit outside her workplace and call her boss to complain. He was an annoyance, but no one, not even Gibson, saw it as a dangerous situation.

Later that day, when she left work, Gibson was stabbed 12 times by her abusive husband. “When I took myself from the role of victim to survivor, that was a tough journey,” said Gibson, a domestic violence victims’ advocate. “It could have been a disaster in the workplace. It could have been a co-worker, and a far different outcome, and that’s a scary thought.”

Gibson’s story and many others like it have been brought to light with the first-ever Canadian study on domestic violence and the workplace. The initial findings of Can Work Be Safe, When Home Isn’t? was released this past week by Western’s Centre for Research & Education on Violence Against Women & Children (CREVAWC).

In conjunction with the Canadian Labour Congress and Western’s Faculty of Information and Media Studies, CREVAWC director Peter Jaffe said the survey shows some sobering numbers when it comes to law and order, and men, are dealing with domestic violence in the workplace.

For this survey, domestic violence was defined as any form of physical, sexual, emotional or psychological abuse – including financial control, stalking and harassment. It occurs between opposite- or same-sex intimate partners, who may or may not be married, common law or living together. It can also continue to happen after a relationship has ended.

“Domestic violence has an enormous cost in the workplace,” Jaffe said. “When we think about domestic violence, we think of the impact of victims, but more and more people are also talking about what it means to have a perpetrator in the workplace.”

With more than 8,400 participants in the survey, one third answered ‘yes’ when asked if they had experienced domestic violence in the workplace and, of those, 82 per cent said the violence negatively affected their work performance.

More than half said the violence continued at or near the workplace in the form of harassing emails, calls or texts, or stalking and physical violence. Almost 40 per cent said it kept them from getting to work, and for almost 10 per cent, it meant losing their job.

Canadian employers lose $77.9 million annually due to the direct and indirect impacts of domestic violence – and the costs, to individuals, families and society, go far beyond that, Jaffe said. He hopes this first-ever Canadian survey will get employers talking and government’s taking legislative action.

“Domestic violence doesn’t just stay at home any more, it follows people to the workplace and affects not just them, but the workplace and their co-workers,” Jaffe said. “This issue knows no bounds; it goes across all workplaces and it’s important that we recognize these issues. We’re coming a long way from somehow not wanting to budge, into other people’s business. But when it affects issues of personal safety and individual’s well-being, we need to.”

Jaffe added the education of all workers, and providing the tools supports and safety pathways for victims, and perpetrators, is strongly needed.

“Knowing this is a problem, it’s not just educating HR personnel or managers, it’s everyone in the workplace,” he said. “Everyone has to know this issue because that’s where the disclosures are going to come from. The front-line defense is coworkers. This is everyone’s business. Being silent, not addressing the issue and not talking about it, endangers people in the workplace.”

Julie White, director of the women’s department at Unifor, the largest private union in Canada with 305,000 members, including 86,000 women, said provincial and federal governments need to recognize the problem at hand.

“The labour movement is ready to take the lead and work with our employers to ensure people who experience domestic violence can easily access the help they need in the workplace,” White said. “We need to work toward an environment where everyone has a clear awareness of domestic violence.

“Improving the workplace response to domestic violence will require a multipronged approach by legislators, employers, unions and advocates to protect and support victims and assist perpetrators in changing their behaviour. Ultimately, preventing domestic violence, and its consequences, is a collective responsibility of all, and the workplace is a place where positive change can start to happen.”

Jaffe added the survey presents stronger evidence that will hopefully help shape legislation, policies and practices that promote violence prevention and safety in workplaces – holding abusers accountable for their behaviour and lifting the burden from victims so they need not deal with domestic violence alone.

Gibson said while there has been progress in addressing domestic violence in the workplace, there remains a long road ahead.

“We have to call it what it is, and we have to discuss it. In our personal life, and our work life, we all have a responsibility to help make a difference so other women don’t have to suffer,” she said. “We all need to work on this. Our workplaces can make a difference.”

PHOTOS BY PAUL MAYNE // WESTERN NEWS

Discussion of the initial findings of the Can Work Be Safe, When Home Isn’t? survey included, from top, Centre for Research & Education on Violence Against Women & Children director Peter Jaffe; domestic violence victims’ advocate Kim Gibson; and director of the women’s department at Unifor Julie White.

