BY PAUL MAYNE

BE IT GOLF, swimming, skating, basketball, soccer or dance, London’s Child and Youth Network wants children to get active – and they’re willing pay for it. ACT-i-Pass, offered to all Grade 5 students in London, allows for free access to indoor and outdoor sporting activities throughout the city for the entire school year.

“It’s all about promoting health and wellness,” said Jason Gilliland, director of Western’s Human Environments Analysis Laboratory. “Only about 5 per cent of kids are physically active enough for optimal growth and development. We know this is linked to problems like obesity. Studies have shown kids who are more physically active are less at risk for cardiovascular illnesses. There’s also a correlation with better school achievement, mental health and overall wellness – a whole host of benefits.”

The ACT-i-Pass program is partnering with the YMCA of London, Boys & Girls Club of London, City of London Parks & Recreation and Spectrum programs.

From an evaluation perspective, Gilliland added, this is a large program and, to determine its success, he’ll need to go beyond simple anecdotes. Through a recent Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) grant, the Geography professor will be tracking participants throughout the eight-month program, as well as up to a full year following its completion.

“We want to find if kids are not only more physically active with the pass, but if they are still maintaining higher physical activity after the program concludes,” he said.

Gilliland understands other factors can play a part in physical activity. When he was in high school, he lived far outside the city. As both his parents worked night shifts, he couldn’t get rides into town for sports. Gradually, his participation waned.

“Does geography matter? Is that barrier still too big? And we can then see if it might be a lack of transportation. Do bus routes play a role?”

Beyond these geographic concerns, other factors play a role in the program’s success or failure, including economic and informational.

“You could have a pool right next to you, but if it’s too expensive, you can’t use it,” Gilliland said. “ACT-i-Pass takes away that barrier, and the informational barrier, because we are providing a lot of info about programs available in neighbourhoods throughout the city.”

The research team will also isolate individual differentiating levels according to age, sex, socio-economic status and even cultural and family differences.

“We want to isolate for whom does it work the most, or doesn’t work, and then, alter the program as needed,” he said. “We’ll even be studying the program’s implementation. Was it something about how the program was rolled out that affected it?”

“This is such a critical issue (youth inactivity), so if we can find out what information we need to adapt the programs and make them even more successful, we could roll it out with other age groups, and even in other cities. My goal is all of Ontario, and I think it’s an achievable goal in a few years.”
### Coming Events

**OCT. 9-15**

#### 9 // THURSDAY

**MCINTOSH GALLERY**  
Free Admission. mcintoshgallery.ca  
Runs until Nov. 10.

**SENIOR ALUMNI PROGRAM**  
9:30 a.m. McKellar Room, UCC.

**LEARNING SKILLS PRESENTATION**  
Preparing for Multiple-Choice Tests. sdc.uwo.ca/learning  
2:30-3:30 p.m. WSSB 3134.

#### 10 // FRIDAY

**MEN’S RUGBY**  
Brock at Western.  
5 p.m.

**MEN’S LACROSSE**  
Laurier at Western.  
5 p.m.

**WOMEN’S BASKETBALL**  
St. Francis Xavier at Western.  
7 p.m.

**MEN’S HOCKEY**  
Guelph at Western.  
7 p.m.

#### 11 // SATURDAY

**SOCCER**  
McMaster at Western.  
Women’s, 1 p.m. Men’s, 3:15 p.m.

**WOMEN’S BASKETBALL**  
Waterloo at Western.  
4 p.m.

**MEN’S HOCKEY**  
Brock at Western.  
7 p.m.

#### 12 // SUNDAY

**WOMEN’S HOCKEY**  
Laurier at Western.  
4 p.m.

#### 13 // MONDAY

**THANKSGIVING DAY**  
University offices will be closed.

#### 14 // TUESDAY

**FARMERS’ MARKET**  
Hospitality Services hosts a Farmers’ Market in the green space beside McIntosh Gallery.  
Across from the Social Science Building.  
9 a.m.-2 p.m.

**LEARNING SKILLS SERVICES**  
Writing Multiple-Choice Tests. sdc.uwo.ca/learning  
2:30-3:30 p.m. WSS 3134.

**SCHOLARSHIP INFORMATION SESSIONS**  
Offers guidance to students on how to apply competitively for external scholarships.  
No registration is required.  
4-6 p.m. International and Graduate Affairs Building 1N05.

#### 15 // WEDNESDAY

**COMPARATIVE LITERATURE RESEARCH FORUM**  
Kristoffer Conner, Romance and the Mirror of Reflection in The Mechanical Bride  
11:30 a.m. UC 207.

**STUDENT SUCCESS CENTRE WORKSHOP**  
Linkedin Workshop. Finding a job or internship, requesting an informational interview, connecting with Western alumni and employers are just a few ways you can utilize Linkedin. Learn how to build a profile, network and maximize your efforts all using LinkedIn. Register at westerncareernetwork.ca  
11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. UCC 315.

**TOASTMASTER’S CAMPUS COMMUNICATORS**  
Build your confidence in public speaking.  
919-tomatastersclubs.org. Contact Donna Moore, dmoore@uwo.ca or 519-8519.  
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. Email hwc1@huron.uwo.ca  
12:30-1:30 p.m. A18, Huron.

**MANAGING ANXIETY AND STRESS LECTURE**  
Are you feeling stressed and overwhelmed? Want to understand more about managing anxiety and stress?  
studentservices.uwo.ca/secure/workshops/psychWorkshops.cfm  
10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. WSS 3134.

**GERMAN FILM SERIES**  
6:30 p.m. UC 207.

**FIFTH ANNUAL A.P. MAHONEY LIBRARY LECTURE AT ST. PETER’S SEMINARY**  
7:30 p.m., St. Joseph Auditorium, St. Peter’s Seminary.
Research

‘Cool’ idea may help dialysis patients

Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry professor Chris McIntyre’s latest research may alleviate organ damage often associated with kidney dialysis.

A SIMPLE STEP developed by a Western researcher may alleviate the potential damage to multiple organs often associated with dialysis, an important treatment for countless patients with kidney disease.

Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry Professor Chris McIntyre, who arrived from the University of Nottingham last month, said kidney disease patients are caught between a rock and a hard place – they cannot live with or without dialysis.

