BY ADELA TALBOT

HEY, STUDENTS, YOU might want to listen up.

Created by students, for students, Your London Calling – or yourlondoncalling.ca – is here to help you settle into a comfortable, informed and involved postsecondary experience in the Forest City.

The website and its contents represent a partnership between the City of London, Western's University Students' Council (USC) and the Fanshawe Students' Union. It offers postsecondary students information on settling in, getting around, getting involved, earning money, having fun and even completing a 'bucket list' over the next four years.

Your London Calling launched this month, in time to welcome postsecondary students to London.

"What happened, I think, was the city realized at the Town and Gown Committee that they were really not communicating with students in the best way possible," said Jen Carter, vice-president (external) with the USC.

"The city website itself is not mobile friendly. In terms of having a centralized space for students to get information about the city – that was fairly non-existent. What came together was a need for students to be able to gather information about the city in one place, for commonly asked questions that were difficult to find the answer to before Your London Calling."

The idea for the website came up this past spring – it went to council and was passed with a budget allocated for its development. Over the summer, an ad hoc committee came together with representatives from the city, Western and Fanshawe, working with students to determine what information would be featured on Your London Calling, Carter explained.

Everything you see on the website was done in consultation with students, she added.

"This is a start. One of the things I've learned as a student leader over the years is, if an idea comes up and it won't hurt anyone, it won't be controversial and it won't be expensive, then it's worth a try. I think that's what you're seeing here," Carter said.

"I'm really excited for the possibility to have a central hub for information and I am idealistic that it can help students," she continued.

What she hopes to see happen, and what she expects, is an increase in traffic to the website leading up to the municipal election next month, Carter said. In fact, she hopes to see the website become a tool for greater student engagement and involvement in their community.

"The USC has a massive 'Get Out To Vote' initiative going on and the website is extremely timely in terms of the upcoming election. We're really focused on trying to connect students to services the city does provide – obviously LTC (London Transit Commission) is one of the most massively used student services provided by the city – and we're working to try and communicate that if students can band together and vote, and make transit a massive priority in the city, change can happen," she explained.

"I understand the logic that one vote might not matter. But in this case, 33,000 do."

New website looks to get city’s students more involved
Neuroplasticity of Language: From PSYCHOLOGY SEMINAR
7-9:30 p.m. Masterclass. Yarnell: Careers in Singing.
FACULTY OF MUSIC
DON WRIGHT
7 p.m. Queen’s at Western.
MEN’S HOCKEY
5 p.m. Guelph at Western.
MEN’S VOLLEYBALL
9 a.m. Queen’s at Western.
FIELD HOCKEY
27 // SATURDAY
Brock at Western.
FIELD HOCKEY
28 // SUNDAY
2:30-3:30 p.m. WSS 3134.
ART SCIENCE SHOWCASE
Runs until Nov. 1. Free admission. mcintoshgallery.ca.
JANET WERNER: ANOTHER PERFECT DAY
10:45 a.m. FIELD HOCKEY
2:30-3:30 p.m. von Kuster Hall.
MCINTOSH GALLERY
Runs until Nov. 1.
LEARNING SKILLS SERVICES
Effective Textbook Strategies sdc.uwo.ca/learning
2:30-3:30 p.m. WSS 3134.
MEN’S VOLLEYBALL
Guelph at Western. 3 p.m.
MEN’S HOCKEY
5 & 7 p.m. Laurier at Western.
WOMEN’S SOFTBALL
3-4 p.m. UOIT at Western.
TENNIS
McGill at Western. Women’s 10 a.m. Men’s 12 p.m.
DON WRIGHT
FACULTY OF MUSIC
Masterclass with Joan Patenaude-Yamell.
11 a.m.-2 p.m. von Kuster Hall.
FIELD HOCKEY
McGill at Western. 1:30 p.m.
LEARNING SKILLS SERVICES
Writing Multiple-Choice Tests sdc.uwo.ca/learning.
11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. WSS 3134.
SPATIAL REASONING:
What really lies in the eye of the beholder?
Alex Huk, Neuroscience & Psychology, University of Texas at Austin.
New perspective on decision-related activity across the dorsal stream.
Tuesday, September 30th, 2014 9:30 a.m. Fisher Scientific Conference Room.
SENIOR ALUMNI PROGRAM
Listen Up. Research developments in hearing and hearing-related disorders.
Paula Folkeard, National Centre for Audiology, Western.
9:30 a.m. UCC, McKellar Room.
STUDENT SUCCESS CENTRE WORKSHOP
Join us for this informative workshop, and learn about the benefits of engaging in experiential learning opportunities at Western, including work integrated learning, community and global engagement.
The Student Success Centre; westernsuccesscentre.ca.
5-6 p.m. UCC 147A.
LEARNING SKILLS SERVICES
Essay Exam Essentials sdc.uwo.ca/learning.
2:30-4 p.m. WSS 3134.
LEARNING SKILLS SERVICES
Preparing for Multiple-Choice Tests. sdc.uwo.ca/learning.
5:30-6:30 p.m. KB 106.
MICRO FILM SERIES
Das Leben der Anderen (The Lives of Others). Directed by Florian Henckel von Donnersmark.
6:30 p.m. UCC 207.
MEN’S BASKETBALL
Rideau College at Western.
7 p.m.
Please send submissions to comingevents@uwo.ca.