By the numbers

Initial findings of Can Work Be Safe, When Home Isn’t? were released last week by Western’s Centre for Research & Education on Violence Against Women & Children (CREVAWC). Among the results, generated from more than 8,400 participants responding to 60 questions, were:

- 33.6 per cent reported experiencing domestic violence from an intimate partner;
- 35.4 per cent reported having at least one co-worker who they believe is experiencing, or has previously experienced domestic violence;
- 33.6 per cent reported having at least one co-worker who they believe is being abusive, or has previously been abusive, toward him/her partner;
- 35.3 per cent said domestic violence continued at work through either abusive phone calls or texts (40.6 per cent), stalking/harassment near the workplace (20.5 per cent) or abuser coming to the workplace (18.2 per cent);
- 38.6 per cent reported domestic violence affected their ability to get to work, with 8.5 per cent losing a job;
- 11.8 per cent reported domestic violence negatively affected their performance at work, most often due to being distracted, or feeling tired and/or unwell;
- 37.1 per cent reported their co-workers were stressed or concerned about the abusive situation;
- 43.2 per cent of those experiencing domestic violence reported they discussed it with someone at work; and
- 52.2 per cent reported positive things happened when they discussed their domestic violence in the workplace.

To learn more, and read the Can Work Be Safe, When Home Isn’t? survey, visit learningtoendabuse.ca.
Workplace can lead positive change for victims of domestic violence

BY BARB MACQUARIE, NADINE WATHEN AND JENNIFER C.D. MACGREGOR

WE KNOW MANY employers remain baffled at the link between domestic violence and the workplace. In Canada, despite some high-profile tragedies, we know little about the scope of domestic violence in the workplace.

Studies show costs to the workplace as a result of domestic violence measure in the millions. Surveys from Australia, New Zealand and the U.K. demonstrate the problem impacts worker safety, productivity and well-being.

Some tragedies — including the murder of a Vancouver Starbucks manager who tried to protect his employee from an ex-spouse in 2000, or a nurse murdered at a Windsor hospital by her ex-partner in 2005 — prompted important legislative changes. British Columbia began interpreting their Occupational Health and Safety Regulation to protect workers from violence in 2010. Ontario amended its Occupational Health and Safety legislation to give employers explicit responsibilities to address domestic violence in the workplace. Manitoba followed suit shortly afterwards.

Despite these positive steps, however, compliance has lagged.

Currently, only the most innovative or most negatively impacted employers have developed policies, programs and workplace wide education about domestic violence.

But we believe our report, Can Work Be Safe When Home Isn’t?, will be a game-changer in Canadian workplaces.

Conducted in collaboration between the Centre for Research & Education on Violence Against Women & Children in the Faculty of Education, in collaboration with colleagues in the Faculty of Information and Media Studies (FIMS) and the Canadian Labour Congress, it is the largest survey of its kind in the world.

With responses from more than 8,400 workers, we have overcome a longstanding misconception that domestic violence is a problem that stays at home. One third of workers report they experience domestic violence at some time in their lives and over half of them say it follows them to work. It follows them with harassing phone calls and text messages, stalking behaviour, the abuser physically coming to work or the abuser contacting supervisors and co-workers.

Respondents provided examples of this behaviour from their own lives:

• "I was tired and distracted, yet work was a place where I felt safe."

• "The domestic violence caused unease between me and my co-workers because I had to miss work or sometimes cried. Also, some people felt helpless; they would have liked to intervene, but did not dare for fear of endangering me or themselves."

• "(The abuser) would phone my workplace to see what time I had left, and phoned when I arrived to make sure I was actually going to work."

Even with the legislative protections offered by some provinces, workers experiencing domestic violence have not come forward for fear of being judged or losing their jobs. These workers need a supportive environment where they are encouraged to disclose the abuse and be assured of a supportive response. Breaking the isolation, and talking about it, is the first step in a healing process. It is also an opportunity for the workplace to implement a safety plan, creating a more productive environment where workers can focus on the job knowing safety has been well thought out.

This report takes the first steps of identifying the scope and impact of domestic violence on workers and workplaces. Immediate next steps include encouraging the use of these results to establish proactive practices to address the impact of domestic violence at work. To that end, the Canadian Labour Congress has requested Kellie Leitch, Federal Minister of Labour, organize a roundtable for representatives from all levels of government, unions, employers and domestic violence experts to discuss how we begin to move forward.

