On the move

New email system answers students’ calls for alternative

BY JASON WINDERS

CHECK YOUR INBOX soon, Western students, as the university plans to press send on a new email system for you in the coming months.

Starting this fall, Western will begin the process of moving undergraduate students to Microsoft Office 365, a web-based collection of programs, including email and calendaring services. Currently, Western’s email system is managed ‘in house’ by Information Technology Services (ITS).

The new system will address numerous common complaints from the student community about the current Western-supported system, said Jeff Grieve, ITS executive director.

“Students have told us our current email platform is just not meeting their academic needs. We’ve clearly heard the message – loud and clear,” he said. “We are actively taking steps to improve their experience.”

Chief among those complaints are capacity and portability.

To address those, Office 365 increases individual mailbox storage from 50 MB to 50 GB, and integrates far more seamlessly with mobile devices than the previous service. In addition, the suite offers free access to Microsoft’s Student Advantage Program, which includes access to MS Office Pro applications – Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Outlook, OneNote and Lync – on up to five different personal devices.

Some restrictions apply for students at affiliated colleges, although officials in the trio of schools are working to make the opportunity uniform for all undergrads.

Before landing on Office 365, ITS evaluated a number of systems during the process, weighing email and calendar functionality, as well as the potential for the new system’s integration with other systems on campus. The Student Advantage Program, for instance, was made possible by an existing Microsoft campus license agreement implemented earlier this year between the company and university.

“We looked at several email solutions in the marketplace, as well reviewed what our peer universities across Canada are doing with email,” Grieve continued. “We feel Office 365 is a great fit for Western. There is a lot to be excited about.”

Beyond Calgary, Queen’s and other Canadian universities, as well as institutions in the QS World University Rankings Top Five – Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), Cambridge, Imperial College of London, Harvard and Oxford – have all adopted the system as well.

In November, ITS will recruit student volunteers to participate as members of a pilot group. In January, those volunteers will migrate to Office 365 and offer feedback to ensure a seamless migration for all students.

In February or March, all undergraduate students will migrate to the new system.

“We are very excited to able to offer our students a state-of-the-art email platform along with greater access to common productivity tools they can use everyday,” Grieve said.

FIND OUT MORE
Visit the Office 365 site, MyOfficeInfo.uwo.ca, for more information.
23 // THURSDAY

AUTUMN CONVOCATION
10 a.m. & 3 p.m. Alumni Hall.

21ST ANNUAL MURRAY BARR LECTURE
Department of Anatomy and Cell Biology, Richard Caprioli, Stanford Medical Chair in Biochemistry, Biochemistry, Chemistry, Pharmacology & Medicine and director of the Mass Spectrometry Research Center, Vanderbilt University School of Medicine. Imaging Mass Spectrometry: Molecular Microscopy for Discovery in Biological and Clinical Research. 3-4 p.m. UCC 37.

DON WRIGHT FACULTY OF MUSIC
Excavations of Vindolanda
The Vindolanda Team, Western, Elizabeth Greene, Alex Meyer and Ursula Blackman. 10 a.m.-5 p.m. von Kuster Hall.

LEARNING SKILLS SERVICES
Online Research Skills. 4 p.m. B&GS 0165.

PHYSICS & ASTRONOMY COLLOQUIUM
Robert E. Canley, University of Colorado. Secret Lives of Dead Physicists. 11:30 a.m. WSSB 3134.

CHEMISTRY – FRED PATTISON VISCITING SPEAKER IN CHEMISTRY
Philip P. Power, University of California, Davis. Low–Coordination Numbers, Unusual Bonding and Dispersion Force Effects. 4-5 p.m. UCC 3250.

24 // FRIDAY

AUTUMN CONVOCATION
10 a.m. and 3 p.m. Alumni Hall.

DON WRIGHT FACULTY OF MUSIC
Jane Leibel, soprano; Verner Regehr, cello; Maureen Volk, piano. Come hear Memorial University, Newfoundland, faculty trio perform a special concert. 12:30 p.m. von Kuster Hall.

26 // SUNDAY

DON WRIGHT FACULTY OF MUSIC
Violin masterclass with Vasile Beluska. 2 p.m. von Kuster Hall.

DON WRIGHT FACULTY OF MUSIC
Guest/faculty recital with Sherry Kloss on selected transcriptions by Heifetz. 6 p.m. von Kuster Hall.

CHEMISTRY – FRED PATTISON SENIOR LECTURER
Stephen K. Hadimi, Heidelberg University. Pathways of Gold Catalysis. 4 p.m. 3M 3250.

27 // MONDAY

2014 GAIRDNER LECTURE
Sir Ravinder Nath Maini, University of Oxford. Lessons Learned from the Discovery of Anti-TNF Therapy. 10-11:30 a.m. UH, Auditorium A, 3rd Floor.

LEARNING SKILLS SERVICES
Online Research Skills. 11:30-12:30 a.m. WSSB 3134.

CHEMISTRY – FRED PATTISON SENIOR LECTURER
Stephen K. Hadimi, Heidelberg University. Pathways of Gold Catalysis. 4 p.m. 3M 3250.

28 // TUESDAY

EVIDENCE-BASED MANAGEMENT OF TREATMENT FOR ANTI-TNF THERAPIES
Sir Ravinder Nath Maini, University of Oxford. Lessons Learned from the Discovery of Anti-TNF Therapy. 10-11:30 a.m. UH, Auditorium A, 3rd Floor.

PHYSICS & ASTRONOMY COLLOQUIUM
Robert E. Canley, University of Colorado. Secret Lives of Dead Physicists. 11:30 a.m. WSSB 3134.

CHEMISTRY – FRED PATTISON VISCITING SPEAKER IN CHEMISTRY
Philip P. Power, University of California, Davis. Low–Coordination Numbers, Unusual Bonding and Dispersion Force Effects. 4-5 p.m. UCC 3250.