Have an event? Let us know.
E-mail: comingevents@uwo.ca

www.uwo.ca/neuroscience
#tag with westernu
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flickr.com/groups/western/
Don’t think about this in terms of a grand economy. Boil it down.

Say your business compensated its employees the same way this economy has for 30 years now — consistently widening the gap between what it paid in salary and offered in benefits to older employees vs. younger ones. There would be a mass exodus of that young talent to a more equitable business. If that opportunity was not found around the corner or across town, they would find it across the country or around the world. Your place of employment would be crippled and its future hollowed out, unable to support its pension and benefit commitments.

Our young alumni face that reality right now. Our country faces that reality in the near future. That might be cause to talk about it as a nation. That might be cause to talk about it as a community.

Issued Tuesday, a Conference Board of Canada report, The Bucks Stop Here: Trends in Income Inequality between Generations, spelled out the issue clearly.

The income gap between older and younger workers has exploded over the past three decades across all demographicss – women and men, individuals and couples, before and after tax. The average disposable income of Canadians between ages 50-54 is now 64 per cent higher than that of 25-29 year olds. That’s up from 47 per cent in the mid-1980s. In essence, companies are creating “two-tier workplaces” where they offer new hires lower pay and reduced benefits for the same job.

Based on 27 years of income tax data, the report shows a system full of unprecedented challenges for the nation’s younger generation of workers. The current reality is one of historically high debt loads on youth, historically low interest rates and historically high home prices. Combine these with the tilt from the employer-supported retirement packages of the past, and the future doesn’t look much brighter.

No question, this generation of young Canadians will be the first in the nation’s history to find themselves worse off than their parents at retirement for most of us.

The report acknowledged what few leaders are willing to do:

“Younger workers will not be in a healthy financial position at retirement, even if their incomes do increase rapidly over time. And if they are stretching out the earlier periods of their adult lives by delaying entry into the workforce and having children, it also implies that they should be expecting to work longer and retire at an older age.”

Or, as my Generation X came to grapple with long ago: There will be no retirement for most of us.

The report further warned “if today’s younger workers continue to see their earnings lag as their experiences grow, social stability … could be severely challenged.”

You know, I wouldn’t blame this generation one bit for taking the first plane out bound for better opportunities. Reading this report, I’m struck by the fact there was never any nebulous ‘skills gap’ created by universities educating too many students in the wrong subjects. That strawman has burned to the ground. The problem is a generational blockade, shortsighted and unwilling to yield. Because of that, Canada faces a potential talent drain as the economic system, so stacked against young workers, eventually chases them away.

Today, we are graduating the best and brightest minds we ever have. And if this generation can let go of mam and dad (a big ‘if,’ granted), they have the most globally transferable skill sets of any generation ever. They are smart, clever, plugged-in and mobile. Any country would be glad to have them.

And the only price would be a fair compensation environment.

That doesn’t seem like a high price. But it is one this report shows Canada has been unwilling to pay for a long time.

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**Editor’s Letter**

**Why not hop a plane bound for better opportunities**

*JASON WINDERS
Western News Editor*
Letters to the Editor

// Don’t lose sight of university’s meaning to young people

In the flurry of worrying about career paths, partnerships with industry, tuition and fees, we might completely forget the four years at university are supposed to be important formative years in a young person’s life. ("Make sure debate about tuition costs is rooted in reality," Western News, Sept. 18) There was a related article by columnist David Brooks published in National Post and New York Times International, "University should be a place for soul-searching, not just money-grubbing.”