The vision is large and includes measures such as:

• Following the lead of Ontario and Manitoba in amending Occupational Health & Safety legislation to place positive obligations on employers to protect workers from domestic violence;

• Including domestic violence-related amendments in federal and provincial employment standards that give the right to request flexible working arrangements and entitlement to paid domestic violence leave;

• Prohibiting discrimination against those who experience domestic violence by including it as a protected ground in Human Rights legislation;

• Negotiating specific supports into collective agreements, including paid domestic violence leave;

• Developing innovative programs like Unifor’s Women’s Advocate Program; and

• Educating managers, supervisors and workers about domestic violence in the workplace, and providing specific protocols and tools to protect and support victims and intervene with perpetrators.

A parallel survey of offenders is also being planned by our research team to help us understand how interventions in the workplace can reduce their use of violence and its impact on productivity and safety.

At an international level, we are comparing the Canadian data to other national surveys and linking this work via the new DV@Work Network, an international collaboration led by our Canadian research team.

Improving the workplace response to domestic violence will require a multi-pronged approach by legislators, employers, unions and advocates to protect and support victims and assist perpetrators in changing their behaviour. Ultimately, preventing violence and its consequences is a collective social challenge, one place that positive change can happen — for victims, offenders and employers — is the workplace.

Barb MacQuarrie is the community director of the Centre for Research & Education on Violence Against Women & Children in Western’s Faculty of Education. Nadine Wathen is an associate professor and faculty scholar and Jennifer C.D. MacGregor is a postdoctoral fellow, both in the Faculty of Information and Media Studies.
PAUL MAYNE
Photo favourites of 2014

Going on 11 years now, I’ve roamed Western’s campus searching for stories and photos. In that time, I’ve snapped more than 75,000 images – 10 per cent of which are in focus, as the joke goes. I quickly came to realize the campus presents itself as quite the canvas to create some wonderful images. The hustle and bustle of the students heading to class, the changing of the seasons, the hidden corners I’m still discovering – there’s something new each day.

It’s fun to be told to take photos as part of my job. It affords me the chance to be creative and look for images that, perhaps, others never thought of. The following are a just a few of the shots from the past year that I enjoyed capturing. I hope you like them as well.

An alien-like bees’ nest attached to the wall of Westminster Hall.

Performances at the Don Wright Faculty of Music can be very entertaining.

While I don’t care much for winter, it does make for some pretty photos.
Sometimes, the best photo you’ll find is the one you’re not looking for. Such was the case this past April, when I was returning from a story with a professor. Cutting behind Stevenson Hall, I noticed activity in a tree just outside the Beryl Ivey Garden. I froze, wondering what it might be – typical sparrow, I expected. But, instead, it was a male cardinal seeking some shade from the afternoon sun. I stood patiently waiting for him to come to me – as opposed to me moving around and frightening him off. Patience paid off as he finally jumped to a lower branch, allowing me to grab the photo.

Having covered more than 160 Convocations, Rick Mercer gave me my first ‘raise the roof’ photo.

A reflective glance at a Mustang swimmer.

‘Hi-ho, Silver’ (or, in this case, Purple) at the Mustangs football game.

Nothing better than a genuine smile from a Western alumnus.
French Studies professor Alain Goldschläger received France’s Ordre des Palmes Académiques (order of Academic Palms), originally a decoration founded by Emperor Napoléon, earlier this year. I love this shot of him smiling at the ceremony.

ADELA TALBOT
Photo favourites of 2014

If you’ve seen me on campus over the last three years, chances are, I had a camera around my neck. Or, you saw me darting in front of your car in my runners. Yeah. Sorry about that.

The first time I came to take your photo, I was probably more nervous than you. Probably more awkward, too. But I’m more relaxed these days with my camera in tow - though I still don’t like anyone taking photos of me. Photography’s a one-way street in my world.

I enjoy trying to see the world around me, in different ways, through a camera lens. And know what’s cool about trucking my Canon 70D around as part of this job? I get to take some really cool pictures. Like this one of Jane Goodall. Then, I get to brag about them.

This young lady is going places and is an absolute pleasure to talk to. Check out Made of Chalk.

This woman was very happy to see Joyce Garnett, Western’s former university librarian. I enjoyed watching them (from a distance) catch up when the new Map and Data Centre opened in The D.B. Weldon Library.

