BY ADELA TALBOT

THE RESULTS OF Monday’s municipal election are good news on all fronts for London, according to Western Political Science professor Andrew Sancton, who specializes in municipal politics. They are also great for Western.

While former councillor Matt Brown will switch gears and take the helm of the Forest City in a month’s time, councillors Bill Armstrong, Paul Hubert and Harold Usher are the only survivors of the previous council. The rest have been heralded as “fresh blood,” a relatively young and diverse group of Londoners largely new to politics and City Council.

Of 14 councillors elected, half are Western alumni, and three are double-degree holders.

Western grads on the new council include Michael van Holst, BEd’94; Maureen Cassidy, BA’88 (French); Phil Squire, LLB’81; Stephen Turner, BSc’99 (Biology), MPA’13; Jared Zaifman, BA’08 (Political Science), MPA’12; Paul Hubert, BA’84 (Psychology); and Josh Morgan, BA’02 (Econ/Political Science), MA’04 (Political Science).

“I think it’s good for the university that people with this kind of degree and background are getting elected,” Sancton said.

The large-scale turnover was expected, he noted, though the degree to which it played out was a surprise. The most surprising outcome was seeing Bud Polhill, City Hall veteran of more than two decades, get swept out with the anti-Fontana 8 sentiments, Sancton added. Due to the number of incumbents not running this time around, the rest played out almost expectedly.

While some Londoners may be anticipating a big learning curve for the newly formed council, Sancton doesn’t see this presenting itself as an issue, mostly because the new councillors will be walking through the doors on Dufferin Avenue with some degree of engagement.

“This new group, I think they will catch on quickly to what’s going on, mainly because most of them seem to have paid close attention to what’s going on in council. And they’re involved in different associated groups,” Sancton said.

“I honestly think there would have been much more difficulty if an older established business person came on council, like Paul Cheng. The learning curve would have been steeper, adaptation would have been more difficult,” he continued.

And with the average age of councillors dropping significantly, Sancton expects to see things moving at a faster pace at City Hall and more engagement with Londoners.

“Having a generational shift is a good thing,” he said. “It will open up new ideas and new ways of doing things. It will change the atmosphere of City Hall,” Sancton continued.

While it is still early to consider, the one thing Sancton will be watching for, given the age, experience and ambition of some new councillors, is whether or not there will be term limits imposed by any of the new politicians.

“Will they stay in London? Is city council a jumping off point? It’s still early, but that will be something I’ll be watching.”

Marcia Steyaert contributed to this report.
Coming Events
OCT. 30-NOV. 5

30 // THURSDAY
FALL STUDY BREAK
No classes.

STAFF AND FACULTY IMMUNIZATION CLINIC
These clinics do not require an appointment. Please bring your health card. If you do not bring your health card you will not be able to get a flu shot.
9 a.m.-3 p.m. UCC, Health Services Resource Centre.

MIGRATION AND ETHNIC RELATIONS COLLOQUIUM SERIES
Sarah Beth Keough, Saginaw Valley State University. Migration into Fort McMurray, Alberta: Implications for Urban Planning and Social Capital in a Resource-Dependent Community.
4:50 p.m. p.sc 5220. Refreshments 3:30 p.m. PSC 5230.

CLASSES WITHOUT QUIZZES
A free lecture series for the community. Every Move You Make: Living with Online Surveillance. Jacque Burkel, FIMS, examines this online behavioural tracking and the strategies you can use to monitor and limit your own “digital shadow”. Register at classeswithoutquizzes.uwo.ca. Doors open at 6:30 p.m.
7 p.m. Stevenson Hunt Room, Central Branch Library.

31 // FRIDAY
FALL STUDY BREAK
No classes.

CONSULT THE EXPERTS SESSIONS
Offers support to students who are writing research proposals for external scholarship competitions. No registration is required.
1-3 p.m. IGAB 1N05.

LEARNING SKILLS SERVICES
Optimize Lecture Learning. sdc.uwo.ca/learning
11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Western Student Services 3134.

STAFF AND FACULTY IMMUNIZATION CLINIC
These clinics do not require an appointment. Please bring your health card. If you do not bring your health card you will not be able to get a flu shot.
9 a.m.-3 p.m. UCC, Health Services Resource Centre.

4 // TUESDAY
SENIOR ALUMNI PROGRAM
9:30 a.m. McKellar Room, UCC.

STUDENT SUCCESS CENTRE WORKSHOP
Target Presents: You’re Hired! Learn what a major employer looks for in a job interview. Impress the employers at your next interview with your poised manner, well-prepared answers and proper interview etiquette. Register at western.careercentral.ca.
12:30-1:30 p.m. UCC 313.

CLASSICAL STUDIES SEMINAR
Paul Potter, Western. Parisinus Graecus 2148 and its Unique Abbreviations.
12:30 p.m. SH 3305.

DEPARTMENT OF PHYSIOLOGY AND PHARMACOLOGY
2014 James A.F. Stevenson Distinguished Lecture and Research Day
4 p.m. LHSC, UH, Auditorium A. Student poster presentations, 10:30 a.m. Great Hall, Somerville House. Research talks, 2 p.m. LHSC, UH, Auditorium A.

CONSULT THE EXPERTS SESSIONS
Offers support to students who are writing research proposals for external scholarship competitions.
4-6 p.m. IGAB 1N05.

WORLD FILM PREMIERE
Tomeranno i prati (The Meadows Will Bloom Again), a film by Ermanno Olmi, will make its world premiere. Hosted by Western’s Italian Language and Culture program, the movie is debuting in 130 cities in 100 countries at the same time. It will be shown in Italian with English subtitles. Admission is free.
7:30 p.m. SEB 2202.

5 // WEDNESDAY
TAKE OUR KIDS TO WORK DAY
To provide Grade 9 students a sampling of the dynamic activities that take place every day on campus. Most sessions have limited space so pre-registration will be required on a first come first serve basis. Visit uwo.ca/faculty_staff/kids2work/.

TOASTMASTER’S CAMPUS COMMUNICATORS
Build your confidence in public speaking.
9119.toastmastersclubs.org/ Contact Donna Moore, dmoore@uwo.ca or 851599.
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.
12:30-1:30 p.m. A18, Huron. hwu1@huron.uwo.ca.

LEARNING SKILLS SERVICES
Successful Time Management. sdc.uwo.ca/learning
3:30-4:30 p.m. WSSB 3134.

BASKETBALL
Windsor at Western.
Women’s, 6 p.m. Men’s, 8 p.m.

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Fazilat engineering a future for women in field

BY ADELA TALBOT

SAHER FAZILAT WANTS you to walk the proverbial mile—in her heavy work boots.

A civil engineer working hands-on in construction, she occupies the kind of post few women have seen. And she’ll be the first to tell you—their career, spanning more than a decade and a half, hasn’t exactly been an easy slog.

“I come from a developing world, and I came to a developed world, thinking here, women will have a better chance of doing this work famously done by men,” said Fazilat, Western’s new executive director for Facilities Engineering and Development.

“Fourteen years later, and I hardly see any females in heavy construction.”

About a decade and a half ago, Fazilat moved to Canada from India with her husband, who pursued a promising employment opportunity in information technology. She had experience in the field prior to the move, having worked on the construction of American schools and with the American embassy. On these projects, she was the only local engineer.