29 // WEDNESDAY

COMPARATIVE LITERATURE RESEARCH FORUM
Reza Adrash Talooki, Diaspora – Home – India – Iran. 11:30 a.m. UC 207.

TOASTMASTER’S CAMPUS COMMUNICATORS
Build your confidence in public speaking. 9119.toastmastersclubs.org/. Contact Donna Moore, dmoore@uwo.ca or 85159.

THE CHINESE PROGRAM AT HURON UNIVERSITY COLLEGE
Lunch and Conversation. Anyone wishing to speak Chinese or meet people who study Chinese at Huron is welcome. Bring your own lunch and join the conversation. hwu1@huron.uwo.ca. 12:30-1:30 p.m. Huron A18.

29 // THURSDAY

AUTUMN CONVOCATION
10 a.m. & 3 p.m. Alumni Hall.

ENGINEERS WITHOUT BORDERS PUMPKIN DROP
Annual Pumpkin Drop fundraiser. They will be dropping a 1,000-pound pumpkin from a 200-foot crane over UC Hill. Hot chocolate, fair trade chocolate and other fun activities. 12:30 p.m.

LUNCH AND CONVERSATION. ANYONE WISHING TO SPEAK CHINESE OR MEET PEOPLE WHO STUDY CHINESE AT HURON IS WELCOME. BRING YOUR OWN LUNCH AND JOIN THE CONVERSATION. hwu1@huron.uwo.ca. 12:30-1:30 p.m. Huron A18.

VISITING SPEAKER IN CHEMISTRY
Philip P. Power, University of California, Davis. Low–Coordination Numbers, Unusual Bonding and Dispersion Force Effects. 4-5 p.m. UCC 3250.

GERMAN FILM SERIES
Das Versprechen (The Promise). Directed by Margarethe von Trotta, 1995. 6:30 p.m. UC 207.

Please send submissions to comingevents@uwo.ca.

Have an event? Let us know.

E-mail: comingevents@uwo.ca
Events

BY ADELA TALBOT

THE TAPESTRY OF: London’s loosely knit creative communities is about to get tighter, thanks to Words, a new literary and creative arts festival.

Set to take place this weekend in the Forest City, the festival aims to use the written and spoken word as a hub for creativity in the region, said Joshua Lambier, a PhD candidate in the Department of English and Writing Studies and founding director of the Public Humanities at Western.

His enthusiasm for Words is palpable – and its timing couldn’t be better. “The idea was to try and create the first inaugural literary festival to acknowledge the fact we’ve had a lot of Londoners who have been from London, or come from elsewhere to here, who are incredibly talented writers. We don’t have one particular staging ground to bring that creativity to the world, and bring creativity to London,” said Lambier, who sits on the festival’s organizing committee.

Words is comprised of multidisciplinary events and programs including poetry, fiction and nonfiction, children’s literature, new media, spoken word performance, graphic novels, storytelling and much more, taking place Friday-Sunday.

The speaker lineup includes Giller Prize-winning author Vincent Lam, double Governor General’s Award winner Guy Vanderhaeghe, Western alumnus and former Lt. Gov. James Bartleman, cartoonist and journalist Joe Sacco, London’s Joan Barfoot and more.

While attempts to organize such an event in London in the past bore no fruit, this was “a strike-while-the-iron-is-hot opportunity,” Lambier explained, as the city and Museum London approached Western this past winter with the idea of a literary festival. “Necessity is the mother of invention – sometimes,” he said. Interest in the city, coupled with the timing of Western alumna Alice Munro’s Nobel Prize for Literature last year, made the current cultural landscape in the community especially fertile for an event such as Words, he continued.

“Creative Cities was the city’s last cultural plan – (creativity) is in the discourse of city politics and arts and culture in the city. London has an existing vibrant festival scene, with Fringe, Nuit Blanche, Home County Festival and Sunfest. But they run in spring and summer, and there’s not much in the fall. Fall is important as well, as is winter, because that’s when the students are here,” Lambier said.

“We can take advantage of the fact students are very creative and are doing creative things.” And that’s Part Two of the mission attached to Words – forging a connection between creativity on campus and creativity in the city that surrounds it.

“The other great idea of the festival was to create that campus-to-community interaction that is now part of the Strategic Plan, as community engagement. We are still finding better ways to link the university to the city, and a festival is such a friendly way to do it. It showcases the arts and humanities at a time when we are looked at as ‘in crisis.’ And rather than telling about the humanities, it shows the humanities,” he said.

“Probably the best way you can have a public staging ground between the university and the city is over ideas, creativity and cultural diversity.”

Lambier hopes to see the festival forge a convergent space for creative activities in London. Things like Poetry London, London Poetry Slam, creative writing groups, public library groups, the East Village Arts Council, among others, all have distinct identities in the city. Words can bring all these, and more, together.

“With the university climate of the arts and humanities being something that is, nationally and internationally, an embattled ground, I think it’s really important to find opportunities to take what we do to the public, to communities that aren’t traditionally served by academic audiences,” Lambier said.

“Monographs and research articles are very important to academic life and always will be. But there needs to be a turn, a civic turn, toward community engagement for our disciplines to remain vital. This festival is a pilot project to see what we can do with that,” he continued.

“For it to be successful, the university community has to come on board. That means students coming down, faculty coming down to see what’s happening, and looking at the festival for what it has for this year, but also seeing within it the potential for future years.” 📚

THE WRITE STUFF
Visit wordsfest.ca for festival information and a full listing of events.
Editor’s Letter

Research-based fact being drowned out by panic and politics

JASON WINDERS
Western News Editor

Let’s talk about futility. A seed of an idea, a nugget of suspected truth, in a researcher’s mind somehow manages to navigate the narrow birth canal of funding agencies, university priorities and general bureaucracies, only to necessitate hundreds upon hundreds of hours of lab work, clinical testing, peer review and public dissemination, all with no promise of success, to become an accepted truth in the world.