“Patients die a lot. Your chances of dying on dialysis are about the same as with every single kind of cancer,” said McIntyre, the Robert Lindsay Chair of Dialysis Research and Innovation. “Those who do survive suffer substantial injury that appears to be related to the treatment. It can damage their hearts and other organs, but we’re now starting to appreciate they’re damaging their brain as well.”

Prior to coming to Western, McIntyre and his colleagues studied 73 patients on hemodialysis (where blood is filtered through a machine) where the dialysate was cooled and followed up with them for a year. The findings, published in the Journal of the American Society of Nephrology, showed patients exhibited complete protection against white matter changes in the brain.

“We’ve done a lot of work relating to how the blood pressure, being unstable when you take the fluid off on dialysis, drives that injury,” McIntyre said of patients who normally face a severe drop in blood pressure due to the sudden removal of bodily fluids. “We looked around for techniques that were already established in dialysis to improve the blood pressure and stop these drops, and cooling has been used since the late 1990s.

“So, we applied a technique already available and wanted to see whether or not we’re not just making people feel better, but we can actually get organ protection.”

The technique involves cooling the dialysate temperature to either 37 degrees C, or 3 degrees C below the core body temperature. By doing so, patients were completely protected against blood pressure changes.

While an established technique, it was how McIntyre applied the method that made the difference.

“Before it was being used reactively for those who were having trouble with blood pressure, not from the get go,” said McIntyre, director of London Kidney Clinical Research Unit at London Health Sciences Centre. “And the big problem about cooling the dialysate is people feel cold. What we did, which hasn’t been done before, was we individualized the temperature to each patient’s temperature, that way we got the benefits, but they didn’t feel cold.”

While he had conducted other studies that had showed they could reduce the short-term injury, what he didn’t know is whether or not, by reducing all those cumulative short-term injuries, you really could protect other organs.

“What was surprising, I think, was the scale of the response, that we actually managed to entirely remove this very sophisticated and sensitive measure of brain injury; we had complete resolution,” said McIntyre, who will also work with medical imaging at the Robarts Research Institute.

Even better than the findings itself, McIntyre added, is the fact this cooling intervention is simple to perform and can be delivered without any additional cost.

“It’s universally applicable,” he said. “Dialysis is an industrialized process. If we’re going to make it better, any intervention we develop that’s not in the same keeping is probably not going to be transformational.”
Editor’s Letter

Kenney puts employer ‘freeloading’ on job training in the spotlight

JASON WINDELS
Western News Editor

Last week, Jason Kenney said what many have been thinking.

“I stand up in front of business audiences and say: You guys have been, to some extent, freeloaders on the public training system,” the Employment Minister told the Canada 2020 Conference in Ottawa. “We need to see businesses put more resources into skills development.”

Now, here’s a point around which small government conservatives like Kenney and big idea liberals can come together. So let’s run with this.

The idea Canada suffers from a ‘skills gap’ is one of the great economic lies sold to the current generation. We have all heard it — there are too many people without jobs, too many jobs without people.

Not so. Or, at least, not so in the way they want to sell it.

The mantra, repeated ad nauseam by corporations to young people, continues to be Canada is filling up on overeducated, yet undertrained, workers who can reference Hamlet, but don’t know how to weld. (Darn you, liberal arts.) Their advice? Ditch university, learn a trade and start working in the Tar Sands.

Check. Check. Check. Economy fixed.

Corporations have used the ‘skills gap’ fallacy to justify all sorts of bad behaviour from gutted internship programs to delayed hiring to flooding their industries with low-pay temporary foreign workers. Repeated often enough by people in power, this simple-minded solution is then parroted as gospel by the public. (Sort of the Fox News method of information distribution.)

Sure, if you choose to view the economy through a narrow, strictly anecdotal lens, then there are shortages in certain industries — namely welders. But we’re talking about a bigger issue than filling a few rigs out West.

For the last 30 years, we have lived in a world where companies refuse to see beyond the next quarter, let alone cast their vision a generation or two ahead. The price of that short-sighted, quarter-to-quarter outlook is now coming home to roost.

This generation is the most educated, most technically savvy and, perhaps, even most creative generation we have seen in some time. They are smart and employable, and could learn anything for any employer.

Their disadvantage, however, is that their entry into the job market has been retarded. Massive debt, Boomers refusing to leave the job force and stagnant hiring have all contributed to the delay. Their seeming immaturity is caused by the fact their parents’ parents were established in the job market for years by the time this generation will get its first full-time footing.

And then there is the fact employers are no longer interested in what Kenney described as “employer-led, demand-driven training.” That seems counter-intuitive. All these complaints about a shortage of skilled workers, yet corporate spending on training has been in decline for the past two decades, Maclean’s magazine pointed out last month.

Conference Board of Canada researcher Dan Munro cited numbers in that same article showing Canadian employers spent $705 per employee on training costs last year. While up $17 from 2010, that number is down 40 per cent from its peak in 1993. Meanwhile, only about 31 per cent of Canadians participated in some type of non-formal job-related education or training in 2009.

That’s not, as they say, putting their money where their gap is.

And now, corporations have offloaded the responsibility for training, along with a heap of blame, onto postsecondary institutions, especially universities.

“There’s a funny dynamic that may be occuring between employers and the higher education system,” Munro said. “There are increasing calls by employers for educators to do more job-ready training. But these calls have been increasing at the same time employers’ spending on training has been dropping.”

Kenney’s comments are late, but welcome to the debate. For a conserver to put this kind of public pressure on employers will fuel this debate in different corners.

MUSTANG MEMORIES

PHOTOS PROVIDED BY WESTERN ARCHIVES AND MUSTANG ATHLETICS

THE 1998-99 MEN’S soccer team captured Western’s first national championship in the sport. They repeated as national champions in 1999-2000. Western’s Men’s soccer team also won four consecutive OUA titles from 1996-99, the university’s first soccer championship since 1957-58. Star player Michael Potts led the team, winning the 1998 Championship MVP. Potts also garnered CIS First Team All Canadian recognition from 1998-99 to 2000-01. Jon Hassan received CIS Second Team All Canadian Honours giving Western two all Canadians from this championship team.

Visit J.P. Metras on Instagram 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.