Fazilat and her husband landed in Canada in January 2000. She had her first job interview that March, after weeks of searching the Yellow Pages and making cold calls. There was no Google at the time, she laughed. “I had four rounds of interviews for the same company and the last round, they couldn’t resist and said, ‘Well, why not? ’” Fazilat continued.

“My dad, who’s been very instrumental in me being who I am today, always told me to compromise for success. ‘If you walk by, the eyes roll. Often people who you think would behave better were the ones who disrespected you, like respected companies and contractors who knew I would be signing their cheque. I was in my mid-20s when I started, and had people reporting to me in their 40s, so there were challenges, like asking why they had to tell me where they were going,’” Fazilat added.

“I had to stand up for a few women on site, too. Our industry is very male-dominated but those challenges taught me a lot and made me stronger,” she continued.

Even after she arrived at Western this summer, there were assumptions she was a man from those who had not met her in person, Fazilat laughed. “My name is foreign, and many times, I get reports addressed to Mr. Fazilat,” she said.

Under her current portfolio are new construction projects, major and minor renovations on campus, design, project management and land dealings. Very few women occupy similar positions, Fazilat said.

“Universities have these unique buildings. They always entice me, with such a diverse collection of buildings. Western is one of the best for that. And it’s a two-way street here—I’m here to learn as much as I’m here to share my professional expertise,” she continued.

Fazilat and her husband both have rewarding, though demanding careers, but family was never something to compromise for success.

Their two girls, aged 9 and 5, always have a parent at home for dinner, each alternating roles as primary caregiver as their day jobs allow.

“I’ve been very lucky. But our industry needs more women. We are strong—we should step up and not be scared,” Fazilat said.

Written comments invited regarding McIntosh Gallery

The first five-year term of James Patten as McIntosh Gallery’s Director & Chief Curator will conclude on January 31, 2015. Western’s Provost & Vice-President (Academic) Janice Deakin is inviting members of the campus community to submit written comments on the leadership, present state and future prospects of McIntosh Gallery in pursuit of its vision to be a nationally recognized leader among university-based public art galleries.

Written comments should focus on matters relating to the strengths, opportunities and challenges facing the Gallery. McIntosh Gallery is a centre for the presentation and dissemination of advanced practices and research in the fields of art history and contemporary visual art. McIntosh serves the students, faculty and staff of Western University and the broader community of the City of London as a teaching and research resource. Ongoing programs and services actively promote innovative projects in the production, exhibition, interpretation and collection of visual culture.

Written comments should be submitted in confidence by Friday, December 5, 2014.

Submissions are welcome by email (at provostsp@uwo.ca) or by hard copy mailed to the Office of the Provost & Vice-President (Academic), Suite 2107, Stevenson Hall.

Please mark envelopes “Confidential” and “Attention: McIntosh Gallery Review.”
Editor’s Letter

Election results are a matter possibilities, not politics or policy, for students

JASON WINDERS
Western News Editor

Trust me, these moments don’t come around often.
I have covered 50-plus elections, hundreds of campaigns and maybe thousands of races, and what I saw transpire in London Monday night was among the strangest of the lot. Some pundits have called it a ‘generational shift’ – but generational shifts don’t necessarily happen every generation at the municipal level. They are muddled and sluggish – a councillor or two is defeated this round, perhaps a couple more the next. There has been a ‘dinosaur’ on every city council I have ever covered.

Generational shifts are supposed to be glacial in pace, right? Well, London voters saw to speeding up the process this week.

Listen to these stats: Five incumbents were defeated on Election Night; six others didn’t seek re-election. The entire ‘Fontana 8’ were ushered out of office in one evening. In all, City Hall will feature a new mayor and 11 new councillors out of 14.

That story would be revolutionary enough. But look at the saplings taking over the Forest City.

Including the mayor, the median age of the council is 41. Mayor-elect Matt Brown is right on that number. Seven of 15 members are under 40. Jared Zrafim and Mo Salih are the youngest at 27 and 28, respectively.

I hope our students realize the opportunity presented to them today. This is the kind of rapid generational shift that only occurs in small, progressive university towns in the States, and rarely in large, conservative cities like London. Combined with the growing support infrastructure offered to them by the university – everything from entrepreneurial training and startup support to new graduate transition assistance and continued connections to their alma mater – students are well-positioned for local success.

We are often pressed about keeping graduates in the city – traditionally a difficult sell for us. However, perhaps we have something to work with now. If a student ever wanted to have an immediate impact on a city, here is their chance. Toronto still may be a sexier draw, but they’ll be waiting on the sidelines for some time. If they want to make an immediate mark, the opportunity in London is daunting.

And the university is well positioned to help them – and itself – do just that. Although Western’s Strategic Plan, Achieving Excellence on the World Stage, focuses much of its attention internationally, its third pillar, Reaching Beyond Campus, calls for work to be done closer to home. A section entitled, Contributing to London’s social, cultural and economic development, reads in part:

“The university will continue to explore with the City of London, and other community organizations, mutually beneficial initiatives that contribute to the city’s quality of life and advance the teaching and research mission of the university.”

Sounds like a plan. Now, let’s double-down on that idea.

These moments don’t come around often. And when they do, it’s nice to know you’re well-positioned to take advantage of them.

WESTERN CONNECTIONS

Of the 14 newly elected councillors, exactly half are Western alumni (and three are double degree holders) including:

Michael van Holst, BEd’94
Maureen Cassidy, BKBA’81
Phil Squire, LLB’81
Stephen Turner, BSc’99 (Biolog), MRP’13
Jared Zrafim, BBA’08 (Political Science), MRP’12
Paul Hubert, BKBA’84 (Psychology)
Josh Morgan, BR’02 (Econ/Pul Sci), M’04 (Political Science)

- Marcia Staeger

MUSTANG MEMORIES

Mustangs football

V isit John P. Metras Museum on Ins-

PHOTOS PROVIDED BY THE JOHN P. METRAS MUSEUM

In 1959, WESTERN Mustangs football won the league’s Yates Cup, which qualified them to play against the University of British Columbia Thunderbirds in the first Canadian intercollegiate championship game for the Sir Winston Churchill Cup.

The game was played at the University of Toronto’s Varsity Stadium in extremely muddy conditions on Nov. 14, 1959.

The mud was so thick, player identification became difficult, long passes were almost impossible. The Mustangs’ short-range tactics, however, were superb.

The Mustangs scored six touchdowns, accumulated 264 yards with 22 carries, and ultimately defeated the Thunderbirds 34-7.

This was the ninth championship game the Mustangs had won since 1946.

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

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.
Class action needed to ease postsecondary path

BY PAUL MAYNE

WOLFGANG LEHMANN WAS the first in his family to attend university. Struggling through his first year, he dropped out, needing to fight his way back – eventually becoming an academic in his roundabout way.

Once in academia, this son of working-class parents – his father a plumber, his mother a latter carrier – started to wonder if socio-economic status plays a role in access to postsecondary education and, perhaps, creates barriers to future success.

“Class is something that fundamentally affects experience. But I would counter argue it’s not necessarily always in a negative kind of way,” Lehmann said. “Students don’t just overcome, but excel by drawing on their working-class background. There’s a lot of research and literature about disadvantage and alienation – about being a fish out of water.”

“While that indeed happens, there are also different parts of the story and that’s what I’ve been trying to tell.”

The Sociology professor started his research in 2005 by interviewing 75 first-year university students from working-class backgrounds. For the study, he defined ‘working class’ as a student with parents who did not have a formal university or college education.