French Studies professor Alain Goldschläger received France’s Ordre des Palmes Académiques (order of Academic Palms), originally a decoration founded by Emperor Napoléon, earlier this year. I love this shot of him smiling at the ceremony.
I was told not to use flash when taking a photo of Ms. Goodall. I love this one with natural light at the Idlewyld Inn. She looked out the window without me prompting her to do so. It’s a photo of Jane Goodall. That I took. That’s why it’s my favourite of the year.

Ms. Goodall, founder of the Jane Goodall Institute and UN Messenger of Peace, was on campus this year to share stories and reflect on her experiences in the wild, as well as the extraordinary change the world has seen since she first began her research of chimpanzees in 1960.

This lady was buying a handful of blooms at Western’s Farmers’ Market. I love the outdoor space there and the gathering of folks in summer months.

Saher Fazilat is absolutely wonderful. Hers was one of my favourite stories this year, and as such, a favourite photo as well.

I was in Stratford for a story this summer and approached this swan mama and her babies. She hissed at me as I took their photo.
Best of Twitter

@ALEXANDRAGORSKA
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@SIUHONGYU
@DAVID_LOOBY
@EALAFJUNEJO
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@KUCATUWO

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Campus Life

Parking attendants stay active on front lines

BY MARK KEARNY

WHEN NEIL THOMPSON was looking for a semi-retirement job about seven years ago, he wanted something simple with flexible hours. A friend recommended working as a parking lot attendant at Western.

“Little did I know just how un-simple this job would be,” said Thompson with a laugh.

In his job, he handles a range of ‘parking types’ who visit his booth – on this particular day the one behind Social Sciences – such as pre-paid, transponders, daily fees, guest passes and special passes. When he comes in for the afternoon shift at 1:30 p.m., “it’s usually already packed to the gills here for parking. The moment you get into the booth the people are there and you never stop.”

So much for the boring life of a parking lot attendant.

While it may appear to a casual observer that attendants just sit in a booth and wait for the occasional car to come by, the job is anything but.

“It’s not boring,” said Cy Murphy, who’s usually in the Medical/Dental Lot booth from 7 a.m. -1:30 p.m. Monday to Thursday. “You would assume that just sitting there and taking money and giving money back would be boring. It’s a very interesting job because you meet so many people.”

Interacting with various people on campus is the key to keeping the job lively, say the attendants.

“If you didn’t like meeting people you’d have problems with this job,” said Thompson, who recalls Michael Ignatieff, Lt. Gov. David Onley and Michael ‘Pinball’ Clemons as some of the celebrities he’s met on the job.

“You can’t be shy about it.”

Murphy, who worked with Campus Community Police Services before becoming an attendant in 2006, enjoys the university as a workplace.

“I like the people here, I like being in the booth, talking to people. I just want to be busy.”

Though it’s a business about providing spaces for cars, both attendants also help visitors out, share information on where to find certain places on campus, and even provide emergency assistance when small accidents, such as fender-benders, take place.

“The reason the attendant is there is typically they’re the first face the visitor will encounter at Western,” said Mark Van Den Bossche, manager of Parking and Visitor Services at the university. “They play a central and important role in welcoming guests to campus.”

The attendants are not university employees, but are contracted through Parking Services with Commissionaires Great Lakes, a security services firm, said Van Den Bossche. Though Commissionaires was originally set up to find jobs for returning military veterans, the 13 attendants and two supervisors come from various walks of life.

Murphy worked with the RCMP and Canada Post earlier in his career while Thompson was in the farm real estate appraisal business.

Each attendant gets training from Commissionaires while Western provides customer service instruction covering such aspects as conflict resolution and dealing with people.

Attendants get one week on the job in the booth with someone else there and then they’re on their own.

Western has five attended lots staffed daily Monday to Friday during the academic year – Alumni Thompson, Weldon, Kent Drive, Social Sciences and Medical Science – said Van Den Bossche. The Talbot and Huron Flats lots are also attended to during special events.

“It’s almost like a traffic cop role that they play out there,” Van Den Bossche continued.

While 99 per cent of the visitors are respectful and polite, attendants have to deal with people who get cranky “because they can’t park where they want to park” – a lot is full, they don’t have the right pass or they believe parking should be free.

Attendants also make judgment calls on when a lot is considered full or if a person can be let in without the right pass.

“It’s not just standing in a booth taking money,” Van Den Bossche said.