Next, take that truth — a miraculous birth by most sane standards — and watch it discredit in the public’s mind by a 30-second sound bite from whatever talking head was available for that particular panel show on that evening.

Welcome to the GreatEbola Panic of 2014. Here’s what I have learned so far.

1. The world will not end in a survival-of-the-fittest Walking Dead-type landscape, where the remaining few are hardened survivors hell-bent on returning the world to its previous state.

Instead, the world will end in more of a season finale of Big Brother type of situation where the most ignorant among us are left standing alone with Ed Hardy T-shirts and puka shell necklaces replacing rational thought; and

2. Research findings only matter if the audience receiving the information hasn’t settled on its own facts through whatever means they can create them.

Little has been more disheartening in recent weeks than the North American hyper-reaction to anEbola crisis half a world away. Here’s just a taste of what the supposed ‘modern’ society in this crisis has been up to.

In Texas, a community college denied admission to two Nigerian students because, this is the university-speak, they are “not accepting international students from countries with confirmedEbola cases.”

In Georgia, the University of Georgia cancelled an appearance by award-winning Libyan journalist Wadie C. L. Williams at the school’s premiere journalism lecture after election night.

Here’s just a taste of what the supposed ‘modern’ society in this crisis has been up to.

Perhaps it’s the pessimist in me, but I cannot help but shake my head slowly when I hear about the important role research plays in the world, then watch the public completely disregard those findings in favour of personal superstitions and politics.

Remember when ignorance was fun — fuel for low-brow sitcoms and newspaper comic strips? Now, it is dangerous. Remember when being called a “liar” was a compliment? Now, it’s a moniker attached to a political opponent who you want to discredit as disconnected or locked away in an ivory tower.

Research, and the body of knowledge it contributes to, are the backbone of a sane and civil society. However, the message is getting lost in a sea of politics and panic — fueling one another in a seemingly endless feedback loop.

Now, more than ever, we need to cut through the fog of misinformation and fight willful ignorance and outright lies with what we know as truth. I just hope someone is listening over the noise.

PHOTOS PROVIDED BY THE JOHN P. METRAS MUSEUM

WESFERN’S FIRST-KNOWN women’s athletic match was an basketball game played against the London Collegiate Institute in December 1902. When the basketball craze swept across Canada following the First World War, Western women were ready and willing to play. The team of seven, coached by G. Mel Brock, competed in the YMCA-organized women’s intervarsity league, winning all five games in their group, but unfortunately losing in the final of the 1920-21 season.

In 1928, Western women’s basketball joined Queen’s University, the University of Toronto and McGill University in the Women’s Intercollegiate Athletic Union. The team participated in its first championship conference that year, and walked away with the Bronze Baby trophy. Western went on to win the trophy a total of 15 times and three OUA championships from 1971-74. Pictured is the 1935-36 Senior Women’s Basketball championship team.

Visit John P. Metras Museum on Instagram and Twitter for more photos.

Mustang Memories

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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.

COMMENTARY POLICY

- Western News applies a commentary label to any article written in an author’s voice expressing an opinion.
- Western News accepts opinion pieces on current events that showcase research or academic expertise of the author.
- Western News accepts letters to the editor. Limit is 200 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.
- Western News will offer rebuttal space on any topic, and may actively pursue a counterpoint to arguments the editor feels would benefit from a dissenting opinion published simultaneously.

- All submissions become property of Western News for print and online use in perpetuity.

*A Our objective is to report events as objectively as possible, without bias or editorial comment. We hope you will read it and contribute to it.*

— L.T. Moore, University Relations and Information director, Nov. 16, 1972
**SURVEY OF GRADUATING STUDENTS**

*IF STUDENTS ARE THE BEST AMBASSADORS FOR A POSTSECONDARY INSTITUTION, THEN WESTERN’S 2013-14 GRADUATING CLASS HAVE CONTINUED THAT TRADITION. ACCORDING TO THE RECENTLY RELEASED REPORT ON THE SURVEY OF GRADUATING STUDENTS: 2013-14, 91.6 PER CENT OF RECENT GRADUATES WOULD RECOMMEND WESTERN TO A FRIEND. THAT NUMBER REMAINED CONSISTENT WITH LAST YEAR’S MARK OF 92.4.

THE SURVEY, WITH FINDINGS POSTED PUBLICLY THIS WEEK, WAS DISTRIBUTED TO 5,840 UNDERGRADUATE, CERTIFICATE AND DIPLOMA STUDENTS WHO WERE EXPECTED TO GRADUATE AT THE FALL 2013 OR SPRING 2014 CONVOCATIONS. OF THESE, AN AMAZING 2,420 QUESTIONNAIRES (41.4 PER CENT) WERE RETURNED. THE SURVEY WAS A 12-ITEM QUESTIONNAIRE IN WHICH GRADUATES RATED THEIR SATISFACTION WITH VARIOUS ASPECTS OF THE UNIVERSITY.

FOLLOWING YEARS OF DECLINING RESPONSE RATES, THE SURVEY WAS STREAMLINED LAST YEAR. QUESTIONS REGARDING LIVING ARRANGEMENTS, EMPLOYMENT, REASONS FOR PURSUING A POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION AND SATISFACTION WITH PHYSICAL FACILITIES WERE REMOVED TO FOCUS MAINLY ON ACADEMIC QUESTIONS.


READ THE FULL REPORT AT THE OFFICE OF INSTITUTIONAL PLANNING AND BUDGETING WEBSITE, WWW.IPB.UWO.CA/OPERATING.PHP. CLICK ON ‘SURVEY OF GRADUATING STUDENTS’ IN THE LOWER RIGHT MENU.