Lehmann interviewed his selected students in their first, second and final year at Western and now, a decade later, he is following up with that same group.

“When I first interviewed them, they really didn’t talk about money concerns, rather more of a concern if they would make it or not,” he said. “I was curious to see how students, who come from that background, sort of carry that uncertainty with them through their university experience.”

Lehmann initially asked questions about why they chose to attend university, what they expected when they got here, what excited them, what worried them and, perhaps most interestingly for this lot, what kinds of pressure they felt being the first in the family to attend university.

All agreed they were at university to “better themselves” – saying their parents wanted them to further their education and do better than them. University was the ticket to achieve that goal.

Lehmann found the students, after first year, did well and their earlier concerns around ability never materialized.

However, finances were always an issue. While some students qualified for OSAP, some did not, as both parents worked just enough to make eligibility difficult. Those students often relied on lines of credit from the banks. On top of that, most worked during the school year, or full-time throughout the summer months, to fund their education.

According to the recently released Report on the Survey of Graduating Students: 2013-14, 10 per cent of Western students depend on some form of personal employment as the largest source leading to repayable loans as the largest source leading to nearly 24 per cent of students graduating with more than $35,000 in debt.

Only 40 per cent of students are supported fully by parents.

“A lot of university bursaries tend not to necessarily be needs-based, but achievement-based,” Lehmann said. “To some extent, that could be a way in which universities could look at improving needs-based funding.”

He continued, “Achievement-based awards often reward someone who is already privileged; they look at extracurricular involvement as a factor. But a lot of working-class students cannot achieve that because they have to work. They’re caught between a rock and a hard place. You do indeed want to reward merit as well, so I don’t know how you find that balance.”

While a large portion of the students he followed went on to begin successful careers, there were still concerns raised around finding the right networks for employment and internships after graduation. Having to work throughout their time at university, extracurricular achievements were thin.

“Everything else being equal, employers are looking at extracurriculars and lower-income students still have the disadvantage because they didn’t have access to those opportunities,” Lehmann said. “They’re (employers) not saying ‘How can we keep the poor kids out?’ They are quite legitimately looking at how can they get the best people.”

“And how do we distinguish that? We look at how they volunteered? The intention is not to disadvantage, but that’s what happens. How do you fix that? The first step is to be aware of it and the unintentional consequences of some of these strategies.”

For these students, Lehmann said social class touched every aspect of their university career – from the reason they went to university to career aspirations to how they defined themselves once graduated. “It’s difficult to talk about class,” he said, “because it’s so easy to fall into the trap of thinking it as an ‘us against them.’”

Nevertheless, sociologists recognize social class as a potential barrier in shaping educational experiences. Lehmann, however, is not arguing every working-class student must “get a shot at the can.”

“My concern,” he continued, “is those who want a shot should get a fair shot.”
Research

Professor revisits painful past in Jubilee resurrection

BY PAUL MAYNE

EVEN THOUGH IT graced a stage only twice, a little-known 1970s operatic story of racial divide in the U.S. South had one more command performance left, thanks to Don Wright Faculty of Music professor Emily Ansari.

Her article, ‘Vindication, Cleansing, Catharsis, Hope’: Interracial Reconciliation and the Dilemmas of Multiculturalism in Kay and Dorr’s Jubilee (1976), recently earned Ansari a prestigious Deems Taylor/Virgil Thomson Award.

It was recently published in American Music.

"Unlike most prizes received by musicologists, this one is not judged by fellow scholars, but by members of ASCAP (American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers)," Ansari said. "It is most encouraging to feel those actively engaged in creating and performing music today find an academic piece sufficiently engaging and significant to warrant a prize, especially when the opera the article is about is little known today."

The opera, Jubilee, was written by a black composer, Ulysses Kay, and a white lyricist, Donald Dorr, for the U.S. Bicentennial in 1976. It premiered in Jackson, Miss., a city that had witnessed some of the worst racial conflict of the preceding decades, including the Jackson State shooting and the Medgar Evers murder.

The opera was based on a novel by the African-American author Margaret Walker, which describes her grandmother’s experience as a slave and then a free woman during the era of Reconstruction.

After its premiere, and a second performance, the opera sadly disappeared from view after Walker threatened to sue if it was performed again.

"I argue the two creators of the opera sought to create a work that served to symbolize the hope inherent in the burgeoning – but still very new – ideology of multiculturalism, offering an opportunity to bring healing to the racial divide in Jackson, Miss. and across the U.S. as a whole," Ansari said.

It was during her PhD research at Harvard University when Ansari became interested in the works of Kay. She contacted his daughters to see if she might be able to view his papers, which were still in the family home where they lived.

Ansari ended up going to stay with them, looking through the papers and helping to organize them to be donated to Columbia University, where they are now held.

"As I sat in Kay’s office, perusing his files, I became fascinated with this opera – a piece about slavery written for the U.S. Bicentennial for performance in one of the worst centres of racial conflict at that time," Ansari said. "I wondered how on earth an audience of Southern opera-goers, who had so recently witnessed race-related murders and shootings in their city, responded to an opera that included an on-stage lynching."

What she discovered, in the correspondence between Kay and Dorr, was the two had hoped their opera would help create healing between the black and white communities.

"Kay and Dorr’s ambitions for the opera help us to understand the complexities of race relations in the South in the 1970s, and the role music can play in shaping the relationship between black history and American history," Ansari said.

She felt Jubilee deserved to be resurrected, as its message is still relevant today. Even as the United States and Canada like to imagine themselves as ‘post-racial’ nations, there is so much more to be done to confront and heal from a terrible history of racial persecution, exploitation, suppression, and murder, Ansari added.

"Art is an important and useful mechanism through which to do this – something Dorr and Kay astutely recognized," she said. "When we hear singers sing about their suffering under slavery, or watch actors portray a white man beating or murdering his black slaves, we are obliged to contemplate the darker parts of our nation’s history."

"In a time when national histories are predominantly celebratory, honesty and realism in examining the past is particularly vital, if we are to better relations between racial and ethnic groups in the future. I would really love to see Jubilee staged again for 21st-century audiences."

WESLEYAN UNIVERSITY ARCHIVES

PAUL MAYNE/WESTERN NEWS

Don Wright Faculty of Music professor Emily Ansari stands among some of the works of the late composer Ulysses Kay, in his New York home. Her article on Kay’s little known opera, Jubilee, earned her a Deems Taylor/Virgil Thomson Award from the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers.
**Convocation**

Inaugural class takes its place in the world

BY JESICA HURST

FROM A YOUNG age, Gracia Mabaya knew she wanted to play a role in improving health care and living conditions around the world.

Growing up in the Democratic Republic of Congo, she watched other children dying from what should have been preventable diseases. For her, a career in public health made sense.

After completing her Master of Science in Health and Rehab Sciences at Western in 2011, Mabaya worked as a consultant for the World Health Organization. However, she wanted to take her career further by obtaining a degree that would set her apart.

Mabaya applied to Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry’s Master of Public Health (MPH) program and was accepted to be a part of the program’s inaugural class. The class, which finished their studies in August 2014, graduated at convocation ceremonies last week.

“All these years working in the workforce and being exposed to the field, I felt like I wanted to have more of a course-based foundation in public health,” she said. “I wanted to obtain an internationally recognized degree that would set me apart in the workforce.”