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 250 words maximum, and accepted only from members of the Western community — faculty, staff, students and alumni. Writers may only submit once a semester.

• As an academic institution, Western News encourages lively debate, but reserves the right to edit, ask for rewrite or reject any submission, and will outright reject those based on personal attacks or covering subjects too removed from the university community.

• Western News will offer rebuffal 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.

“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.” — J.T. Moore, University Relations and Information director, Nov. 16, 1972

"L.T. Moore, University Relations and Information director, Nov. 16, 1972"
Rereading rekindles past for alumnus

BY DARIN COOK

IT WAS THE best grade I ever received on a university essay – 92 on a research paper about Henry David Thoreau’s Walden in American Literature class.

I was impressed when I got it during the third year of my BA in English Language and Literature at Western; I guess I still am, since I clearly remember it more than 20 years later. I am far removed from how academic papers are submitted and marked these days, but back in the 1991-92 school year, a typed-and-stapled paper copy of the essay was hand delivered to the professor, and actually still have it with the professor’s handwritten comments across the bottom and the number 92 circled in red on the title page.

That essay is now a tangible relic from my academic past. Twenty-two years have passed, and I was about to do something I’ve wanted to do for some time – return to my campus to read Walden.

I made the trek to London, without my wife or kids. I missed them, of course, but I had the pleasant company of Thoreau tucked away in my backpack. My goal was to revive some of the simple moments I enjoyed between classes, like walking through the picturesque campus, relaxing on UC Hill, and catching up on some reading.

Some people would label this as killing time, but in my eyes, I am doing the most productive activity imaginable by filling my mind with the poignant words and ideas of a book.

As Thoreau wrote, “As if you could kill time without injuring eternity.” And it is mostly due to Thoreau that I am here, him, along with many other writers from my literary studies. But mostly Thoreau.

It’s not that I want to re-live my past, I just want to re-read it and appreciate them, both as something I cherished back then and am fortunate enough to repeat years later with the same pleasant effects.

My walk down University Drive was just as I remember it, back when I was busting off to Journalism class at Middlesex College, or the dreaded French class four times a week at the top of Brescia Hill. Newer glassy and glistening architecture has been added amongst the grey stone buildings, but I walk by the same trees, cross the same bridge over the same river, and make my way to the same grassy hill to read.

It was not the beautiful campus that initially drew me to Western – I was more interested in the academic reputation – but the charming setting made it even more pleasurable.

Back when I used to do this regularly, Engineering and Business students showed disdain for English majors who lounged under trees on sunny days. We were reading books for class, but they were novels, short stories, poems or plays, not heavy duty textbooks thicker than a stack of laptops. It wasn’t my literature degree that started my love of books, but it did nurture it into something that had some substance behind it.

Reading is one of life’s pleasures to which most of us do not assign enough time. We routinely fill our calendars with business meetings and squash games, but fail to schedule blocks of time for curling up with a book to rejuvenate the mind. We all need to connect with our own thoughts, and books have the power to lead us to inner reflection.

Re-reading is a form of remembering, the same way we gather with friends to reminisce about our favourite times together. When a book is read for the first time, it is a stranger, everything about it is new. When it is re-read a second, third or fourth time, we are implying the book is interesting enough for subsequent meetings. Return to the book obsessively as I do, and it will make the book and the man special. Nature for Thoreau is a sacred place untouched by humans (except by himself, of course). He is responsible for rigorously philosophizing about human’s role in Nature, capitalizing the N in the word, and making Nature an institution onto itself.

I do not know Thoreau personally, but when I read his words it is like he is speaking to me directly, offering advice that only a friend who knows me can pass on.

It took Thoreau seven years to write his book that was published in 1859. It only took me a few late-night study binges to finish my essay, but I have been re-reading it ever since.

There isn’t much to the book on a surface level – a man living alone in the woods according to his own devices. There is more to it than just reading a story. After all, how exciting is it to read about a man watching ice thaw or tracking his annual vegetable seed budget?

It is the writing style and the message to be kind and attentive to the environment, along with the story, which make the book and the man special. Nature for Thoreau was a sacred place untouched by humans (except by himself, of course). He is responsible for rigorously philosophizing about human’s role in Nature, capitalizing the N in the word, and making Nature an institution onto itself.

I think Thoreau would approve of my setting as I re-read his book, nestled between trees, but also surrounded by buildings that harbour years of academic wisdom. As I can testify from my exercise in re-reading and re-reading, Western has maintained that attachment to natural landscapes that inspired me to write an essay worthy of a 92 more than 20 years ago.

Darin Cook, BAVJ, is a freelance writer who lives and works in Chatham-Kent.
Student uses elite program to reclaim past

BY JASON WINDERS

WHILE DISCOVERING HER own story, Shyra Barberstock has helped others reclaim theirs. Last month, the fourth-year First Nations Studies and Health/Environmental Geography student returned from the Indigenous Women in Community Leadership program at the Coady International Institute at St. Francis Xavier University in Nova Scotia. The elite program encourages First Nations, Métis and Inuit women to become strong leaders and agents of change capable of contributing in their communities. Barberstock, an Algonquin/Mohawk from Eagle Village First Nation, QC, was one of only 20 women recruited to the program.

"I was lucky to be with 20 women – 20 women who are considered up-and-coming community leaders from communities across the country. They come from all areas, all levels of education and what I learned from them, and will continue to learn from them, I found really valuable," she said. "They were all super beautiful and powerful women."

Adopted and raised by a non-Native family, Barberstock has been on her own journey of discovery after meeting her birth mother 15 years ago. This program, and the women in it, opened further doors into herself and blossoming identity.

"It's an ongoing thing, of course," she said. "But just being selected as an Indigenous woman, and into a program like this, it was a special experience for me personally."

In operation since 2011, the program culminates with the presentation of a three-month community project where the women work closely with a community of their choosing on developing solutions to pressing problems. Participants are guided and supported through the project by a program mentor.

As a trained nutritionist, Barberstock knew exactly where she wanted to focus her efforts. Produced by Health Canada, Canada’s Food Guide: First Nations, Inuit and Métis fell short in its dietary recommendations by failing to acknowledge Aboriginal traditions and cultures. The guide, Barberstock said, assumed all people can eat the same things at the same time in the same quantities and remain healthy. Just not so.