“There’s a lot of interaction and a lot of judgment calls on a daily basis.”

An attendant generally sits on a stool in the booth during a shift. Inside there’s a small counter, a cashbox, two-way radio, telephone and heating and air conditioning. Rotating staff and supervisors take over a booth when an attendant needs a bathroom break or wants to grab something to eat.

“I’m almost embarrassed to tell people sometimes just how comfy I am (in the booth),” Thompson said.

Some do crossword puzzles, listen to the radio or occasionally read a book during down time. But such lulls are rare during the school year. “You no sooner get a sentence or two read, and you go to do something at the window, and then you go back and read a sentence, and then back to the window,” Thompson said.

He and Murphy talk about how friendly most people are, how they get to know regulars at their lots, the occasional Christmas gifts they get from parking patrons, and how students and others will sometimes drop off a coffee as a way of saying thanks.

“The students are really good,” Thompson said.

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No single answer to stopping spread of HIV

BY ADELA TALBOT

HEALTH-CARE PROVIDERS must fight a two-front war if there is any hope of stopping the spread of HIV, according to one Western researcher.

William Fisher, cross-appointed between Psychology and Obstetrics and Gynecology, recently published a paper outlining the effectiveness of a bidirectional intervention approach with HIV-infected individuals in South Africa. His model stresses a supportive approach that encourages two things – an adherence to medication and safer sex practices.

“There has to be a combined behavioural and biomedical approach (to intervention) and we feel our research is highly compatible, and, in fact, compromises that approach,” Fisher said.

“Our work is in support of the very fervent wish of most people with HIV that the epidemic stop with them; that’s why the work is referred to as ‘Prevention With Positives.’”

Published in the Journal of Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndromes, the paper is the result of a five-year study of approximately 2,000 HIV-infected South Africans at 16 HIV care sites in KwaZulu Natal, South Africa. It was funded by the U.S. National Institutes of Health.

“Our HIV prevention intervention was designed to be low cost and sustainable in resource-constrained countries and was implemented by existing lay counsellors already on staff at each routine patient care visit,” Fisher said. “Our model was brief, and it was effective in substantially reducing unsafe sexual contacts by HIV-infected individuals with all partners, and specifically with partners who were HIV-negative or HIV-status unknown.”

Fisher has spent the better part of three decades working on the prevention of HIV infection with a variety of groups including university students, inner-city minority youth and HIV-infected persons across the United States. People living with HIV infection are on the front end of an epidemic, he explained, in that all new cases come from those who are already infected. These individuals, regardless of the country in which they live, need a proper support system to ensure they are informed about the disease and its risks, drug benefits, as well as how the infection spreads.

“People in the usual care group also reduced risky behaviour, but the intervention group was vastly stronger and vastly more rapid,” Fisher continued, noting there are now talks of widely implementing intervention methods.

“We saw a dramatic reduction in risky sexual behaviour. People in the usual care group also reduced risky behaviour but the intervention group was vastly stronger and vastly more rapid,” Fisher continued, noting there are now talks of widely implementing intervention methods.

“It’s a standard of care intervention that never ends.”
Western looks to the STARS and strikes Gold

BY LIZ MCGINLEY

WESTERN SHOT FOR the STARS and landed on gold. The Sustainability Tracking Assessment and Rating System (STARS) recently awarded Western a Gold rating for its sustainability on campus. The university is one of three in Canada with a Gold rating under STARS 2.0, the most recent version of the system. Simon Fraser and Victoria join Western on the podium with the rating.

The achievement is a welcome improvement from Western's Silver ranking in 2011. “I’m very happy, actually. It was a goal of mine for Western to achieve STARS gold,” said Beverley Ayeni, Facilities Management energy and environment manager. “I knew we could definitely get to Silver, but becoming a Gold rated institution was a welcomed accomplishment and a testament to the great sustainability work being done on campus.”

In 2011, Western scored 52 per cent of the required credits in the rating system, earning Silver. Every three years, organizations can submit a report to STARS. Western’s 2014 submission received 67 per cent of credits, narrowly entering into a Gold rating, which called for 65 per cent. Ayeni said the university’s 15-point improvement comes from collaboration by faculties and units from across campus, as well as getting more students involved.