Now into its second year, the MPH program was designed to fill a niche at the intersection of leadership, sustainability and policy within the Canadian healthcare system, as well as globally. The interdisciplinary, interfaculty program aims to prepare students to address public health challenges, opening opportunities for students to serve as change agents on a local, national and international scale.

Since completing the program this summer, Mabaya obtained a job as a knowledge broker and research associate for pediatric neuromuscular research at the Children’s Hospital at London Health Sciences Centre.

While she had previous work experience, she thinks the MPH program helped to enhance her resume, expertise and knowledge base which helped her into her current role.

“Now that I am back in the workplace, I can see how very well-designed the program was,” she said. “We were taught to collaborate with our classmates and we were encouraged to participate in the classroom setting as if we were in the workplace. That has been very valuable to me.”

Mabaya also enjoyed being a part of the inaugural class, because the faculty and management were very open to student feedback and took all of their suggestions into consideration.

For the moment, Mabaya is working on building her career at the national level, as her current role gives her the opportunity to work with organizations across the country to manage knowledge transaction activities nation-wide. In the future, she would like to have more of a leadership role within the health-care setting, and she believes the MPH program has given her the foundation to get there.

CRYSTAL MACKAY // SPECIAL TO WESTERN NEWS

Since completing the Master of Public Health program this summer, Gracia Mabaya obtained a job as a knowledge broker and research associate for pediatric neuromuscular research at the Children’s Hospital at London Health Sciences Centre.

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**Western News | October 30, 2014 | 7**
Celebrating the National Scholars

Twin sisters Marta and Emma Croll-Baehre were two of 30 students honoured this week by Western President Amit Chakma, as National Scholars winners, an award which recognizes all-around excellence. The annually awarded scholarships, ranging from $30,000-$64,000, are based on outstanding academic performance, the ability for creative and innovative thought and a passion for the pursuit of learning. A special emphasis is placed on the student’s commitment to community service through ongoing contributions to school and community life.
Convocation 2014

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 all received honorary degrees at Western’s 304th Convocation last week.

Here is a selection of the advice they offered graduates:

“You may have some anxiety about where life will take you next. You won’t always win. From time to time, you will fail. But you will succeed if you are not afraid to fail.

“Good things come often from the most unexpected places. Surround yourself with friends and family who are good for you, and who see in you the potential and ability you might not see in yourself.”

Heather Munroe-Blum

“Canadians are fortunate to have no insurmountable obstacles to dreams and aspirations. The door to opportunity is as wide as it ever gets. For most of the world, that is unfathomable.”

Thomas d’Aquino

“We must not lose our affection, our love for the real landscapes of the world, not the landscapes we look up on Google, but the real earth under our feet. We need to learn it, and love it. If we don’t keep on working on our relationship with the perceived world, the planet, we won’t care enough to protect it, and it needs protecting.

“Take your time – every now and then – throw the time table away and let life happen to you. Go to a bookstore, browse, stumble off into strange unknown landscapes, take detours, learn to love the real and perceived world, protect the planet. Enjoy the adventure of self-education for the rest of your life and keep your curiosity alive.”

Jane Urquhart
On August 13, 1961, the Berlin Wall was erected, thereby dividing overnight a city, families and dueling ideologies for the next 28 years. On Nov. 9, 1989, the world watched as jubilant crowds gathered on both sides of that Wall to celebrate the opening of its crossings. Germany’s postwar division was over.

Next month, we mark the 25th anniversary of the fall of the Berlin Wall. As the commemoration event that month, Western News asked five scholars to reflect on its meaning a quarter century out.

The Berlin Wall's collapse in November 1989, soccer mania quickly turned xenophobic and was suffused by waves of anti-immigrant violence that shocked the united country. Unlike the 1961 German team of 1990, the 2014 champions, including players of Turkish, African and Polish heritage, represented a much more inclusive, diverse, and multinational Germany. Sizes of the celebrations were slightly more modest to claim that ‘German’ in the new millennium.

While today’s fascinating panoply of different television programs, political exceptions and migratory routes, hostage of alternative lifestyles and a cultural mograft from hope from all over the world. Berlin’s evolving from a largely de-industrialized land slowly sank and re-emerged from the ashes of the 1990s. As human society.

Yet, 1989 was different. Shortly after coming to power in 2000, Putin declared Russia’s international standing was over. In the early 1990s, when young people lacking funds, but rich in creative ideas, took over abandoned buildings in the historic event.

As an expat, I remain notoriously disengaged when it comes to personal connections, but, from Copenhagen was approaching 500 million admirers of the ‘Berlin Wall’ director Christian Petzold, whose upcoming melodrama ‘I Gustav, my Gnawing’ is a promise for other cities facing the future shock of an increasingly incendiary world.

The gallery installation intended to mirror scrolling in an internet search, a more subjective and multi-faceted historical reality. As the art of an art critic, I recently ran into novelist Tom Sanda and sound artist Laurence Elliott-Potter for their exhibit ‘Walled in!’ that their idealism has done nothing but prepared the way for a new world.

The German film industry also received a boost after the fall of the Wall. Goody-Bye Lenin!, Run Lola Run, Syriana, What to Do in Case of Fire? ‘Film Berlin’ is so hot in international cooperation. Russia was welcomed into the fold of democracies.

And Berlin’s film industry also received a boost after the fall of the Wall. The German ‘Berlin School’ directors like Peter Lühe, or in a different part of the world, Nelson Mandela was released from prison. The following year, in 1991, the South African president F.W. de Klerk declared apartheid to be illegal. The world realized the end of apartheid.

The Berlin Wall is a potent symbol: a potent symbol of the power of people. It is not a mistake that people moved to Berlin without a job and now are working for a film distribution company. They have not yet known the flight of the victorious German nation. Domestically, he gradually curtailed the democratic illusions among East Germans into a Berlin school’ director, we simply decide to make not only the old East, vanished and been replaced by nostalgia or anger, but something might be missing from our ‘post-ideological’ present, too.

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But the timing of the aggression against Crimea. This all changed when Putin became president. He had a close-up view of how people rose up against a human government.

At the party of an art critic friend, I recently ran into director Christoph Schlingensief with his brilliant ‘Berlin Wall’ director Christian Petzold, whose upcoming melodrama ‘I Gustav, my Gnawing’ is a promise for other cities facing the future shock of an increasingly incendiary world.

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The World Cup, Post-Wall Cinema and the Re-Branding of Berlin

BY TOBIAS NAGL

BY MARTA DYCZOK

RISING UP IN A FAR DIFFERENT WORLD

BY MARTA DYCZOK

TWENTY-FIVE YEARS ago, when the Berlin Wall was con- structed overnight, 75 to 100 million others, crowded into the common room to watch the historic event.

There was such anticipation in the air. Would ‘people power’ work? Would the Westernbrave individuals who stood up to an oppressive regime survive? Would they live to see the day?

There had been attempts in the past when people stood up against communist regimes. Just think about the Norilsk Uprising of 1953. Hungary in 1956. Czechoslovakia in 1968. Poland in 1980. Each of these times, the people were dissatisfied with the one exception of Romania, where the hated Ceausescu was executed on live television.

In the early 1990s, when young people lacking funds, but rich in creative ideas, took over abandoned buildings in the early 1990s, when young people lacking funds, but rich in creative ideas, took over abandoned buildings in

The wave of opposition was strong and the communist regime had become weak and was, a reformer, Mikhail Gorbachev, ruled the USSR. It was his declaration of reform that opened the door for widespread dissent. From Romania to Bulgaria, from Czechoslovakia to Poland, from East Germany to Hungary, and even from China.