In the absence of the "official" guide, finding information on traditional diets was nearly impossible for members of the community. Enter Barberstock and her project, the Iroquois Ancestral Food Guide.

Looking to connect modern people with their traditional diets, the project addressed many of the gaps she identified including stressing the importance of regional, seasonal and even ceremonial foods, all items overlooked in the official guide. Through her partnership with the Oneida Health Centre and Oneida Culture & Language Centre, along with the New York State Museum and individual Oneida community members, Barberstock constructed a guide both useful and prescriptive.

She hopes this one project inspires others groups to reclaim their traditional diets.

Beyond the project, the program offered a host of other lessons as well.

"I picked up confidence – the confidence to know I could create a big project like this, oversee it and make it happen from start to finish. I don't know if I had that before, when I started," Barberstock said. "I also picked up some concrete skills – public speaking, ABCD (asset-based community development) training."

Today, she remains passionate about Aboriginal entrepreneurship and economic development, and looks to find ways to improve socio-economic conditions in Aboriginal communities across Canada. She is interested in launching her own business, and working on her masters in Geography. "I think there are some exciting things for me to come," she said.
DuHasky mixes up ingredients for success

BY ADELA TALBOT

OVER AT ONTARIO Hall, everything is new. Including Andrew DuHasky.

When Western’s newest student residence first opened to some 600 students last year, DuHasky was among the first to experience its state-of-the-art marché-style dining hall. And he’s loved every minute since his arrival.

“It’s so the right industry for me,” said DuHasky, the unit chef at Ontario Hall.

“I’m a good example in that I didn’t go right from high school to college for cooking. I didn’t know what I wanted to do, and it (cooking) found me as I found it,” he continued.

DuHasky, 39, came to Western by way of a varied career, one that began in a warehouse, taking him to George Brown College for culinary arts, to cafeterias and a catering business in Toronto. He moved to London nearly a decade ago when his wife took a teaching job at Fanshawe College. Since, DuHasky has managed the cafeteria at Trojan Technologies, dabbling in the kitchen at Fanshawe, and then moved to Ontario Hall.

“I work with a lot of individuals here that have a lot of passion for what they do and they take a lot of pride in it,” he said, noting he inherited a fantastic team when he arrived. “It’s so great. When someone (in the kitchen or cafeteria) stands behind a counter, they don’t always get appreciation for how much they care for what they do, but they do.”

DuHasky sure cares. Gauging the enthusiasm and joy in his voice as he talks about what he does, the food he enjoys making, the food he enjoys eating, as well as the people he works with daily, it’s clear he’s in the right spot.

“I don’t have a favourite dish to make. My favourite dish to make is something I’ve had that’s crazy and not something that’s new and cutting edge, but maybe something in our culture that we don’t put a strong emphasis on, and put a spin on it. I love to take a traditional pierogi and stuff it with ingredients that a pierogi might not usually be stuffed with,” he explained.

And DuHasky has had the opportunity to attend various conferences, showcasing his approach to food and his culinary styles, impressing foodies across North America.

In July, he was invited by the Ontario Greenhouse Vegetable Growers to attend and participate in the annual Produce Marketing Associations’ annual Foodservice Conference in Monterey, Calif. There, he developed a recipe using locally grown produce, taking second place. Last year, he attended a conference in Massachusetts, taking home a People’s Choice award as well as second place.

“I really enjoy people. I’m a pleaser by nature so I like when people are happy. I like to make sure my guys have what they need to be successful and I’m very fortunate that I have a good crew,” DuHasky said of his current role.

“I’m so lucky, every day. They day Sysco doesn’t show up with all the food we need, the day four employees call in sick all in same shift, those are the days I like to take a minute and think about how fortunate I am that I was able to find this career because I thoroughly enjoy it.”

Andrew DuHasky, unit chef at Ontario Hall, has been attending culinary conferences, nabbing nods and awards for his culinary style across North America.

DuHasky ensures the interactive cooking stations in his kitchen feature ever-changing and appealing food options inspired by international cuisines, as well as his own and others’ positive dining experiences. Recently, the kitchen offered Cuban sandwiches inspired by a food truck in Jon Favreau’s recent film, Chef.

When it comes to good eats, DuHasky strays from chain restaurants, preferring to support the little guy, he said, noting his current go-to is a restaurant in Aylmer called Hacienda Roadhouse, featuring an unassuming blend of Mexican and Mennonite cuisines.

And when it comes to his food philosophy, DuHasky sticks to the tried and true.

“I don’t think the newest thing is the best thing. I think people of different cultures have been making awesome food for years, so I like to take not something that’s new and cutting edge, but maybe something in our culture that we don’t put a strong emphasis on, and put a spin on it,” DuHasky said of his current role.

“I’m so lucky, every day. They day Sysco doesn’t show up with all the food we need, the day four employees call in sick all in same shift, those are the days I like to take a minute and think about how fortunate I am that I was able to find this career because I thoroughly enjoy it.”

The Japanese Program in the Department of French and Asian Studies at Huron University College seeks a program-sessional instructor to teach first and third year Japanese language courses commencing in the 2015–2016 academic year. Program sessional positions are 8-month/three year continuous contract, which is renewable after a performance review at the end of the 2nd year.

The Japanese Program stresses communicative approaches to language teaching, emphasizing experiential and task-oriented modes of learning in the classroom. Applicants must have an M.A. in foreign language pedagogy, theoretical/applied linguistics, or a related field, and teaching experience at the post-secondary level in North America.

Please send a letter of application, a c.v., and evidence of teaching proficiency to:
Dr. Michiyu Kawai, Japanese Program Coordinator and Chair of the French and Asian Studies, Huron University College, 1349 Western Road, London Ontario, N6G 1H3.

In your letter of application, please indicate how you approach the teaching of language. The selection process will begin on November 1st and continue until the position is filled.

All qualified applicants are encouraged to apply: however, Canadians and permanent residents will be given priority. Huron University College is committed to the highest standards of equity and encourages applications from qualified women and men, members of minorities, aboriginal peoples, and persons with disabilities. Huron values its place in an interconnected world and desires to create a diverse
**BY PAUL MAYNE**

The dusty and sweaty trails of the Canadian Forces Basic Training course, north of Barrie, Ont., might just be the closest thing business students and executives can come to finding out what it is like to be a part of a high-stress group and team in stressful situations, due to the familiar and methodical process of leadership under fire.