Some professors pay more attention to this than others, but it seems to be just because of their personality, and not because shaping students as individuals is officially related to our mission. I don’t think one should go as far as putting anything on that into the illegitimate referendum for something that, as they have been told, should make their lives more bearable.

I frequently asked myself: What are the unarticulated fears of the Donbas region’s people? Losing their imagined community to the one of so-called ‘Ukrainian fascists’? Rotating European values? Zero trade with Russia? Modernization of their old manufacturing?

PhD student in Comparative Literature at Western. Her research interests include utopian studies, Soviet experimental fiction and Ukrainian and Russian contemporary literature.

PROFESSOR EREMITUS (PSYCHOLOGY)
KING’S UNIVERSITY COLLEGE

// Homecoming rider head over hooves with ‘horse’-pitality

Kelsie Zollar and Memphis wish to thank everyone for the excellent treatment they received while at Western’s Homecoming game. The respect and caution everyone exercised toward them was deeply appreciated. We’re hoping to see you all again soon.

SUE BEDFORD
Research

Professor connects math, biology to order behaviour

Applied Mathematics professor Geoff Wild uses mathematical models to understand the logic that underlies animal behavior and evolutionary ecology. Using these models, he develops gene-based accounting systems that help make sense of less-than-intuitive animal behaviours.

BY PAUL MAYNE

“Mathematics helps us organize our thinking in order to make sense of what seems senseless.”

- Geoff Wild

NATURE IS a cutthroat business, where animals, even humans, are in a relentless competition for resources like food, mates or shelter. And whether we suffer or prosper, it all comes down to our genes, said Applied Mathematics professor Geoff Wild.

Wild’s research focuses on what he describes as ‘gene currency’ – what genes provide us, why they do what they do, what they offer our allies or opponents. In doing so, he uses mathematical models to better understand the logic that underlies gene-driven behavioural and evolutionary ecology, and perhaps give fellow researchers a window into the future.

For his work, Wild was recently presented with the 2014 Early Career Award in Applied Mathematics from both the Canadian Applied and Industrial Mathematics Society and Pacific Institute for the Mathematical Sciences.

“I use modeling the same way an experimenter would use an experiment,” he said. “As you can design an experiment to answer a specific question, you can design a model to answer a particular question as well. You can use numbers to try and make some headway into important questions biologists are interested in.”

Wild’s models are the same types physicists use to describe a particle moving around in space. “We don’t have a projectile moving through space,” Wild said, “but we have an abstract notion of space – and that is your space of behavior. One often talks about a spectrum of behaviour – you can be nasty or really nice or all sorts of in between.”

Based on these modeled predictions, biologists can test a particular species, or perhaps look across an evolutionary tree. With an endangered species dependent on social interactions, for example, scientists could get a better understanding of these interactions and, perhaps, be able to predict when things are going – or about to go – wrong.

“You can connect math and biology in so many different ways. Biology is so diverse and the applications of math come in all sorts of places,” Wild said. “You can use mathematics to uncover some tidy way to think about things. Mathematics helps us organize our thinking in order to make sense of what seems senseless.”

Wild has spent his greatest efforts on the emergence of complex societies, especially relatively complex animal societies and the transition of a lone wolf to pack mentality.
Fusion Sushi, and now featuring fresh Osysters & Izakaya Bar.

Visit our newly renovated second level that offers Japanese night life in Downtown London.

Savour our fresh sushi & innovative asian flavour.

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See our 1/2 price coupon in the Western Student Guide.

HONORARY DEGREE NOMINATIONS

The Senate Honorary Degrees Committee will meet during the last week in October to select candidates for honorary degrees to be awarded at Western’s Spring convocations. To ensure that consideration is given to as many worthy candidates as possible, the Committee invites the submission of nominations from any member of the University Community.

Nomination forms may be downloaded from the following website: uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/senate/honorary/hondeg.pdf and submitted electronically to ibirrell@uwo.ca prior to October 24, 2014, for consideration by the Honorary Degrees Committee.

As Gary Barwin sees it, this world needs writers as much as it needs the bees.

In a relatively large universe, both are small, often obscured. Both work in the background, buzzing about, noticed only by those who feel their sting.