She cited the Green Campus Series, a green education program that provides students with knowledge and experience using the campus as a living case study. Four modules offer students a unique exposure to the university’s environmental sustainability initiatives. Students attain practical knowledge on topics including green buildings, energy and water efficiency, habitat protection, and responsible landscape management practices through a presentation and corresponding campus tour.

With more collaboration and understanding of STARS, keeping a sustainable environment on campus has become a university-wide initiative. Western scored perfect in the proportion of faculty involved in sustainability research.

One of Western’s sustainability goals is to decrease its main campus direct greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions based on its 2009 levels. In its 2011 STARS submission, Western’s GHG levels had not decreased in the previous five years, but instead had increased by 13 per cent. In its most recent STARS submission, Western has greatly improved, reducing its emissions by almost 12 per cent despite significant infrastructure growth on campus, earning more credits with STARS.

A Gold rating may seem like Western can’t aim any higher, but even at the top, there is still more room for improvement. Ayeni cited sustainable investments and integrating sustainability into the curriculum as potential areas of improvement.

In fact, the credits a campus can earn go all the way into the classroom. Only 6 per cent of courses offered by the school involve sustainability, which may seem like a bit, but for full credits with STARS, 20 per cent of courses must focus on or relate to sustainability.

“There are quite a few different credits you can achieve, and there are some we may never achieve just based on different things and different priorities for the university. But we could definitely keep improving year over year for sure. That’s kind of our plan over the next three years – to take it to the next level,” Ayeni said.
Perseverance pushes student to new heights

Pauline Turgeon, a second-year Arts & Humanities student, has been selected to take part in Western’s Alternative Spring Break trip to Jangas, Peru in February 2015. Her journey to that point is one of perseverance and self-discovery.

By Pauline Turgeon

Two years ago, Pauline Turgeon was in a dark place. Struggling with mental health issues, suicide had come to mind. “I didn’t see a way out,” said the 35-year-old mother of four.

She sought help in the London community and, slowly, began to see light. “I reached out to so many people, every available resource. I became my own project,” Turgeon said. “Over the course of a few months, I started to realize I needed to strip away everything I thought I knew about being a human being in this world. I have been building myself up piece by piece. It’s like peeling back an onion. I’ve excavated myself completely.”

One morning, Turgeon woke up with one thought: She wanted to go to Western.

“The decision to go to university was driven by an inextinguishable desire for self-betterment and personal growth,” said Turgeon, now a second-year Arts & Humanities student. “I’ve always been good in school and writing has always been my thing. It has been life-changing and, looking back, I recognize today I wouldn’t have been ready for it earlier, to cope with the stress.”

Her time at Western has been “mind blowing” – interacting with students and faculty, taking notes, preparing for exams and, yes, writing essays once again.

“The first essay I wrote I struggled so much sitting in the coffee shop crying, thinking I can’t do this,” she said. “But I just surrendered it, and when I got it back, the first essay I had written in 17 years, I got a 90 per cent. For me, that just laid the foundation – I can do this. I’m absolutely at the right place at this point of my life.”

“The decision to go to university was driven by an inextinguishable desire for self-betterment and personal growth.”

-Pauline Turgeon

Turgeon will, in fact, be doing ‘something else’ next February, as she joins a group of students heading to Peru for Western’s Alternative Spring Break. Having received her first passport in May, she thought this volunteer experience would be a chance to have an impact on the lives of others.

Turgeon was one of three students to receive an RBC Foundation financial award of $1,000 toward offsetting costs of the $2,800 trip. But, like many, Turgeon didn’t have the remaining $1,800 sitting around.

“I’m very open on Facebook about my struggles, and emails began coming back saying, ‘There was a reason you were chosen’ and that I should start a fundraiser,” she said.

She created a funding website. If she didn’t reach her goal, any money raised would be donated to London Mission Services. In just four days, she was at $1,400. She passed the goal soon afterward.

Almost half of the money donated was from anonymous donors and people Turgeon didn’t know.

“It’s taken a lot for me to comprehend this,” she said. “I need to internalize this because, where I’ve come from, it is really hard for me to understand. I’m still wrapping my head around it, this sort of generosity. How do I say thank you?”

With plans to cross the stage at Alumni Hall in 2017 as well as plans for graduate school in Montreal already on the horizon – Turgeon said there will always be daily challenges she will have to face. But she has made a lifelong commitment to recovery and will take every opportunity she can to inspire others to do the same.