Challenged mentally and physically, the military simulation of the new Leadership Under Fire: Developing Character course is nothing like the 72-hour retail boot camp. Even the Canadian Forces before they move on to university had never been through the program.

Gerald Sejja said good leaders are born from experience. If they lack it, they eventually become aware of their limitations and take steps to address them, but usually after seeing how their blind spots cost them dearly.

“Leadership is a far cry from the gleaming walls and smooth surfaces of the typical classroom, at least not in Canada where leadership character plays a major role in determining success or failure. It's a team in stressful situations, due to the familiar and methodical process of leadership under fire.

**What the troops said**

**SPENCER GREEN, HBA'15**

Anyone can lead when things are going smoothly, however, what the course emphasizes is that leaders must be capable and competent under stress, and when it is most needed. That was one of many crucibles for me and I will definitely apply what I have learned about good leadership, which is something I will hold back from all worthwhile endeavors.

**SHAHRZAD POOYA, HBA'15**

It is one thing to say what you would do if you were in a particular situation, but it is something totally different to actually follow through and do it. In your career it is a time, you are forced to make decisions, and I think the leadership under fire course is something you can't achieve sitting in a classroom.

**AMANDA HEWITT, HBA'15**

The stress during the course was coming from the physical and mental challenges as well as from the fact that you don't have the luxury of time. It was a great opportunity to deeply reflect on myself as a leader and to learn about what tangible ways I can work on my character. It is a true test of the leader under fire, the leader must show great character. It is something you can't achieve sitting in a classroom.

**LARRY BUTCH, HBA'15**

When you've had barely three hours of sleep and you're back in team of eight people, who is going to be able to lead you through the storm? It is a true test of the leader under fire, the leader must show great character. It is something you can't achieve sitting in a classroom.

**ADVANCED LESSONS IN BASIC TRAINING**

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**What the troops said**

**SPENCER GREEN, HBA'15**

Anyone can lead when things are going smoothly, however, what the course emphasizes is that leaders must be capable and competent under stress, and when it is most needed. That was one of many crucibles for me and I will definitely apply what I have learned about good leadership, which is something I will hold back from all worthwhile endeavors.

**ALLAN KARL, HBA'15**

Good leaders learn from their crucibles. When you've had barely three hours of sleep and you're back in team of eight people, who is going to be able to lead you through the storm? It is a true test of the leader under fire, the leader must show great character. It is something you can't achieve sitting in a classroom.

**AMANDA HEWITT, HBA'15**

The stress during the course was coming from the physical and mental challenges as well as from the fact that you don't have the luxury of time. It was a great opportunity to deeply reflect on myself as a leader and to learn about what tangible ways I can work on my character. It is a true test of the leader under fire, the leader must show great character. It is something you can't achieve sitting in a classroom.
UWOFA president aims to keep association’s profile high

BY ADELA TALBOT

WHEN ALISON HEARN stepped up to the plate that is the University of Western Ontario Faculty Association (UWOFA), things were a bit hectic.

“Tennant, the previous president, stepped down to become the union’s chief negotiator. ‘I assumed the position early because Jeff Tennant, the previous president, stepped down to become the chief negotiator. That was a bit of a perfect storm, because I was teaching full-time,’ said the Faculty of Information and Media Studies professor.

Hearn took up the post of UWOFA president Feb. 18, after serving the union in various capacities, including vice-president.

‘The learning curve was pretty steep, and we were gearing up for negotiations. Last semester, before the summer, was a very busy one for me,’ she said. ‘But I had a ton of support.’

As her name came up as a possible replacement for Tennant, Hearn thought, ‘Why not?’ It was an opportunity to blend her academic, professional and personal interests.

‘I care a lot about the state of Western, and universities in general. In fact, it’s one of my research areas. I write about the history of the university in the West. I know quite a lot about the history of the institution, and, more recently, I’ve been writing about the transformations and changes we’ve seen in the university system in Canada– so it seemed to kind of make sense, that maybe, I give it a try,’ she said.

It was almost five years ago when Hearn first got involved with UWOFA, just before the last round of faculty contract negotiations. She remembers the time as both ‘excilating and trying,’ as a strike was nearly imminent.

In November 2010, UWOFA ratified a new collective agreement by a vote of 521-85 (86 per cent) in favour of the deal. As part of that four-year contract, UWOFA members received scale salary increases of 1.5 per cent each year. UWOFA members received scale salary increases of 1.5 per cent each year.

They came close to striking and I was a part of the middle of that. But really, it let me see how powerful teamwork can be, how powerful it can be to work with others as a team on a common cause, and with my colleagues across the university,” Hearn said. “And also, when negotiations are done, which they will be, soon enough, one of the reasons we have a new communications officer is to do more outreach in the community, and to keep the profile of UWOFA high in between negotiations, so we don’t only appear on the public’s radar when we’re at the table,” she continued.

But really, it let me see how powerful it was kind of in the middle of that.

“We are.”

Full-time tenured faculty, and those in tenure-track positions, recognize their fates depend on the fates of contract faculty, and vice-versa, Hearn added. Things like workload and issues of academic freedom bring the two sides together.

Leaving negotiations aside, I think our goal, and my goal, is to really show up in the association, to rebuild it and renew it – to bring younger folks on board, to reach out to areas in the university we might not have historically been that active in,” she explained.

And also, when negotiations are done, which they will be, soon enough, one of the reasons we have a new communications officer is to do more outreach in the community, and to keep the profile of UWOFA high in between negotiations, so we don’t only appear on the public’s radar when we’re at the table,” she continued.

In the meantime, it’s hard to ignore the elephant in the room.

Current negotiations are heating up, and with an appointed conciliator, Hearn is hopeful and expects things to resolve amicably. While the problems she said plague contract academic faculty – among them job security, benefits and compensation – are systemic, she thinks gains can still be made, even if the issues can’t be entirely resolved at the table.

“UWOFA’s core mission is to defend and support the work of our members – that means high quality teaching and research,” Hearn said. “Obviously contract negotiations are the primary place where those sorts of things are discussed and worked out. Our members told us this round, when we went through a fairly rigorous process of identifying goals, that the top priorities for them were compensation and benefits, and also enhanced job security, stability and compensation and benefits for contract faculty,” she said.