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Fall Reminded World of Power of Peaceful Protest

By Eli Nathans

“We arrived at the Wall and it was inconceivable,” recalled Regine Hildebrandt, a leading East German civil rights activist on the evening of Nov. 9, 1989. “You came to a street that was a dead-end, because The Wall was there... A bridge you could see, but never cross. It was unbelievable. People were streaming through.”

Beginning at 9 that evening, tens of thousands of East Germans poured through the checkpoints of the Berlin Wall. The end of the closed-border regime of the German Democratic Republic turned into a celebration, as West Berliners joined East Germans on the streets of the city. Hundreds climbed upon the concrete wall that the communist government had constructed 28 years earlier to prevent its citizens from leaving for the West. They started to bring East German water cannons down early on the morning of the tenth.

Less than a year later, on Oct. 3, 1990, after East German voters had made clear their desire for unification, and with the onset of allied nations that led the coalition that had defeated Germany in the Second World War (the Soviet Union, Great Britain, United States and France), the former East German provinces joined the Federal Republic.

It was the policies of Mikhail Gorbachev, the General Secretary of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union from 1985-91, that led to the fall of The Wall and, ultimately, spelled the end of the so-called German Democratic Republic and the Soviet empire in Eastern Europe. The East German government maintained itself in power largely through fear, of imprisonment and other forms of retribution, and by preventing emigration. The government maintained a vast network of spies who kept careful watch on East Germans.

But the regime’s instruments of repression were not powerful enough to prevent mass rebellion without assistance from the Soviet Army, which maintained a very large presence in East Germany. Gorbachev had openly announced the Soviet Union would no longer use armed force to support East European communist governments.

The phenomenon of Gorbachev has a variety of explanations.

By the 1970s, few people in the Soviet Union, except perhaps for a significant part of the youth, who were more influenced than adults by the propaganda of the regime, really believed any longer in the promises of a bright Soviet future. The performance, especially of the agricultural sector, was miserable. Environmental policies were disastrous.

To limit awareness of this and other realities, Western radio and television broadcasts were jammed and travel abroad limited to an elite few as well, as in the case of East Germany, the elderly. Despite these restrictions, knowledge of the economic, and cultural gap with the West was widespread.

Another factor that promoted disillusionment within the Soviet Union was the war in Afghanistan, which began in 1979. Tens of thousands of soldiers were killed, or wounded, and the war was being lost, despite the casualties. The meltdown of the nuclear reactor at Chernobyl in 1986, and the initial efforts of the government to conceal the disaster from the public, also shook popular faith in the regime.

Gorbachev was distinguished from many of his colleagues at the top of the Soviet system by his refusal simply to focus on clinging to power. He had somehow remained an idealist, still believed in the possibility of revolutionary social improvement and solidarity. It was the extraordinary power the Soviet political regime placed in the hands of the Party Secretary that let Gorbachev put his ideas into practice against the opposition of much of the government. Gorbachev declared Soviet citizens should be able to discuss the future of the Soviet Union and its current failings, openly. He called for greater democracy. Gorbachev also suggested the Soviet Union and its allies, along with the United States, Canada and Western Europe, might work together peacefully, socialism and capitalism would still compete, but by peaceful means.

Gorbachev’s policies were not only a product of idealism. There was also the reality that to have any chance in the competition with the West, the Soviet Union needed greater access to Western technology and Western credits, and more freedom and openness to individual initiative at home.

The East German government did its best to repress demands for liberalization in East Germany after Gorbachev came to power. But the example of the breakdown of communist rule in Poland and Hungary proved too powerful to resist.

First, thousands of East Germans fled the country, since the regime was not willing to bar its eastern, as well as its western, borders. Beginning in September 1989, tens, and then hundreds of thousands of East German citizens demonstrated on a weekly basis in Leipzig, East Berlin and other cities for human rights and democracy. Early on the evening of the 9th, in response to these demonstrations, a member of the East German government announced the regime planned to permit travel to the West, without providing details.

The demonstrations by East Germans took a great deal of courage, for it was not known at the time how the authorities would react. Several months before, in Beijing, the Chinese government had violently repressed similar demonstrations, killing hundreds and wounding thousands. Initially the East German regime also responded with violence, although not with killing. As the size of the demonstrations grew, and especially after the most repressive East German leaders were deposed in mid-October, the police became more reluctant to use force.

The example of the surrounding countries suggested the regime’s days were probably numbered, and no help was to be expected from the Soviet Army. The flood of East German citizens through the Berlin Wall was in many ways the culmination of these peaceful demonstrations.

What role was played by the East German demonstrations and the fall of the Berlin Wall in bringing about the end of the German Democratic Republic and the reunification of Germany?

Although Gorbachev was willing to consider unification, he was not eager to have East Germany disappear as an independent state. Neither were, initially, the leaders of Britain or France. Without the flood of people through the Berlin Wall on Nov. 9, the transformation of East Germany might have taken place more slowly.

Why, of all the events that led to German unification, and to the dissolution of communist regimes throughout Eastern Europe, is so much emphasis placed on the fall of the Berlin Wall? One reason was the central place of Berlin in the conflict between East and West.

Since its construction in 1961, the Berlin Wall had become a symbol of the oppressive character of communist rule in East Germany and in the Soviet bloc, generally. It was in Berlin where U.S. President John F. Kennedy had proclaimed, two years after the Wall was built, he also was a Berliner, although Kennedy’s focus was more on the plight of the people of West than of East Berlin. Another reason was the non-violence of the East German demonstrators and also the overwhelming joy of the participants in the event. Finally, there was the significance of Germany, once, and potentially, the dominant power in continental Europe. How the demise of East Germany might change the political map of Europe was a question all thinking Europeans asked themselves.

The unification of Germany was more than an overcoming of the divisions of the Cold War. It was, in a sense, a final settlement of the Second World War. The reunited Germany was permitted by Gorbachev to belong to NATO, and Germany officially gave up all territorial claims on Poland, accepting the post-1945 revision of European borders. The Soviet Army left Germany.

Historians have compared the events of 1989 and 1990 with earlier efforts to unify Germany, in 1848 and 1870. In 1848, a largely peaceful revolution that attempted to create a German confederation failed. This led many at the time to conclude successful politics required the resort to force. This was the path taken in 1870.

The events of the fall of 1989 demonstrated the power of peaceful protest. The German people, in particular the East Germans, had taken great risks to bring about a peaceful reunification. The legacy of this revolution is a positive one, a reminder of the indispensable role of individual acts of courage in making possible democracy and freedom.

Eli Nathans teaches modern German and European history at Western. He has written about the Nazi system of justice and the history of German citizenship policies, and is currently finishing a book about a prominent West German journalist.
BRINGING FREEDOM INTO FOCUS FOR MILLIONS

BY ANGELA BORCHERT

FOR MANY GERMANS, especially the older generations, freedom is not an abstract concept nor has it always been a given right. It is difficult for the younger generations in today’s Germany even to try and grasp that there was a time when you could not openly express your opinions, choose your career, travel everywhere or freely see your relatives or friends.