“I can handle those fears now, where before I couldn’t have coped with that. It is nice to say, ‘I’m a student.’ But, at the end of the day, I still have kids, I’m a mom and in hardcore recovery. Being a student is not my only job and worry, but I can now cope with it so much better.”
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Lauren Elizabeth Hollis, Biology, Effect of Photoperiod on Redox Regulation of Phenotypic Plasticity and Cellular Growth in Chlorella vulgaris. 9:30 a.m. Dec. 10. BGS 1056.


M. Anne Young, English, Fatal Attraction: The Fetished Image of the Fatal Woman as Gothic Double. Dec. 10. TBA.

Mehrnaz Salarian, Biomedical Engineering, A New Generation of Polymer/Ceramic Composite Biomaterials for Bone Regeneration. 9 a.m. Dec. 10. RRI, Fisher Room.

We are now accepting letters to the editor. Limit is 250 words maximum, and accepted only from members of the Western community – faculty, staff, students and alumni. Writers may only submit once a semester. As an academic institution, Western News encourages lively debate, but reserves the right to edit, ask for rewrite or reject any submission, and will outright reject those based on personal attacks or covering subjects too removed from the university community.

For more information, please visit the web at studentservices.uwo.ca and follow us on Twitter @Western_WSS.

For Rent

Elegant furnished downtown apartment, adult building, overlooking Harris Park. 2 bed, 2 bath. A/C, parking, suitable for faculty or staff. Available now. Email skidmore@uwo.ca.

One bedroom Tuscan cottage on country estate. 15 minutes from Western. Ideal for professional or grad student. Sunroom, marble fireplace and five-piece bathroom. Located on horse farm. No bus route. Non-smokers only. 519-666-1531.

Miscellaneous

Christmas Bazaar Saturday, Dec. 6. St. Luke’s Church (Broughdale), just north of the University Gates, will be holding their annual Christmas Bazaar and Silent Auction from 12:30 p.m. Bake table, treasures, jewellery, books, silent auction. Tea Room and chilli lunch will be available for a small fee. Admission free. Wheelchair accessible.

Furniture for Sale

IKEA furniture for a one bedroom apartment, available for pickup from North London location. 3 seater couch, 2 arm chairs (dark green cushions), dining table and 4 chairs, 5 piece bedroom suite and coffee table. $750 or best offer. Call 519-438-1463 to view.

French Language Bursary Program in Quebec

Are you looking for a spring or summer program to learn French and earn a Western credit? Do you want to discover another region of Canada and meet new people? Go Explore at Western’s Tros-Pistes French Language Summer School! Application deadline is Feb. 28 at werc.uwo.ca.

For Classifieds, call 519-661-2045 or email advertise@uwo.ca. Rates: Faculty, staff and students – $15, others and services/commercial ads – $20. Beyond 35 words, add 50 cents per word. Payment must accompany ads. Submit by 9 a.m. Thursday to Western News, Suite 360, Western Hall. No refunds. Visit Classifieds Online at communications.uwo.ca/com/classifieds_menu.

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Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry - Department of Ophthalmology General Ophthalmologist with interest in Paediatric Ophthalmology Invites applications for a full-time clinical academic position in General Ophthalmology with an interest in Paediatric Ophthalmology. Applications will be accepted until the position is filled. Review of applications will begin after Jan. 1.

Western’s Employment Resource Centre (WERC)

Need resumes, cover letter or CV help? Get into WERC and talk to a career lead-er today. WERC’s in-person, drop-in ser-vice is available in The Student Success Centre, UCC 210. It is open every day when classes are held, current schedule is 10 a.m.–4 p.m. Monday-Thursday, 10 a.m.–2 p.m. Friday.

Undergraduate Course Registration Dates

Dec. 4-5: Study Days
Dec. 6-17: Mid-year examination period
Dec. 18: First term ends for all faculties except Dentistry, Education, Law and Medicine
Jan. 5: Classes resume
Jan. 9: Last day to add a second-term first quarter (15) course (Kinesiology)

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Full-Time Academic Appointments

Furnished dollhouse, original owner, well maintained. Asking $2,500 obo. 519-642-1996 or email hrka@uwo.ca.

WERC’s in-person, drop-in services/commercial ads – $20. Beyond 35 words, add 50 cents per word. Payment must accompany ads. Submit by 9 a.m. Thursday to Western News, Suite 360, Western Hall. No refunds. Visit Classifieds Online at communications.uwo.ca/com/classifieds_menu.