‘I think the key thing people might not realize is how the professorate looks now is not the cliched version of tenured professors making a really good salary, teaching very little,’ Hearn continued.

“Our goal is to try and educate the outside world about this change. We recognize this isn’t unique to Western. These are shifts in the nature of what work in the university looks like. And it happens across the sector. We’re not signaling Western out, but it’s where we are.”

Tenure track and tenured appointments are crucial to academic freedom and that’s central to the university’s mission. Without tenure, you don’t have academic freedom. If you’re working on a contract, you don’t have job security and you don’t have academic freedom,” she said.

BY ADELA TALBOT // WESTERN NEWS

Alison Hearn, who teaches in the Faculty of Information and Media Studies, is the new president of the University of Western Ontario Faculty Association (UWOFA). She began her term early this year, when Jeff Tennant, the previous president, stepped down to become the union’s chief negotiator.

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Western Serves heads into the community

SPECIAL TO WESTERN NEWS
Western Serves 2014 brought campus community volunteers outside The Gates and across the city this past weekend. Western Serves’ Day of Service is a campuswide event that gives students, staff and faculty the opportunity to participate in community-based initiatives in the London area. Volunteers spent their afternoon helping organizations with a broad range of activities including gardening, building, painting and baking. This year, 300 students, staff and faculty volunteers supported more than 20 community organizations.

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BY PAUL MAYNE

WHILE GROWING UP in the Netherlands, Koen Tholhuijsen spent countless hours in his father's workshop. As an electrician, he had a lot of tools hanging around. As a kid, I was extremely good at breaking stuff,” said the 25-year-old. “I would always try and fix things before my parents figured it out. Playing with all those tools was when I started enjoying working with my hands.”

Today, Tholhuijsen uses this curiosity to get ‘in tune’ with his internship as a piano technician at Toronto’s Royal Conservatory of Music. And he gives credit for his ear for music to Western’s Piano Technology Program, which has been training students from around the world for 14 years.

The one-year intensive program has seen students arrive from more than a dozen countries – Australia to Ireland, Germany to Cuba – to learn the fine art of piano tuning, repairs and finding that perfect pitch.

Formerly located at Toronto’s George Brown College, the program was revamped and brought to where it belongs, in a music school, said program co-ordinator Anne Fleming-Read. It remains the only piano technology program offered in North America.

“It’s like its own laboratory. This is the perfect location,” she said of the program, tucked neatly in a corner of the Don Wright Faculty of Music Building.

“This is a niche market – and a very small market. There have been several schools throughout the world that are no longer operating,” Fleming-Read said. “Apparently, word gets out you can come here and, in eight months, have what you need to go out and start making a living, and continue your learning.”

With just 14 students in the program each year, Tholhuijsen saw Western as the perfect opportunity for him, despite the fact he was already enrolled in a similar program in Amsterdam.

“It was a three-year program. After I did the first half-year, I pretty quickly figured out it wasn’t the right school for me,” said Tholhuijsen, who quickly began googling piano technology programs. “Western was one of the first ones that popped up right away. The website was good and I got a lot of great information. So, I got in touch with Anne and made my decision.”

Coming to London was delayed as he spent the next year-and-half saving up the $16,000 program tuition. But it was worth the wait, Tholhuijsen added.

“I just wanted to go to a good school and reach my goal of working in the business,” he said. “They teach you the basics of what you’re going to need to be successful. And to be successful, you spend on average of 60-70 hours a week in school. That’s a lot of time to put in. But if you do that, there’s a big chance you’ll learn so much.

“They push you to succeed, which is great. My personal-ity needed that pressure.”

Fleming-Read said students appreciate the individual time they receive, with such small classes, thanks to senior technical officer Don Stephenson and resident technician Paul Poppy.

“It allows for a lot of individual and personal attention,” she said. “It’s not just them sitting at a desk. You are working right there with them. You get to see their ‘up’ days, and their ‘down’ days, and respond accordingly. Sometimes, you take risks when you push them harder, but they need to know they can do it.”

While the main program will not be growing, a summer session in Piano Technology is offered to graduates and practicing technicians. A similar one-month program will also be offered for residents of China, an area desperate to educate technicians.

“This will be for those who already have some experience and want to take it to the next level,” Fleming-Read said.

Tholhuijsen joked despite waiting the year-and-a half to begin at Western, he still graduated before his former classmates in Amsterdam. And a few months into his internship, despite all his training, he admits the learning never stops.

“You are always developing your listening skills,” said Tholhuijsen, who, while not a pianist, dabbles on the piano. “Everybody has it, everyone hears it, but you really need to develop it, which is why it’s important to put those 60-70 hours in.

“Most people who listen to music will hear different things we hear, as tuners. At the beginning, you barely hear anything, but then you slowly start developing your listen-ing skills and begin hearing more and more. It takes time and, still now, it’s improving for me.”
On Campus

Bentham’s *Untitled* gets a new life on campus

**BY TAYLOR DAVISON**

*IN 1979, THE University Students’ Council (USC) commissioned Saskatchewan artist Douglas Bentham to create a sculpture in honour of Western’s 100th anniversary. Originally located on the Concrete Beach in front of the University Community Centre (UCC), the sculpture, *Untitled*, was meant to reflect the surrounding architecture and cultivate qualities similar to that of a courtyard: a space for students to come together.*

*Unknown to students were the details of this purchase, including the fact Bentham had given the university a deal on the sculpture, as most artists of Bentham’s status would have accepted no less than $50,000 for a work of this scale. Additionally, after the $5,000 fee for the jury and committee assembled to assist the USC with the commission, as well as cost of materials, tools and other general expenses that Bentham incurred, the artist’s profit for his one year of work on the piece was just $15,000.*

*Still, students fervidly argued this was an irresponsible use of funds in a time fraught with economic restraints and budget cuts. These beliefs soon turned into actions and the sculpture was repeatedly vandalized.*

*This was not the first time sculptures on Western’s campus had been ill received.*