Federal President Joachim Gauck, a former Lutheran pastor and civil rights activist in East Germany, responsible after the reunification for exposing the crimes of the communist secret police, helped shape the transformation of the ‘Wende.’ The German word ‘Wende’ means ‘turning point’ and refers to several processes and events: the ‘peaceful revolution’ in communist East Germany with its demonstrations, the collapse of the Soviet Union and German reunification.

During his speech at the ceremony to mark the 25th anniversary of the peaceful revolution on Oct. 9, in Leipzig, Gauck characterized this time as “magical and worldly.” He said many dreams were fulfilled. For many it was simply chance and luck. The opening of the Berlin Wall on Nov. 9, 1989, which actually began with the dismantling of the border in Hungary in May 1989, is the basis for a European revolution as the Cold War started to come to an end.

Only a few days before Gauck’s speech, the most prestigious German book prize was presented to Lutz Seiler for a book about the end of the German Democratic Republic (GDR) and a year later after democratic elections.

Seiler employs a distinct poetic language, which the prize jury called a “gateway to evanescence,” mixing romantic, expressionist ironic complex narration with religious allusions and a comical grotesque dream landscape. He has won several prizes for his poems, essays and short stories. Kruso is his full-length novel debut. The tradition-rich Suhrkamp publishing house will soon make the novel available in complete translation in English.

Seiler’s work falls into the genre concept of Wende literature which spans approaches from the fragmentary to the satiric in focusing on this historical time. An older generation of GDR authors lost their function as voices of alternative publics, like the critic of reunification, Christa Wolf with her modern retelling of Medea (1994). Her approach is very different from the ironic and distanced perspective that leads to a merciless satire of the GDR by a younger author, Thomas Brussig’s Heroes like Us (1997) or the memoirs of Nobel-prize winner Günter Grass From Germany to Germany Journal of the Year 1990 (2012).

For many, the Wende still remains a very personal story.

I was born in West Berlin, and grew up with a family divided by the Berlin Wall. While my mother’s parents had, together with their daughters, moved to West Berlin, the rest of the family remained in the GDR. This meant important family events, such as weddings, christenings and even funerals, took place with only parts of the family present. In 1989, when the lifting of travel restrictions for East Germans was announced, I could not believe it. Even today, listening to Gauck, reading books or articles or watching films, like the ones in the film series presented by Modern Languages and Literatures, Fall of the Wall: 25 Years, is a very personal examination of freedom.

Gauck admonished that citizens must fill democracy with life. If it were not for the thousands who peacefully demonstrated in Leipzig, Dresden and many other cities, then maybe The Wall would not have come down.

The D.B. Weldon Library will host the exhibition Dictatorship and Democracy in the Age of Extremes: Spotlights on the History of Europe in the Twentieth Century in January and February 2015 and professor Stefan Kreuzberger, University of Rostock, has been invited by professor Eli Nathans and myself as a Visiting University Scholar sponsored by Western European University, Faculty of Social Science, Arts and Humanities and the Departments of History and Modern Languages and Literatures.

Literature is important and freedom is not an abstract concept.

Angela Borchert is an associate professor of German and Comparative Literature in the Department of Modern Languages and Literatures.
REFLECTING ON ME, MY WALL AND I

BY KAREN PRIESTMAN

WHEN I TEACH my students about the fall of the Berlin Wall, I start with David Hasselhoff.

Never short on confidence, ‘The Hoff’ has intimated, more than once, he helped bring down The Wall. Maybe he did. His song, Looking for Freedom, did top the West German charts for eight weeks in the summer of 1989, conceivably adding momentum to the calls for increased freedoms in those heady summer days.

Mostly, I tell Hasselhoff’s story because it gives me an excuse to show the YouTube clip of him singing his signature song suspended over the remains of The Wall on New Year’s Eve 1989, resplendent in his piano-key tie and twinkle-light leather jacket. (I kid you not – look it up.)

Hasselhoff, thankfully, played no part in the fall of the Wall. Growing up in the 1980s, Hasselhoff was one of the ‘Bad Guys.’ I had very little sense of what communism really was. Mostly, I just lumped Russians and Romanians together as ‘The Bad Guys.’ I had very little sense of communism or East Germany, I understood what communism really was. Mostly, I just thought being a communist meant you lived in a jacket. (I kid you not – look it up.)

That night ignited my historical curiosity. This realization brought home the fact East Germany and West Germany had once been one country, not two. I didn’t consider how erecting a wall overnight in the middle of a major city might affect people’s jobs, homes, families or safety.

The questions that so intrigued me now, as an historian of Germany, were far from my pre-teen mind. I suppose that, by keeping my focus so narrowly personal, I am not being a very good historian.

In 1989, I never dreamed I would ever see Berlin – or its Wall – for myself. I never dreamed I would grow up to study Germany’s history. I certainly never dreamed I would teach about both the creation and destruction of that Wall to generations of students born after the fall.

I take very seriously this role entrusted to me.

In various ways, the Berlin Wall has been a catalyst for significant change in my life, especially my life as an historian. I suppose that, by keeping my focus so narrowly personal, I am not being a very good historian.

I remember thinking this was an important moment. I remember being afraid war would engulf us all. I was afraid and fascinated and awed by what I was witnessing.

And I wanted to know more about why the wall was there in the first place.

That night ignited my historical curiosity.

When I was an undergraduate student, the first extra-curricular academic event I attended was a panel discussion marking the 10-year anniversary of the fall of The Wall. I had only begun to toy with the idea of graduate school, but the conversations that night intrigued and excited me.

I realized how my personal experience of that event – if only as a far-away Canadi an watching on television – influenced the way I interpreted it. As I walked home on that uncharacteristically warm November night, I remember thinking two things: that a cold front was coming in and that I would definitely go to graduate school.

The very first tutorial I led as a graduate student teaching assistant was on the topic of generations. One of our readings pointed out different generations are not defined by the passage of time alone, but by shared experience. To illustrate this point, I asked my students what their most formative experience was growing up. I was sure I knew what the answer would be: the fall of the Berlin Wall.

I was stunned when they answered instead: 9/11.

As it turned out, we were not of the same generation; we were a handful of years apart, but a generation of experiences. This realization brought home the fact I was indeed their teacher and not a fellow student.

When I finally visited Berlin in graduate school, I couldn’t wait to find the Berlin Wall. I took all the obligatory pictures – of the graffiti on the western side, of the profile view, of my feet straddling the two sides of where the wall once stood, now marked only by a brick line in the asphalt. It was an intense and overwhelming experience to finally see this structure that was so far away in 1989. I had a sense that my life had come full circle.

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In various ways, the Berlin Wall has been a catalyst for significant change in my life, especially my life as an historian. I suppose that, by keeping my focus so narrowly personal, I am not being a very good historian.

I should point out that 25 years after the fall of the Berlin Wall, Germany has developed into a strong democracy at the centre of Europe. I should point out that while certain vestiges of divided Germany remain – uneven economic development, for instance – Germany stands out as the most influential country in Europe. I should point out countries across Europe and North America look to Germany for leadership in politics, economics and security.

The most compelling footage from that extraordinary night is of tear-stained faces and family reuniting after years of forcibly separation. I suspect these Berliners, like most who witnessed this event, weren’t thinking about the long-term political, economic or strategic effects of the fall of The Wall.

For the Berliners in that footage, it was intensely personal. Kind of like the decision to wear a piano-key tie.