“Writing may not seem big – but it’s vital that it happens and that it can happen, that we have writers who can explore different areas in life, and sometimes those small and insignificant things that are actually huge,” Barwin said.

“Like bees, they don’t seem to be so important. But in the grand scheme of things, they’re very important. Without bees, the (environmental) effect would be huge, even though bees are these small, little things we don’t view as ‘very important. I think writers are somehow like that,” he continued.

“I don’t think I’m immensely important, but I do think writing is part of a healthy diversity and that’s critical for civilization and for humankind.”

Barwin, a writer, composer and multimedia artist, is the author of 17 books of poetry and fiction for readers of all ages.

READ ALL OVER
A book supplement to Western News.

BY ADELA TALBOT

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WRITER IN RESIDENCE // CONTINUED ON PAGE 9
Delacourt’s Shopping stands in Weston Award contention

SUSAN DELACOURT, BARZ, has been named among five finalists for this year’s Hilary Weston Writers’ Trust Prize for Nonfiction for her book, Shopping for Votes: How Politicians Choose Us and We Choose Them. Delacourt is a former editor of Western’s student Gazette.

The Weston Award, the richest annual literary award for a book of nonfiction published in Canada, is presented for literary excellence in the category of nonfiction, which includes, among other forms, personal or journalistic essays, history, biography, memoirs, commentary and criticism, both social and political.

In Shopping for Votes, Delacourt takes readers into the world of Canada’s top political marketers, from the 1950s to the present, explaining how parties slice and dice their platforms for different audiences and how they manage the media. The current system divides the country into ‘niche’ markets and abandons the hard political work of knitting together broad consensus or national vision. Little wonder then, that most Canadians have checked out of the political process. Refreshingly non-partisan, Shopping for Votes offers a new narrative for understanding political culture in Canada.

Weston Award jurors called the book “a revelation of how political marketing works.”

“The idea is, when an adult does something Behavioural Economics for Kids, Bendle recently published, isn’t exactly for kids. It’s for you, and other ‘big kids’ out there, meant to validate something we already know, on some level, to be true – when it comes to decision making, we sometimes behave like children.

In 15 short, illustrated chapters, Bendle, an Ivey Business School Marketing professor, covers behavioral tendencies which detail some of the most significant elements of modern behavioural research. His father-in-law, Philip Chen, provided the quirky illustrations. Consider, for instance, the third chapter, Hyperbolic Discounting. With a tag line of “a marshmallow in the hand is worth two promised later,” the chapter succinctly describes a universal tendency toward immediate gratification. Much like a child who is offered one cookie now, or two cookies later, we tend to pick and heavily discount the immediate, rather than opting for a greater reward in the distant future. What we want, it seems, depends on when you ask us.

“The actions we see our children doing can help to explain our own behaviour,” reads the introduction to the book. His ideal audience is students, but anyone could find this book of interest, Bendle said, noting each chapter is backed up by an academic paper, referenced at the end.

“The idea is, when an adult does something

READ THE BOOK


Ivey prof’s book turns economics into child’s play

BY ADELA TALBOT

NEIL BENDLE HOPES you get a good chuckle out of it.

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READ THE BOOK

Student writer coaxing new students out of comfort zones

BY ADELA TALBOT

At 4 years of age, Steven Slowka dictated his first story to his mom, but his attempts to write stories and books ever since have floundered.

“They never came full circle,” said Slowka, this year’s Student Writer in Residence, of his recent writing efforts. Then, he freed his voice within the constraints of poetry.

“Poetry, for me, is kind of like a puzzle. Most of my poems are no longer than a page and it’s about finding the specific words I need and putting them into an arrangement to make the puzzle work, and to put the puzzle together,” said the fourth-year Anthropology student.

“The idea of writing a short story now is too big and expansive – too many things can go wrong. With a poem, it’s finite and there’s ultimately an ‘aha moment’ – something I want to work toward at the end of the poem.”

For Slowka, who grew up in small rural towns in New Brunswick and Ontario, writing started as a means of escape. He spent his formative years reading many books, and soon his interest shifted to wanting to create, rather than consume, the written word.

He picked up writing in high school, but it wasn’t until he arrived at Western that he discovered he had a knack.

“I started thinking and feeling like I’m actually getting better at this. I can finish poems, and finish things,” he said, noting he draws inspiration from everything around him, including his studies and life experiences.