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JOHN EBERHARD NEVER wanted to leave. Even though Western once let him go. He grew up on Western’s campus, playing on the grounds as a boy. Although the son of a University of Toronto graduate, Eberhard, BA’66, LLB’69, said his father never pushed him to the institution to the east. Western, it seems, was always meant to be his home.

He arrived as an eager undergraduate, fell in love and never wanted to leave. “I had been involved in both sports and fraternity life as an undergraduate – I was a cheerleader. So, I was involved in campus life and I really wanted to stay in school,” he said. “I had absolutely no idea what Law school was about, but it was the only faculty available to me given my undergradate degree.”

“And it was a way to stay” Today, Eberhard leads the Alumni Association as its latest president. His goals for the position are fueled, in part, by his personal journey as a student and experiences as an alumnus to create a stronger connection between the university and its alumni.

Since 1971, Eberhard has worked as a barrister and solicitor for The Law Society of Upper Canada, as well as the owner of Eberhard Management Ltd. In the last decade, he has overseen adjudications as a member of the Canada Pension Review Board and Social Security Tribunal. He has maintained a longstanding commitment to his fraternity, and to Rotary International through its local branch.

But an intimate connection with his university escaped him until, relatively recently. “When I graduated, we were not given the kind of information, the kind of opportunity to stay involved that students have today. Things like Email for Life, alumni cards, connections with the commercial side of the university, local branch programming around the world – those opportunities we have today didn’t exist then.”

- John Eberhard

“When I graduated, we were not given the kind of information, the kind of opportunity to stay involved that students have today,” Eberhard said. “Things like Email for Life, alumni cards, connections with the commercial side of the university, local branch programming around the world – those opportunities we have today didn’t exist then.”

Created in 1949, the Alumni Association serves more than a quarter million alumni living in nearly 150 countries around the world. The non-profit organization is led by its local branch, the Alumni Association Board. He joined the board, and what followed was an enjoyable – if not personally eventful – six-year stint on the board. He attended board meetings regularly, but was never asked to sit on a committee. He longed for a deeper connection, even then.

“People should want to be involved so much that there is competition,” he said. “If there are 20 people running for six seats, we’ll do what the USC (University Students’ Council) does and have an election. It won’t be the same kind of election, but, at least, it would indicate there is a lively interest to participate and contribute back to the university.”

Once on the board, Eberhard wants to communicate the expectations for members clearly from the start.

“I want people to come in with their eyes open, to understand you are expected to spend X number of hours or days or weekends participating in activities for this committee,” he said. “I want there to be a clear understanding of what we need them to do.”

As part of that, he hopes to better define – or even redefine – the work of the association’s standing committees, and help inform the group’s still-forming strategic plan.

In the end, a successful term means a successful university, Eberhard concluded.
LEST WE FORGET
NOV. 12 / 7:30pm / St. Paul’s Cathedral
One hundred years after the start of the First World War, we look back through history via music to remember those who have fallen to ensure our freedom.

THEMES OF REMEMBRANCE
NOV. 16 / 2:30pm / Centennial Hall
Commemorate the centenary of World War One with works from popular war movies and other themes of remembrance.

As Alumni Association president, John Eberhard, BA’66, LLB’69, hopes to harness his personal journey as a student, and experiences as an alumnus, to create a stronger connection between the university and its alumni.
Western lecturer explores life in perpetual motion

BY ADELA TALBOT

WHAT'S MISSING FROM Meredith Levine's new multimedia project on chronic vertigo is her own story.

The project, comprised of three text and five video stories, alongside photos and audio clips, published on cbcnews.ca earlier this month, was funded by the Canadian Institutes of Health Research and supported by Levine's home faculty – the Faculty of Information and Media Studies (FIMS).

It took more than two years of research, interviews, writing and production to complete – while Levine, a Western Journalism lecturer and former CBC producer, was teaching full-time.

The project sheds light on chronic vertigo, an ailment affecting an estimated 1.5 million Canadians. It provides a sympathetic and extensively informative outlet for the physical, emotional and psychological struggles of its subjects. Yet, Levine's story, though similar to theirs in many respects, is absent.

"I really feel like one of the lucky ones in that I was able to reclaim my life pretty well," Levine said of her initial hesitation. "I didn't want to go back there – it is a really challenging time when you're living with this and I wanted the distance."

It took Levine the better part of three years to even consider working on the project. She needed space to recover and digest her own experience.

In 2007, what doctors diagnosed as a bad sinus infection struck Levine while she was working on her master's thesis. She had just started working at Western. Once her fever broke, she was left with vertigo – the infection had spread from her sinus to her inner ear, she was told.

She took medication, sought out inner ear specialists in Toronto, even tried vestibular physiotherapy. Nothing worked. The vertigo was proving itself a permanent accessory in her daily life.

"I had bed spins, curtain-type spinning all the time. I was nauseous. As the symptoms set in, they got worse – more intense dizziness, ringing in the ear, loss of balance, blurred vision, incredible sensitivity to noise and light, furious headaches, mental fog," Levine explained.

The experience was incessant. After a year of dealing with the symptoms, her doctor told her, 'This might be the normal for you.'

Levine couldn't work. Watching TV, reading, going in the car, any sensation of movement made the day-to-day impossible. Facing vertigo as a life sentence, she was devastated.

"People in my life encouraged me to find activities I really enjoyed and could continue with, even though I was feeling really sick and dizzy," Levine said.

She tried to train her brain to watch TV, to read, a little bit at a time. She credits a 'pleasure principle' for helping her find a way out.

"I tried reading magazines, but it wasn't enough. But really good fiction, where you wanted to know what happened next, worked. I'd read, get sick and dizzy and I knew when I put down the book, there would be hell to pay. Going out into nature, even for a 15-minute drive to the park – slowly those kinds of activities got better," Levine continued.