Karen Priestman is an assistant professor in History, whose research focuses on Nazism, postwar Germany and issues of remembering and forgetting in German history.
Steeves positioning libraries as a ‘catalyst for success’

BY ADELA TALBOT

WHEN CATHERINE STEEVES first walked through the doors of an academic library as an employee, the institution was at the cusp of great change. That was almost 20 years ago and, since then, there has been a shift from the tradition of print to an electronic mode of information access and dissemination. Information once stored in books, including details found in card catalogues, now resides in a constellation of ideally collaborative information systems, said Steeves, Western’s new vice provost and chief librarian.

But all this isn’t news, and it isn’t the change she’s here to facilitate. Steeves, who started her five-year term in August, comes to Western by way of a career spanning academic libraries from Cape Breton, N.S., to Edmonton, Alta. Prior to her current role, she worked at the University of Guelph, where she was the deputy chief information officer and associate chief librarian.

“The role of the librarian is changing. In some ways, I think the core role still exists, but the nature of the work has changed considerably,” said Steeves, who completed an interdisciplinary undergraduate degree at McGill University prior to coming to Western for her MLIS in the early 1990s. “Libraries – and librarians – have always been there to build and maintain collections, understand the programs and research strengths of our institutions, make sure the information resources we have available reflect their needs,” she continued.

But it’s the library’s role as a “catalyst” Steeves is most excited about. It’s a strategic move that will trump up the strengths of both the library and university, simultaneously. Steeves feels she is starting from a solid base, working with a great team in a library system known for its strong collections.

“More libraries are working to advance research in a more collaborative, partnership fashion, not just providing information,” she said. However important, it’s not just about a helping hand with research methodology, or more active engagement in research, Steeves said. “We need to actively engage and set a strategy to ensure we can continue to actively support the transforming needs of higher education research. Change is happening at a very rapid pace. We need to continually examine our role, services, projects and strategic initiatives in providing leadership so our university can advance,” she explained.

One of the things that excited her about Western in the first place was seeing the new Strategic Plan recognize this and allocate a place for the library in the advancement of its mission. Steeves and her team will be looking at conducting a workforce analysis of Western Libraries over the coming year, assessing the use and allocation of its resources, to seek new ways of providing services to the academic community. “We’re doing it to ensure the libraries are positioned well to respond to whatever successes come our way,” Steeves said, noting in everything the library does, it’s important to measure its impact on teaching, research and learning.

“We’ll be looking to see what we can achieve over the next three years, to demonstrate the impact we could have with renewed investment in the future,” she continued. “It is an exciting place to be. Western’s reputation is just growing, which means great things for all of us in the future, including the libraries,” she said.
BY ADELA TALBOT

ONE SUMMER AT her cottage, Emma Hunt powered through 20 books. That’s how much she loves to read.

But it wasn’t until recently the first-year Foods and Nutrition student at Brescia University College discovered she enjoyed writing, perhaps just as much.

One of the assignments for Hunt’s high school English class was to write a short story for a unit on speculative fiction. She had never written anything before, but inspired by Margaret Atwood’s The Handmaid’s Tale, Hunt wrote a story titled, The Assistant, showcasing a glimpse into a futuristic, utopian world run entirely by women.

Everyone, from her teacher to her peers to her family, loved it. Hunt’s mom encouraged her to enter the story into a contest – which she did. Hunt’s story recently won first place in the youth category of a short story competition at the Alice Munro Writers and Readers Festival in Wingham.

“I haven’t written that long, or that often, to be honest. (Winning) was kind of crazy – I wasn’t expecting it,” said the 18-year-old Barrie native.

“In school, I liked science. And I liked English. But for a long time, I didn’t like writing because I wasn’t comfortable with my writing capability, even though I was getting good marks. But I’ve always read a lot,” she said.

“And I like a mix of everything, YA [young adult], fiction, non-fiction. I usually go to my mom and dad’s bookcases and pull off them, instead of buying or borrowing.”

Though Hunt never saw herself as a ‘writer,’ The Assistant is opening up new windows of opportunity and providing new outlets for her time, interests and creativity, she said, adding she has many issues she feels strongly about and wouldn’t mind exploring by way of the written word. Women’s issues are high up on the list, as is diet and healthy eating.

“Sometimes I feel bad that men, so far as I can predict, won’t hold power again, at least in my lifetime,” reads the closing paragraph of The Assistant.

“Other times I don’t. They were doing a rubbish job for years. Yes, we survived, but the state we took over was dismal. But it’s getting better now, everyone can see that, even the men. Maybe once poverty, war and pollution are gone forever, we’ll let them come back slowly. For now, we are happy. Countries that were at war are uniting in peace. More and more are being controlled by only women. We’ve banded together like a true sisterhood of sorts, instead of always putting each other down, judging one another, and trying so hard to be people we aren’t. There are more women than men after all; it’s only logical that we have the majority of the power,” the story ends.

“I’ve always admired writers so much and how people can connect with the stories. I could never do that, I thought,” Hunt said.

“People like writing, appreciate it and connect with it – I was scared to try that. I never thought I’d be a writer, but I don’t know, now I think that I’m more comfortable, and I’m older now,” she added.

“I think my writing skills have developed a lot and I’m a lot more comfortable writing. Now, I think I might try writing some more. I really like it.”

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Student’s undiscovered joy takes top prize

Emma Hunt, a first-year Foods and Nutrition student at Brescia University College, recently won first place in the youth category of a short story competition at the Alice Munro Writers and Readers Festival in Wingham for her story, The Assistant.
Reviews by Kane Faucher

**World of Fantasy: The Life and Art of Anna P. Baker**

By Beryl Hutchinson and Roz Hermant

The names of Paul Peel and Greg Kurnoe are well-established London-based artists, but so little has been said about child prodigy Anna P. Baker, born as Patricia Ethel Valentine in 1928, and adopted by Roberta and Alfred Baker. (Alfred was the orderly at the hospital.)

Baker was a strong sports and recreation enthusiast, a member of Western’s basketball team, the Mustangettes, known for her ‘freak shots.’ She was also instrumental among the synchronized swimmers prior to Western having its own pool. While at Western, Baker distinguished herself as a cartoonist, drawing caricatures – but her real passion was abstract art.

A self-styled ‘normal’ artist (i.e. not among the cadre of drug-using experimentalists cropping up in the 1940s), she enrolled at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago to further develop her talents. Her art career took off shortly thereafter, and she earned the honour of several solo exhibitions in the United States.

Rather than focusing on the conceptually abstract, Baker focused on details and patterns with such a compulsively creative assiduousness. Her passion for the whimsical, the nostalgic and prosaic was underlined by a fantastical re-imagining of the past. Her artistic range was widely eclectic, and her production highly prolific.

Although she was distinguished in Barton, her roots were plainly evident in London. Hutchinson and Hermant treat the reader to a chronology of Baker’s life and work, punctuated with exceptional documentary evidence of both. Luridly illustrated with many of Baker’s key works and some that are less known by Baker enthusiasts, the presentation of this chronicle demonstrates the inextricable dynamism of life and work of one of our illustrious and possibly unsung artistic heroes of Western’s alumni.

It is to the credit of Hutchinson and Hermant that their assiduous focus on Baker serves as a reminder of an exuberant artist and personality.