*London artists Walter Redinger and Edward Zelenak both had works on campus vandalized by university students. When these acts occurred, Maurice Stubbs, a London artist and former director at McIntosh Gallery, believed students were not only reacting to the high cost of these works, but were also simply unaccustomed to contemporary sculpture.*

*“Public art is often contentious,” said James Patten, McIntosh Gallery director/chief curator. “It’s an expensive venture to do major pieces of public art.”*  

*“Modernist sculpture of this sort has gone in and out of fashion. All through the 1980s, there was resistance to public sculpture, in general, especially modern abstract public sculpture like the Bentham piece. It has to be seen in the broader context of international modernism that was very optimistic about the future, a symbol of international values. These sculptures could be anywhere in the world and still have the same meaning. That vision of the world, that international vision, is very important, and the Bentham piece is certainly one of the best Canadian sculptures of that style.”*  

*Bentham did accurately predict the eventual end of the animosity toward his sculpture.*

*“Some time, down the road, when the dust has settled, I think these people will appreciate it. If they put energy into it, then the work will respond,” Bentham said in a 1979 article featured in The Gazette. “If they only want to regard it financially, well then, all I can say is that 10 years from now, the piece will be worth twice as much.”*  

*He likely did not anticipate his once highly controversial work would become all but forgotten.*

*As the USC is subject to annual turnover of its representatives, it was easy for Bentham’s sculpture to fall by the wayside. Left unmaintained for years, the work’s paint chipped and the metal underneath began to rust. The piece was eventually moved to the lawn in front of the UCC in 2008, but was still paid little attention.*

*In 2012, the McIntosh Gallery approached the USC president Adams to negotiate an arrangement whereby the gallery would absorb Bentham’s piece into their collection and, henceforth, be responsible for its maintenance.*

*With the deed of gift signed by Fearnall, the McIntosh Gallery accepted this work by such an influential Canadian artist into their collection.*

*“It is part of a larger project at the McIntosh to ensure works on campus are secure and maintained,” said Patten, who first began thinking about restoring the sculpture when he arrived at the gallery as director in 2010. “We explained to the USC that the sculpture would be better cared for if it was in the McIntosh collection and that we were interested in acquiring it. They were really glad and cooperative in turning it over to us.”*  

*It was no secret the sculpture was in a dilapidated state, so the McIntosh Gallery began formulating a plan for restoration.*

*Contacting Bentham was the first step, as his involvement in the decisions surrounding the restoration would be paramount in keeping the work as close to the original as possible.*

*In June 2014, the project began. The sculpture was sandblasted, removing all of the rust and chipped paint from the metal frame. It was then completely repainted using a colour approved by the artist.*  

*“I am thrilled to see this artwork restored,” Bentham said recently. “Originally conceived for the plaza where it was surrounded by architecture, this new location gives the sculpture much more of a sense of belonging to its environment. Even the colour has a natural compatibility with the setting, allowing the stacked, cut out shapes to read even more pictorially. Placing it against a slope is an inspired decision.”*  

*All in all it is a wonderful installation. Thank you to everyone at Western University involved in making this happen. Untitled has a new life.”*
// ACADEMIC

PHD Lectures
Aazdesh Fereidooni, Geophysics, Seismic Processes in the Charlevoix Seismic Zone, Eastern Canada. 11:30 a.m. Oct 9 TB0.
Agneszka Dzioba, Health and Rehabilitation Sciences, Exploring Communication Apprehension and its Relationship to Communicator Attitude and Socio-Communicative Functioning in Children with Velopharyngeal Insufficiency. 1 p.m. Oct 15 TB0.

Please send submissions to news@ uwo.ca.

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// STUDENT BULLETIN

Student Central In-Person Regular Hours
9 a.m.-4:30 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-Thursday; 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Friday.

Psychological Services

Laura Evans Lecture Series (Presentations). Will be offering a variety of presentation 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. vdc@uwo.ca/cgycoth.

LinkedIn Workshop
With millions of users, LinkedIn is a tool with many facets. Finding a job or internship, requesting an informational interview, connecting with Western alumni and employers are just a few of the ways you can utilize LinkedIn. Registration at westerntransient.ca is required. 11:30 a.m.-2 p.m. OCT 15, UCC 315 (Council Chambers).

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. 15: Deadline to apply for relief against a final grade in a Spring/Summer Distance Studies course.
Oct. 20: First day of first-term second quarter (‘F’) courses (Kин).
Oct. 30-31: Fall Study Break.
Nov. 1: Last day that students registered in ‘W’ accelerated language courses may transfer to the equivalent full-course year 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.
For more information, please visit us on the web at studentservices.uwo.ca and follow us on Twitter @Western_WSS.

// CAREERS

A central website displays advertisements for all vacant academic positions. The following positions are among those advertised at uwo.ca/facultyrela-
tions/faculty/academic_positions.html Please review or contact the faculty school or department directly.

Full-Time Academic Appointments

Faculty of Science - Tier I Canada Research Chair in Complex Systems Modelling and Analysis Tenured position at the rank of associate professor or full professor. The successful candidate will be jointly appointed to the Department of Biology and either the Department of Computer Science or Department of Statistical and Actuarial Sciences with a start date of July 1, 2015. Applications will be considered starting Jan. 1, 2015 and will continue until the position is filled.

Faculty of Science - Department of Computer Science and Statistical & Actuarial Sciences Search for a Tier I Canada Research Chair in Data Analytics to be jointly appointed to a tenured position at the rank of associate professor or full professor. The rank will be commensurate with the successful applicant’s qualifications and experience. The starting date will be July 1, 2015. Applications will be considered starting Jan. 1, 2015 and will continue until the position is filled.

Faculty of Science - Associate or assistant professor in Environmetrics Search for a tenured or probationary associate professor, or tenure-track assistant professor in Environmetrics. The rank will be commensurate with the successful applicant’s qualifications and experience. The starting date will be July 1, 2015. The position is a joint appointment to the Department of Statistical and Actuarial Sciences and the Department of Biology. The position is expected to build on strengths at Western in the development of models and analytical tools for the study of patterns and processes in environmental sciences. Applications will be considered starting Jan. 1, 2015 and will continue until the position is filled.