Her symptoms subsided and, slowly, Levine regained her life. But not everyone who suffers from chronic vertigo is as fortunate. That's why she put the time and effort into the CBC project.

"I don't know what separates my story from Lisa's (one of the interviewees) story," Levine said. "I was just lucky."

"My friends and family sacrificed a lot for me," she continued as her voice quieted.

"My deans were amazing. Tom Carmichael and Nick Dyer-Witheford. I was pretty new to the faculty when I got sick, and they had just stepped into the job. They stayed with me and worked with me and allowed incredibly supportive accommodation," Levine said.

"I started five hours a week from home and worked up. It was over a long period. And they handled that with incredible sensitivity. I am forever grateful for that because I know for other people in my situation, they didn't have employers who really were on their side in the way those two were for me."

As for the project, Levine sees it as having the potential to open the channel between the academy and the public, facilitating knowledge transfer on an issue of consequence.

"I think we can make a huge impact in terms of examining issues that are consequential, and translating them into narrative to fill the gap that is getting wider and wider in the media landscape, which sees its primary duty not as profit, but to inform the public of issues that are consequential."

Meredith Levine, a Western Journalism lecturer and former CBC producer, has published a multimedia project covering chronic vertigo on cbcnews.ca. Levine, who suffered from vertigo, sees the project as a bridge between the academy and the public, facilitating knowledge transfer on an issue of consequence.
Study explores role of timing, aggression

BY PAUL MAYNE

WESTERN-LED RESEARCH has discovered that timing, in combination with aggression, are possible keys to long-term survival for patients with limited metastatic lung cancer.

“We always have the bias that if you do more treatment earlier it’s what’s best. There have been some high-profile studies recently that have actually shown that not to be the case,” said George Rodrigues, a Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry professor. “I don’t think we should have the single mindset that more is better, but at the same time, we want to improve things for our patients.”

When cancer remains limited to the lung, almost one-fifth of patients survive. However, once it spreads throughout the body, the chances of survival plummet to less than 2 per cent. Previous research into this metastatic lung cancer, however, suggests certain patients may experience a “window of opportunity” if their cancer has not spread to more than five sites beyond the lung. This type of cancer is referred to as “oligometastatic.”

Rodrigues reviewed data from 757 patients with oligometastatic cancer from a dozen centres around the world. Each patient had received aggressive treatment in the lung and all additional metastatic sites.

On average, 30 per cent of patients survived to the five-year mark. However, depending on how aggressive the cancer was, and when it spread beyond the lung, patients fared better or worse. The most positive results showed in patients where the cancer was caught earlier, and did not spread until after the original lung cancer had gone into remission. Nearly half of those patients survived at the five-year mark.

“I wanted to see how well these patients actually do and are there things we can do to predict what’s going to happen,” Rodrigues said. “What we found was the main predictor is when the metastatic disease comes. If you have the initial cancer, and then some time passes before the metastatic disease comes, that’s the best scenario. That tells you, biologically, the cancer is not the same as maybe something that comes right away.”

Survival rates decreased the more the cancer spreads while active in the lung. However, even those patients in the highest-risk group saw a dramatically better prognosis with aggressive treatment. Their five-year survival averaged almost 14 per cent.

This study clearly demonstrates we can identify selected patients with metastatic lung cancer who can have extended survival,” said Rodrigues, a clinical scientist at Lawson Health Research Institute. “What is still unknown is whether this favourable survival is due to aggressive treatment, or due to the underlying nature of the cancer itself.”

This research was featured at an American Society for Radiation Oncology meeting last month in San Francisco. Rodrigues is now part of a group leading an international randomized clinical trial to answer this question. He and his team are proposing a new risk classification scheme to guide physicians in treatment decisions and in the design of future clinical studies. This system will be the first ever proposed for oligometastatic disease for any form of cancer.

A randomized study will see two-thirds of patients getting aggressive therapy treatment, with the remainder getting standard of care. “If we do the study, and the aggressive therapy doesn’t lead to better outcomes, then we know it’s just biology. That helps us to better define how to treat these patients,” Rodrigues said. “If we prove an aggressive stance leads to better survival, and it’s because of the treatment as opposed to biology, that would help to intensify treatment for everybody.”

“Many doctors and patients want that aggressive treatment. We want to be reasonable about this, but we also have to have some evidence. It’s not just quantity of life, which is very important, but if we’re going to give aggressive therapies, with potential quality-of-life disturbances, we need to make sure that’s balanced with a survival benefit. We can give a lot of aggressive therapy, but if it doesn’t translate to survival benefit, we’ve given a lot of aggressive therapy with cost, side effects and trouble for the patient.”

PAUL MAYNE//WESTERN NEWS

Western professor and Lawson Health Research Institute scientist George Rodrigues said timing and aggression are key to long-term survival for patients with limited metastatic lung cancer.
COMMUNITY SERVICE LEARNING in the Hispanic World: Guatemala - History, Culture and People in Context is an interdisciplinary community service learning (CSL) course on – and in – Guatemala taught by Modern Languages and Literatures professor Alena Robin.

The course provides students with an opportunity to learn about Guatemalan society, culture and history, but also about themselves, by serving in an international social and cultural setting. The course deals with issues related to the country’s rich history and culture and offer an in-depth look at a number of contemporary social issues.

In addition to classroom study, the course includes a three- week community-service trip to Guatemala, where students experience first-hand the lives of the people and communities of the city and the capital.

Western News asked two students from that class – Dilani Logan and Madison Price – to reflect on that trip. Here’s what they had to say:

**Stepping outside themselves**

**Class opens eyes – and minds – to Guatemala**

**Dilani Logan**

**WHEN I FIRST learned about Spanish 3500 in October 2013, I had little knowledge of Guatemala outside of what I could see on the map. However, I knew that I wanted to learn more about the country’s rich history, culture and art. This was the first time I had the opportunity to travel to Guatemala and I was excited to see how much I could learn about the country and its people through my experience.