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In Memoriam - Richard Stingle, 1925-2014

BY DONALD HAIR
Professor emeritus
Department of English

Richard Macmillan Stingle, a former Western English professor and academic, passed away on Nov. 22 at University Hospital in London. He was 88.

Dick was the very model of the teacher-scholar – in the undergraduate classroom and graduate seminars, in private conversations and public talks, in essays, reviews and monograph. Moreover, his principled and courageous stand during the Crowe Case at United College (Winnipeg) in 1958-59 was a significant part of the development of the defence of academic freedom and culture in Canada.

Dick was born into a family of miners in Timmins, Ont., on Nov. 26, 1925. He entered the honours program at Victoria College (Toronto) in September 1944, part of the class described by Canadian literary critic and theorist Northrop Frye as the most brilliant he ever taught. He earned his MA from Toronto in 1950, with a thesis on W. B. Yeats. At that time, he was enrolled in the PhD program at the University of Wisconsin, where he remained for three years, accepting his first major teaching position at United College.

On April 16, 1956, St. John’s College principal W. C. Lockhart called W. A. Packer, associate professor of German, to his office and showed him a letter addressed to Packer and signed “Harry” – Harry Crave, that is, associate professor of history. Packer had never seen the letter, and asked how it had come into the possession of the principal. Lockhart eventually told him the letter had appeared in a blue envelope with an unsigned note:

“Found in College Hall. We think you should read it. Some staff loyalty.”

Dick was the beginning of the Crowe Case, in which the central issue was the principal’s use of a private letter to attempt to discourage a collective action by the students to dismiss the author of the letter. Dick was a member of the faculty assembly, executive, and his role in subsequent events has been well documented. At the inquiry into the affair, Dick was praised for relying only on what he knew, when hearsay and rumour had obscured both issues and facts. He, Stewart Reid and Ken McNaught were the first three faculty members to resign in protest against the principal’s actions. Students did, as well, and eventually most of the third- and fourth-year honours students transferred to the Fort Garry campus. Among them was Bruce Luncziger, Dick’s student and friend, and later long-time colleague at Western. Fifty years later, the Canadian Association of University Teachers honored the remaining participants in the affair, and Dick, looking back on that time, reflected on what had most last part of the experience.

“The working together of those of us involved at the local level of the CAUT in Winnipeg created a community that drew on very different personalities, talents and experiences. For me, that earlier community turned out to be the origin of a very similar experience in team teaching.”

That was in the Department of English at Western, where Dick came in 1962, after one year stints at the University of Saskatchewan and Laurentian University. He was to stay at Western for the next 30 years.

His areas of specialization were Victorian literature, 17th-century English literature and Canadian literature. He taught everything from first-year surveys to graduate courses in Dickens, Shakespeare, the Pre-Raphaelites, Mary Carlyle and the Victorian novel, but it was his experience of team teaching that had the greatest impact on him and others. The chief innovations were the presence of the whole team in every hour and the interaction of team members in dialogue, discussion and symposia instead of the usual lecture by one person.

Dick was an outstanding teacher, whether with a team or on his own, and in 1986 the university gave him its award for excellence in teaching. The honour depended, to a large extent, on the testimony of students and colleagues, and their letters document their experience of his classroom. “Intense,” “challenging” and “intellectually stimulating” were adjectives that turned up again and again.

As a teacher, Dick was constantly moving in two directions – centre-peripherally, into and out of, stories, images, and patterns at the centre of all literature, and centrifugally, into other disciplines and into cultural and social patterns. Though students saw Dick as demanding, they also saw him as far, kind and open-minded, himself an example of the high expectations he had for them. His classroom was never just one more room in the Graduate Scholarship started in the 2004-05 school year to commemorate the memory of Dr. Carol Buck.
Costumed affair kicks off campaign

ADELA TALBOT // WESTERN NEWS

London West MP Ed Holder, centre, joined a team of London mascots at London Hall last week, including Rory the Dragon of Storybook Gardens, left, and Western University’s JW, in a grocery shopping spree event to kick off the 2014 Business Cares Food Drive. Heading into its 15th campaign, Business Cares hopes to surpass last year’s total of 281,000 pounds of food by at least one pound. The three-week campaign has been able to increase its donations to the London and Area Food Bank each year.