Faculty of Science - Department of Statistical & Actuarial Sciences Search for a tenure faculty position at the rank of associate professor or full professor. The rank will be commensurate with the successful applicant’s qualifications and experience. The position starting date will be July 1, 2015. Consideration of applications will begin on Jan. 1, 2015 and will continue until the position is filled.

Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry - Department of Surgery Academic Vascular Surgeon Seeking a full-time clinical academic vascular surgeon at the rank of assistant, associate or full professor. Applications will be accepted until the position is filled. Review of applications will begin after Jan. 1, 2015.

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

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Do you know that Western may be changing your RIRLIF Program?
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We will be holding a very informative session on Wed., October 22nd, 2014 from 12:00 - 1:00 pm at Windermere Manor, North Meeting Room. Lunch will be served.

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Campus Digest

**Western students top international academic competition**

RECENT MEDICAL SCIENCES graduate Milani Sivapragasam, along with 11 Western colleagues, have been named among the international winners of The Undergraduate Awards, a worldwide competition recognizing top undergraduate work.

Through the competition, student work in 25 categories was judged against peers from 206 of the world’s top institutions across 27 countries. Winners were selected out of 4,792 submissions.

Sivapragasam’s paper, Exploring Myxoma Virus Oncolytic Virotherapy in Combination with Carboplatin for the treatment of epithelial ovarian cancer, was named the overall winner of the Medical Sciences Category. She completed her research paper working with supervisor Dr Trevor Shepherd from Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry. She is now enrolled in the MD/PhD program at McGill University.

Eleven other Western students were recognized as ‘highly commended’ (among the top 10 per cent) in their fields including Rachel Bath, Virus Oncolytic Virotherapy in Combination with Carboplatin, in her field of Pharmaceutical Sciences; Lauren Ouellette, Classical Studies; Taylor Rodrigues, Philosophy & Theology; Jamie Rooney, Literature; Shawn Therien, Law; and Mei Taylor Rodrigues, Philosophy & Theology; Jamie Rooney, Literature; Shawn Therien, Law; and Mei Taylor Rodrigues, Philosophy & Theology.

Only two other Canadian students – one from McGill, one from the University of British Columbia – received the top prize in their categories.

The dozen Western winners will attend The Undergraduate Awards Global Awards Global in Dublin, Ireland, in November.

**NEWS AND NOTES**

Western Information Technology Services (ITS) recently added three popular – and powerful – site licenses to Western’s collection of software packages commonly available to the university community. Included in that mix are:

- Microsoft Campus Agreement, primarily covering Microsoft Office, plus Office 365, Dynamics 365, Dynamics CRM, and all other Microsoft software.
- Mathworks, covering Matlab and Simulink, offering mathematical analysis software tools for quantitative research support.
- Qualtrics, a cloud-based survey solution to support qualitative research, available to all faculty, staff and graduate students on Western’s Main Campus.

It took a lot of work, in collaboration with a number of our IT colleagues across campus, to design and implement these licenses. Taken in total, they enable our Western community to gain greater access to high-quality software at a lower overall cost,” Greive said. “We think this is a certain win-win outcome for Western.”

Campus software site licenses are blanket agreements that allow any member of an organization access to programs. Some software vendors, such as Microsoft, offer these licenses to universities so the institution can use their size to reduce the per individual license costs.

There will be blood

Fourth-year King’s University College student Chris Lass likely saved a couple lives this week – and it took him under an hour to do so. Canadian Blood Services was on campus Monday through Wednesday, part of their regular visit to Western to collect much-needed blood donations. If you missed donating this week, Canada Blood Services will be back on campus 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Oct. 23 and 27 in the University Community Centre and 4-8 p.m. Oct. 28 at London Hall. For more information, visit blood.ca.

There will be blood

He emphasized the council “will continue to provide societies and governments with policy relevant science that can and should form the basis policy making.”

McBean holds professorships in the Departments of Geography, Political Science and Physics, and is director of policy studies at the university’s Institute for Catastrophic Loss Reduction and co-director of the Centre for Environment and Sustainability.

Professor emeritus Clark Leith was awarded Botswana’s Presidential Order of Meritorious Service on Sept. 30. The award was given out during the country’s Independence Day celebrations and recognizes Leith’s years of service with the Ministry of Finance and Development Planning and the Bank of Botswana.

After serving as Western’s Provost from 1980-86, Leith took up a full-time position as an economic consultant in Botswana’s Ministry of Finance and Development Planning. Since, he has held a variety of positions including director of research and senior policy advisor at the bank, and since his retirement in 2003 as economic consultant at the Ministry of Finance and Development Planning.

Western students are being asked to answer the challenge yet again. Sponsored by Western International, the sixth annual World’s Challenge Challenge brings together teams of three students to choose a problem that the world is facing, and present and innovative solution at a panel of judges. Each member of the winning team will receive a $1,000 scholarship to be used on an international learning opportunity broadening their educational experience.

The Challenge is open to all Western students. Applications are due Oct. 10, and can be submitted at the Western International website, international.western. The semi-finals will be held Nov. 4. The finals, judged by a panel of Western academic and community leaders, will be held Nov. 11.

According to the School of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies, Western’s Electronic Thesis and Dissertations Repository had 38,534 full-text downloads and 162 new submissions every year. The five most popular theses were:

1. Barriers to Education in Homeless Youth, Michelle S. Solomon, Nursing, MScN, 113.1 downloads per day, 3,300 downloads to date;
2. Evaluating the Montreal Cognitive Assessment (MoCA) and the Mini Mental State Exam (MMSE) for Cognitive Impairment Post Stroke: A Validation Study against the Cognistat, Lauren Friedman, Epidemiology and Biostatistics, MSc, 22.9 downloads per day, 21,402 downloads to date;
3. Knowledge Translation and the Governance of Health Research in Canada: A Critical Discourse Analysis, Kathleen S. Ellis, Health and Rehabilitation Sciences, PhD, 15.9 downloads per day, 932 downloads to date;
4. Representing Game Dialogue as Expressions in First-Order Logic, Kaylen FJ Wheeler, Computer Science, MSc, 11.6 downloads per day, 3,456 downloads to date;
5. Design and Optimization of Efficient Wireless Power Transfer Links for Implantable Biotelemetry Systems, Shan Senjuti, Electrical and Computer Engineering, MESc, 9.5 downloads per day, 7,149 downloads to date.

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