From the moment I arrived in Guatemala City, I was overwhelmed by the sights and sounds. I was surprised by how modern the city was. I did not expect to see many familiar American institutions and cultural symbols. However, in Guatemala City, I experienced a mix of tradition and modernity.

As the class arrived at the city’s main square, I was struck by the beauty of the buildings and the energy of the crowd. I was excited to be accepted and be a part of the team. I loved it.**

**Madison Price**

**GUATEMALA WAS a cultural enlightenment for me. Learning about the country in the classroom only partially prepared me for the impact of the course. My parents were always talking about their first trip to Guatemala and how much they learned about the country and its people. This was my chance to see for myself.**

**JOIN THE TEAM:**

Students are invited to an information session on the course Community Service Learning in the Hispanic World: Guatemala – History, Culture and People in Context at 5 p.m. on March 28 in University College, 205. The session will feature first-hand accounts from experiences and former students about this unique community service learning experience. For more information, please contact Robin A. A. at robinson@drake.edu or Anne-Marie Fischer at austenfh@drake.edu.

**“I discovered no matter how much reading you do, or how many pictures you see, you can never assume you know the full story without experience.”**

**– Dilani Logan**

**“Traditional textbook work or lecture-based classes simply have no comparison to the learning experience I received.”**

**– Madison Price**
‘Beautiful’ work turns the pages of the past

BY MARK KEARNEY
SPECIAL TO WESTERN NEWS

AT FIRST GLANCE, it looks more like something you might rest your feet on rather than read. But at more than 3-inches thick, and a good 20-inches high and 12-inches wide, the Decretalium libri V Gregorii Papae cum ordinaria glossa Berhardt is one of the gems of Western Libraries’ collection.

The book, sandwiched between two pieces of carpet to keep it protected, is carried out to a desk for viewing, and you’re best to wear cotton gloves when you turn its pages to ensure you don’t damage it. But for something that’s more than 530 years old, it’s in great shape.

“The paper is extraordinary. It’s as fresh and white and as strong as the day it was printed,” said John Lutman, who was Western’s special collections librarian before retiring in 2011.

The Decretalium libri is known as an incunable book, one that was printed in the late 15th century only a couple of decades after Johannes Gutenberg developed a printing press that revolutionized how manuscripts were produced.

Western has five such books, all religious works, Lutman said. Books before Gutenberg were handwritten and the incunables are like the “Xerox of today” because printers tried to make their works look like a hand-written manuscript, he said. There were spaces for decorations with occasional capital letters printed in red or blue ink.

“They’re beautiful works of art, and at the same time, they represent such an important development in human communication.”

- John Lutman

They’re beautiful works of art, and at the same time, they represent such an important development in human communication.

- John Lutman
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The Decretalium libri V. Gregorii Papae cum ordinaria glossa Berhardt, one of the gems of Western Libraries’ collection, dates from 1478, and is known as an incunable book, one that was printed in the late 15th century, only a couple of decades after Johannes Gutenberg developed a printing press that revolutionized how manuscripts were produced.
Celebrating a decade of shaping the future

Western Engineering welcomed young women in Grades 7-10 on Saturday to learn more about the world of engineering for Go ENG Girl. This is the 10th anniversary of the event. Participants had the opportunity to learn from female professionals, academics and students, as well as enjoy fun, hands-on activities, such as a hydraulic draw bridge and a mini-candy safe with its own alarm system.

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Artwork deadline: Nov. 24
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Even with access to 200 million pages of content, consuming four terabytes of disk storage, IBM's Watson supercomputer wasn’t able to answer correctly every question during its 2011 Jeopardy appearance. The computer sometimes faltered and flopped – seemingly failing to understand the questions.

Computer Science graduate student Lareina Milambiling’s research explores why that is, and looks to bridge the gap between artificial intelligence and natural language – in the gaming industry.

“It’s a problem of natural language. If I said a sentence that wasn’t grammatically correct, you’d be able to process it – ‘Coffee, now, go.’ A machine would think the sentence order is not proper, and wouldn’t necessarily understand the semantics or context,” Milambiling said.

“IBM’s Watson was a big stepping stone. But ambiguous sentences confused it.”

Milambiling completed a master’s degree in Linguistics in 2013. Among the first cohort of Western’s Continuing Studies Diploma in Computer Science program this year, she received a Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada (NSERC) grant to fund her artificial intelligence work as part of her masters in Computer Science, which she started this fall.

“I was trying to figure out what to do with my (Linguistics) research, because it’s very theoretical – semantics and syntax – and how to draw that out into a job. And computational linguistics is a big thing – it’s why I did the one-year diploma at Continuing Studies,” she said.

Tackling something like artificial intelligence by way of video games, Milambiling is scaling down a larger challenge and forging an accessible route to its solution.

“In games like World of Warcraft and Minecraft, when you’re talking to artificial intelligence in the game, you’re clearly talking to a machine. You have to select what you’re trying to say,” she explained.

But game developers would like to see the game process what humans are actually doing, Milambiling added.

“Then AI (artificial intelligence) agents in the game can react based on what players are doing. We’re trying to achieve human level intelligence in the game – it’s a controlled environment, so it’s easier to do,” she continued.

IBM’s Watson was tasked with answering questions in any imaginable context, which is why it had trouble coming up with correct answers. Tackling the issue of natural language and artificial intelligence in a video game makes it more accessible, Milambiling explained.

“In a game environment, context is very limited. If you put a machine out in the real world with thousands of different contextual factors changing, it would have no idea how to change the semantics,” she said.

“I’m hoping to develop my project in Minecraft – it’s a popular game and you have a lot of people interacting to get more data.”