“My poems start with a title. I’ll hear an interesting word, or if I learn something interesting, I use that and start with it,” Slowka continued.

Part of his studies included research in Indonesia and Uganda, and some of those experiences have likewise weighed heavily on his mind.

“In Indonesia, I met a young boy and we became best friends when I was there. Part of the dilemma of being an anthropologist is you build human relationships when you do research. You do field work in a place that’s not your home and then you have to leave those relationships behind,” Slowka said.

“A couple years later, I found out the boy had drowned. There’s a weird disconnect in being an anthropologist and having human relationships and having a home that isn’t your current home. So I wrote about that. There’s still stuff going on in that part of the world, but I’m over here.”

Coming from an anthropological background, Slowka writes about culture. A number of his poems feature animals, including Archaeopteryx, published in PRISM International. It’s an extinct evolutionary bird, but the poem has nothing to do with the bird. It’s about the after moments of sex, something that expires in its own way.

Now, having taken on the Student Writer in Residence post, Slowka hopes to work with Western’s and London’s creative writing communities.

“I’m really excited for the position – it’s new and I’m only the third one. There’s no program like this anywhere in North America, and it’s a blank slate, so to speak,” he said.

A big part of his term’s focus will be working with first-year students.

“When I was a first-year student, I was writing but I wasn’t writing things I thought were good yet. I would have been afraid to give my work to someone to read and I wasn’t into going out to a poetry slam,” he added.

Slowka hopes to coax new students out of their comfort zones by hosting workshops or writing contests within residences, in hopes of fostering their creativity, allowing others find and express their voices.

Another goal for his term, he added, is showing creative writers in the community how to blend and incorporate their professional and creative sides, to find inspiration and material in unexpected places.

“There’s a lot of potential with first-year students in the residence system. I was a residence advisor and a residence don for the past two years,” he said. “Everything’s a new experience for first years and it’s a great place to make creative writing a thing.”

He’s also Western’s newest Writer in Residence in the Faculty of Arts & Humanities, having started his term this month. While he lives in Hamilton, Barwin will commute to London and hold office hours twice a week on campus, splitting his time here between the university and the London Public Library.

Born in Northern Ireland, Barwin moved to Canada as a child with an ever-increasing interest in the arts. He attended a fine arts school in Grades 11 and 12, and followed that with a BA in English, BFA in music and BBEd, all from York University, as well as a PhD in music composition from the State University of New York (SUNY).

His work has been performed, broadcast, anthologized and published nationally and internationally. His latest book of poetry is Moon Baboon Canoe and recently completed a novel, Yiddish for Pirates. Barwin has also taught writing at McMaster University and Mohawk College, as well as to street-involved youth.

“In teaching and in writing, my aim is to have people feel they are creative. Being a person means being able to respond creatively to the world. Our imagination is our most important evolutionary application,” Barwin said.

“For adults, or for any kind of writing, it’s about validating, exploring and reflecting the imagination. I do lots of making up stories with kids, in some cases, with adults. They’re a creative person, too, so the writing comes from sharing ideas with kids, and facilitating their delight, and taking them to places their imagination lets them. I hope I do this with adult work as well,” he continued.

“I do work with street youth and it’s the same thing. I value their imagination, and I value their voice. To understand their creativity and sense of the world is exciting and as engaging and worthwhile as mine or anyone else’s. I really believe that.”

Part of the mandate of Western’s Writer in Residence position is an involvement in the community. Barwin hopes not only to be a resource for writers in London, but also work with at-risk and homeless youth in the city’s core, helping others find and express their voices.

“You’re teaching people to find their own creativity and to trust it, and whatever that looks like for them, I think that’s what it’s all about,” he added.

“When I teach, I talk about inspiration, and they can either come from outside in, or from inside out. Mostly, it comes from experiences I have had. If you have a sense, or a feeling of some kind that you feel like pursing, that guides you outside into the materials – that’s inspiration,” Barwin explained.

“I think on a fundamental level, my work is about identity and how one constructs a sense of oneself, and how one constructs a sense of the world.”

Writing is about being connected with oneself, with a community, and with a world that surrounds. This sense of connection is something Barwin hopes to contribute to and grow in London.

“I want to point writers to other communities and places in the world, to make connections with people, with writers and communities and different kinds of writing,” he said.

Society moves along without any awareness of poetry, for example, and so just to be able to find that place and build a community within the greater culture, is great.”