**30 Letters That Changed the World**

By Steve Thomas

One could be excused for an initial skepticism in picking up a book which is, in effect, the history of a direct mail fundraising firm written by said firm. A slick and glossy 228-page retrospective advertisement? Not quite, as this tells the interesting back-story of a media craft that seems possibly imperiled by being edged out by email fundraising initiatives and the countless appeals to sign online petitions associated with a variety of causes.

Thomas opens with how, in the 1980s, fundraising initiatives through the mail had not been on the radar for several charity organizations, many of which during tough economic times needed new ways of increasing donor populations and improving donor cultivation strategies. Thomas, and his small-but-mighty firm, took on a wide variety of social cause clients such as Amnesty International, CNIB, Oxfam, Red Cross and Unicef (among several others), and provided services for the New Democratic Party in two provinces, and federally. They also provided services to attract new donors for TVO and Scouts Canada.

Thomas lays out the intricacies – and many unanticipated twists and turns – associated with the mechanics and realities of using direct mail to build awareness for non-profits and attract stronger donations. Rather than a dull, technical manual on the subject, Thomas applies the same strategy so essential in any fundraising campaign: He tells a good, compelling and easy to understand story that spells out what is at stake.

Although physical mail volume continues to decline, and the nature of online media can permit just about anyone to create their own fundraising campaign, what these DIY campaigns may lack is both a history of what works and what does not. Firms like Thomas’ were doing social enterprise long before that term came into its own, making this book a worthwhile study for those who are thinking of improving their skills in marketing and fundraising for non-profit organizations.

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Christmas Bazaar on Saturday, Nov. 1 held by London Central Lions from 11 a.m.-2 p.m. at St. Luke’s (Broughdale), 1234 Richmond at Bernard (just north of the University Gates). Books, videos, CDs, DVDs, bake table, jams, treasures and penny sale. Purchase a sheet of 27 CDs, DVDs, bake table, jams, treasures and penny sale. (purchasing one sheet for $6 for a chance to win a variety of items.) Winning tickets drawn just after 2 p.m. Refreshments. Free admission. All funds raised benefit the community.

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// CAREERS

A central website displays advertisements for all vacant academic positions. The following positions are among those advertised at uwo.ca/facultypositions.

Undergraduate Course Registration Dates

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.

Nov. 3: Last day to drop a first-term half course or a first-term full course (2014-15 Fall/Winter Term) without academic penalty.

Nov. 5: Last day to drop a first-term half course or a first-term full course (2014-15 Fall/Winter Term) without academic penalty.

Nov. 30: Last day to drop a full course and full-year half course (on campus day and evening and Distance Studies) without academic penalty.

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

// STUDENT BULLETIN

Student Central In-Person Regular Hours

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

Student Central Helpline Hours

519-661-2100. 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Monday-Thursday.

Psychological Services

Laura Evans Lecture Series (Presentations) will be offering a variety of pre-
PhD candidate among elite Osteoarthritis researchers

BY CRYSTAL MACKAY

Osteoarthritis researchers

PhD candidate Anusha Rathneswaran first became interested in studying osteoarthritis when she saw the effects of the disease first hand while working as a kinesiologist in a cardiac rehabilitation program.

“Many of the patients with osteoarthritis were unable to gain the benefits that the exercise conferred because they were unable to fully participate,” she said. “That really motivated me to pursue my research in this field.”

That motivation sent her halfway around the globe to Melbourne, Australia, to continue her research pursuits and learn from one of the leaders in the field. This international exchange is possible because Rathneswaran is one of this year’s recipients of a Collaborative Scholarship from the Osteoarthritis Research Society International. She is one of only six recipients of this award worldwide.

“It felt great to be awarded this scholarship,” she said. “The project was judged on its potential to make an impact on the field, and it is amazing to think top researchers thought this of my work.”

Her project involves examining the role of a regulatory protein, PPARdelta, in the development of osteoarthritis. Supervised by Physiology and Pharmacology professor Frank Beier, her research has shown PPARdelta protects cartilage from degrading in a mouse model of osteoarthritis. The hope is this knowledge will eventually lead to developing a drug that would inhibit PPARdelta and stop, or delay, the progress of the disease.

Over the next six months, she will be working in Dr. Amanda Fonsang’s laboratory at Murdoch Children’s Research Institute at the University of Melbourne. She will be investigating what parts of the protein aggrecan, the principal component of cartilage, are broken down by the PPARdelta activation.

“These collaborative experiences are so important because they foster knowledge dissemination which drives innovation,” she said. “I feel like this will be a great learning experience and I’m excited to be a part of research all the way on the other side of the globe.”

IN MEMORIAM – ANDRÉ BOIVIN

BY J.F. JARDINE

DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICS

ANDRÉ BOIVIN PASSED away at University Hospital on Friday, Oct. 17, as a result of heart failure.

Professor Boivin completed his PhD at the Université de Montréal in 1984 under the direction of Paul Gauthier. He came to Western as an assistant professor in 1986, after holding postdoctoral fellowships at UCLA and University College, London. He was promoted to associate professor in 1991, and then to professor in 2004.

He was appointed as chair of Western’s Department of Mathematics in 2011. His research specialties were complex analysis and approximation theory, and he was the author of multiple papers in these areas. He gave tireless service to granting agencies and selection committees in Québec and Ontario, and was a frequent conference organizer.

He served with distinction as graduate student chair before becoming chair of the department, and supervised many graduate students during the course of his career at Western. Caring, warmth and passion were the hallmarks of his relationships with students and colleagues.

Boivin is survived by his wife, Yinghui Jiang, son, Alexander, daughter, Melanie, and step-son, JP. He was well loved and respected by his colleagues, students and coworkers throughout the university. He will be sorely missed.

Editor’s Note: Western News publishes submitted In Memoriam pieces on members of the Western community. For information, or to submit an article, contact Jason Winders, Western News editor, at jason.winders@uwo.ca.

2014 James A.F. Stevenson Distinguished Lecture and Research Day

Tuesday, November 4, 2014

10:30 a.m. Student Poster Presentations
Great Hall, Somerville House

2:00 p.m. Research Talks
LHSC, University Hospital, Auditorium A

Michael Pest, PhD Candidate
“Cartilage specific deletion of Mig6 disrupts mouse joint homeostasis”

Cory Yamashita, PhD, MD, FRCP
“Host-Defense Peptides for the Treatment of Cystic Fibrosis”

Jim Petrik, PhD
“The Paradox of Anti-Angiogenic Therapy in Cancer”

4:00 p.m. James A.F. Stevenson Distinguished Lecturer

Dr. Harry C. Dietz, III

Victor A. McKusick, Professor of Medicine and Genetics, Investigative Howard Hughes Medical Institute, Director, William S. Smilow Center for Marfan Syndrome Research, Institute of Genetic Medicine, Departments of Pediatrics, Medicine, and Molecular Biology & Genetics, Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine

“The Paradox of Anti-Angiogenic Therapy in Cancer”

Lecture sponsored in part by:
Mogenson Trust, School of Graduate & Postdoctoral Studies,
Research Office - Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry
Off the ice and into the classroom

Tessa Virtue and Scott Moir, two of Canada’s most decorated figure skaters, shared lessons on leadership, both on and off the ice, with Ivey Business School HBA students Monday. During their 17-year partnership, the pair captured gold at the 2010 Olympic Games in Vancouver, silver at the 2014 Games in Sochi as well as many national and international titles. In their presentation, *Dreaming Big, Working Together and Overcoming Obstacles*, they shared insights on the role of communication in sports and what lessons can be applied to business.

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