Computer Science professor Mike Katchabaw credits Milambiling’s solid background in Linguistics with positioning her perfectly.

“This work has entertainment applications in the gaming industry, as well as non-entertainment applications,” said Katchabaw, who supervises Milambiling. “It is very exciting work, and it is great to have someone with a dual background like Lareina here for this sort of thing.

“She is uniquely qualified for study in this problem space.”
Golden innovation shines light on solar possibilities

BY PAUL MAYNE

GIOVANNI FANCHINI KNOWS a ‘golden’ discovery when he finds one. And his may just lead to a more sustainable future.

The Physics and Astronomy professor’s research centres on the construction small molecules – each one created from 144 atoms of gold. (For scale, that’s about 100,000 times smaller than a human hair.) Thousands upon thousands of those molecules are then arranged into nanoclusters – extremely small, well-ordered and uniformed-sized metal formations.

By using these nanoclusters, Fanchini has shown the ability to increase solar cell performance by more than 10 per cent. That number represents the potential to take solar power mainstream.

“Every time you recharge your cell phone, you have to plug it in,” said Fanchini, the Canada Research Chair in Carbon-based Nanomaterials and Nano-optoelectronics.

“What if you don’t find a plug? What if you could charge mobile devices, like phones, tablets or laptops, on the go? We have a giant plug right above us. ‘Not only would it be convenient, but the potential energy savings would be significant.’”

The secret is in the fact the spectrum of light reflected by gold matches the spectrum of light from the sun, Fanchini said. His gold nanoclusters then amplify the amount of sunlight going directly into the device.

“What colour is gold? And what colour is the sun?” Fanchini asked. “Picture an extremely delicate fishnet of gold. The fishnet catches the light emitted by the sun and draws it into the active region of the solar cell.”

Previous research has proven larger gold nanoparticles can enhance solar cell performance. But the cost for application was too prohibitive.

Copper nanoclusters are another possibility in the process – and perhaps more attractive given the source material would be much cheaper. However, copper oxidizes easily and repetitive replacement of an entire device would not be financially viable.
Gold does not oxidize. And while one ounce of gold is going for almost $1,500, the amount used is so small the cost difference would be less than a penny on the dollar.

“We have very little gold inside, so the impact on the total cost of the device is negligible. That’s the great thing about this,” Fanchini said.

Building on previous research, Fanchini’s team is getting results with infinitesimally small amounts of gold – approximately 10,000 times less than previous studies.

“You need to organize these small clusters in an efficient way on the solar face of the solar cells. We make a network with these nanoclusters and organize them in chains. Within each chain is a branch of a bigger network. We have a solution that is extremely flexible because we can use it on virtually any type of solar cell. Fanchini is encouraged by what his team has accomplished, but it’s just the tip of the beginning. Solar energy needs to reach an overall efficiency rate of at least 40 percent to be competitive with oil – and the technology is only halfway there.

“We have all this renewable energy at our fingertips, but humankind is unbelievably blind. There is so much more we can – and need – to use,” he said. “We’re not even close. The sun is unlimited and will always shine. It’s free. It’s only about the technology we have to be able to use it the best. “We need to have a world in which the resources can be used indefinitely, otherwise our civilization will die off.”

- Giovanni Fanchini
**ACADEMIC**

**PhD Lectures**

Nagham Mohammad, Statistics, Canonical Time Series Analysis. 2 p.m. Oct. 23. MC 204.

Stacey Xu, Microbiology and Immunology. The role of superantigens during Staphylococcus aureus nasal colonisation and infection. 1 p.m. Oct. 23. SDRI 217.


Leah Katherine Cuddy, Pharmacology. Regulation of the High-Affinity Choline Transporter Activity and Trafficking in Alzheimer’s Disease. 9 a.m. Oct. 28. SSC 3028.

**Appointments**

Peter C. Williamson, reappointed as the Tanna Schuchl Chair in Neuroscience and Mental Health, Department of Psychology, Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry, through June 30, 2019. Please send submissions to newappointment@uwo.ca.

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**CLASSIFIED**

**Miscellaneous Services**

Computer repairs, virus removals, networking issues, all resolved in a timely manner. We sell new Windows 7 computers, and off lease Windows 7 laptops. Trusted for more than 35 years. Hyde Park Computers, 1890 Hyde Park Road 519-641-0248.

**Miscellaneous**

Ham & Scalloped Potato Supper – St. Luke’s Church, 1204 Richmond St., at Bernard (just north of the University Gates), will be holding their annual ham and scalloped potato supper, plus dessert and beverage, from 5-7 p.m. Friday, Oct. 24. Adults $12; children 6-12, $6; children under 6, free.

Christmas Bazaar on Saturday, Nov. 1 held by London Central Lonestar from 11 a.m.-2 p.m. at St. Luke’s (Broughdale), 1204 Richmond St at Bernard (just north of the University Gates). Books, videos, CDs, DVDs, Bake Table, Jams, Treasures and Penny Sale (purchase a sheet of 27 tickets for $6 to chance to win a variety of items.) Winning tickets drawn just after 2 p.m. Refreshments. Free Admission. All funds raised benefit the community.

**For Rent**

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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.

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**STUDENT BULLETIN**

**Student Central In-Person Regular Hours**

9 a.m.-4 p.m. Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Wednesday. Follow Office of the Registrar on Twitter for updates @WesternReg.

**Student Central Helpline Hours**

519-661-2100: 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Monday-Friday.

**Autumn Graduation**

Information has been sent out to all students who applied to graduate for the Autumn Convocation. Online autumn convocation tickets are available at convocation.uwo.ca. Please visit the website for more information.

**Graduate and Professional School Fair**

Not sure what to do after graduation? Identify your academic options at the Graduate & Professional School Fair. Recruiters will share information about their programs, the benefits of their educational opportunities, and how to apply. 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 23, Western Student Recreation Centre, 4th Floor Gym.

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**Psychological Services**

Laure Evans Lecture Series (Presentations). Will be offering a variety of presentations topics such as: managing anxiety and stress, mindfulness meditation, healthy relationships, emotion regulation, and public speaking anxiety. Registration will be open online, so check website for details @kde-uwo.ca/psych.

**Western’s Employment Resource Centre (WERC)**

Need resume, cover letter or CV help? Get into WERC, and talk to a career leader today. WERC’s in-person drop-in service 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**


Oct. 30-31: Fall Study Break.

Nov. 1: Last day that students registered in W’ accelerated language courses may transfer to the equivalent full-year course with the permission of their Faculty. Last day to receive official transcripts for courses taken on Letters of Permission during the academic year 2013-14 and the Spring/Summer Terms of 2014. Last day to receive admission applications: Law for 2015.

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**CAREERS**

**Faculty of Health Sciences - School of Physical Therapy, Director Seeking a director, School of Physical Therapy, in the Faculty of Health Sciences. The selected candidate will be trained as a physical therapist and will be appointed to a tenured academic position at the rank of associate professor or professor and be willing to assume an outstanding opportunity to exercise creative and innovative leadership in all facets of the school and faculty. Please quote number HS 139 on all correspondence.**

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**WE ARE GAME CHANGERS**

**Write a Letter**

Western News accepts 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 submissions that are based on personal attacks or covering subjects too removed from the university community.
THE INCOMING CHAIRPERSON OF THE CANADA PENSION PLAN INVESTMENT BOARD, A FORMER PRESIDENT OF THE CANADIAN JEWISH CONGRESS, ONE OF CANADA’S MOST INFLUENTIAL POLICY STRATEGISTS AND AN Award-Winning CANADIAN AUTHOR WILL RECEIVE HONORARY DEGREES WHEN WESTERN HOLDS ITS 304TH Convocation TODAY AND TOMORROW. THE CEREMONIES ARE SCHEDULED FOR THE FOLLOWING DATES:

- **Heather Munroe-Blum**
  - Doctor of Laws, honoris causa (LLD)
  - 10 a.m. Thursday
  - Doctor of Laws, honoris causa (LLD)
  - 10 a.m. Friday

- **Irving Abella**
  - Doctor of Laws, honoris causa (LLD)
  - 3 p.m. Thursday
  - Doctor of Letters, honoris causa (DLitt)
  - 3 p.m. Friday

- **Thomas d’Aquino**
  - 10 a.m. Friday
  - Doctor of Laws, honoris causa (LLD)

- **Jane Urquhart**
  - 3 p.m. Friday
  - Doctor of Letters, honoris causa (DLitt)

As a way to commemorate World Food Day on Oct. 16, FRESH (Food Resources and Education for Student Health), in conjunction with Hospitality Services, conducted cooking demonstrations over the lunch hour in the University Community Centre’s Centre Spot. “As general food knowledge/food skills tie into food sustainability, security and waste, we thought we’d offer this demonstration to help provide students with an ‘experiential’ learning opportunity as a way to help students improve their food skills,” said Anne Zok, Hospitality Services nutrition manager, pictured here with third-year Social Sciences student Yoav Yau Hua Lai.

**5. News and Notes**

- The incoming chairperson of the Canada Pension Plan Investment Board, a former president of the Canadian Jewish Congress, one of Canada’s most influential policy strategists and an award-winning Canadian author will receive honorary degrees when Western hosts its 304th Convocation today and tomorrow. The ceremonies are scheduled for the following days:
  - **Heather Munroe-Blum**
    - Doctor of Laws, honoris causa (LLD)
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    - Doctor of Laws, honoris causa (LLD)
  - **Jane Urquhart**
    - 3 p.m. Friday
    - Doctor of Letters, honoris causa (DLitt)

**Putting ideas on the table for World Food Day Food**

As a way to commemorate World Food Day on Oct. 16, FRESH (Food Resources and Education for Student Health), in conjunction with Hospitality Services, conducted cooking demonstrations over the lunch hour in the University Community Centre’s Centre Spot. “As general food knowledge/food skills tie into food sustainability, security and waste, we thought we’d offer this demonstration to help provide students with an ‘experiential’ learning opportunity as a way to help students improve their food skills,” said Anne Zok, Hospitality Services nutrition manager, pictured here with third-year Social Sciences student Yoav Yau Hua Lai.
United Way campaign looks to double up participation

Western launched its 2014 campuswide fundraising campaign for United Way of London and Middlesex, dubbed Project 100%, with hopes of doubling the number of community members who take part in this year’s efforts.

As part of the launch festivities Tuesday, Western sponsored employee Dayna Munro, left, and United Way committee members Michael Bartlett and Janet Smith took part in a little game of Jeopardy to promote the new objective.

“While raising dollars for United Way remains our primary objective, we believe encouraging more of the Western community to get directly involved in the campaign is an important new part of our campaign because all forms of engagement matter,” Western President Amit Chakma said. “We have established ourselves as the largest single workplace contributor to the United Way of London and Middlesex, and I want to ensure that we continue that legacy of giving this year.”

Previously, participation numbers reflected only those who made a formal dollar contribution. This year, whether someone is contributing at a one-off fundraising event, or helping to make one of those events happen, Western will count that toward its participation numbers.

This year’s goal was set at $750,000 in support of the region’s overall campaign goal of $9 million.

Western’s 2013 campaign raised $785,386, the largest donation ever made to the local United Way, breaking the previous record of $746,101 set by the university’s 2012 campaign. More than 100 volunteers and 1,300 students, faculty and staff donated to Western’s campaign last year.

Western’s campaign is off to a strong start this year, with $120,000 already raised since online donation requests went out Tuesday morning.

The campaign concludes Jan. 27 with a wrap-up event in the Mustang Lounge.