Barwin has received numerous awards, including the 2013 City of Hamilton Arts Award (Writing), Hamilton Poetry Book of the Year 2011; 2010 bpNichol chapbook Award, and KM Hunter Artist Award. His YA novel, Seeing Stars, was shortlisted for both the Christie Awards of Canada Arthur Ellis Award as well as the Canadian Library Association YA Book of Year, and his picture book, The Magic Mustache, was chosen as a Best Bet by Macleans.

Barwin’s residency is co-sponsored by the James A. and Marjorie Spenceley Fund, the London Public Library and Western’s Faculty of Arts & Humanities.

OFFICE HOURS
Western Writer in Residence Gary Barwin will hold office hours 2:30-3:30 p.m. Wednesdays in the Arts & Humanities Building, Room 2G28M.
The Office of the Vice-President (Research) has strategically established new internal programs that are explicitly aligned with Tri-Agency mandates and funding opportunities. New researchers who have not held Tri-Agency funding or established researchers seeking to bridge over to a Tri-Agency grant may apply for Seed and Bridge research support respectively. The intent of these awards is to offer critical, one-time funding to support individual investigator’s research activities for subsequent development of strong, competitive submissions to the Tri-Agency and other external, peer-reviewed research sponsors.

The merit of each proposal will be assessed on innovation, impact, deliverables (both long- and short-term), proposed methodology, HQP training plan and proposed budget. Successful applicants are expected to develop and submit competitive research proposals to a specific Tri-Agency competition within two years of the award’s start date.

**Award Value:**
Seed & Bridge Grants – up to $25,000
Faculty 1:1 match award included.

**Deadlines:**
Dean’s Deadline – November 3
RD&S Deadline – November 17

For more information on these new internal funding opportunities, please visit uwo.ca/research/funding/internal/index.html.

**Contact:**
Florence Lourdes
Internal Grants Coordinator
Research Development & Services
internalgrants@uwo.ca
519-661-2111 Ext. 64500

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**Reviews by Kane Faucher**

**Listen to the Squawking Chicken**

By Elaine Lui, BA’96 (History, French)

One of the reasons the mother-daughter genre demonstrates such resilience and endurance is that it is both fun and fun; on the screen might be the nearly universally relatable instances of sometimes highly charged emotional complexity that has characterized mother-daughter relationships since...well, forever.

In much of this genre, there is usually the standard formula of generationally based tension or misunderstanding. What is the formula for this genre? In Dowding’s case, this is not so, for although her keen fidelity to the actual living conditions of the time. This is not so much detail, and that the plot becomes little more than a historical fiction genre can be weighted down with too much detail, and that the plot becomes little more than a genre.

However, despite what may be a loose thread, it will permit younger readers to use their own imaginations to speculate on what is not written. And, of course, not every story is deepened and strengthened. It could be boys, family obligations, drugs or simply how daughter may choose to live their lives (sometimes to the frustration of mothers) and how mothers choose to ‘suggest’ what their daughters ought to do. In the end, mothers are more accepting of the autonomy of their daughters, and daughters come to better appreciate the wisdom of their mothers. There are tears, there are hugs and everything wraps up pleasantly.

It can be a challenge to present something new to this genre, unless there is an added draw. Elaine Lui’s quasi-mystery novel. Not having r

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**The Gargoyle at the Gates**

By Philippa Dowding

The last in the trilogy by the children’s lit author Philippa Dowding, we are introduced to Christopher Canning, a boy who has moved to Toronto. The problem is, he has no friends, and the environs of Toronto are kind of spooky, what with the gargoyles everywhere and other unexplained phenomena.

What Christopher comes to learn is that the gargoyles are alive, and that there is a villain known only as The Collector whose only goal is...collect the gargoyles.

Dowding provides young readers with a host of interest- ing, but not distracting, facts about gargoyles in this short mystery novel. Not having read the first two books in the series is no barrier to reader entry as it seems as though Dowding wrote the story in such a way that it could be detached as standalone, but also providing some reward to readers who have read the first two.

The gargoyle characters like Gargoth and Amberine are very well crafted in terms of depth, and Dowding does an admirable job of creating a mysterious atmosphere that will certainly delight younger readers. As this reviewer has not read the first two in this series, there are some unanswered questions: What is the villain’s motivation in capturing these gargoyles?

However, despite what may be a loose thread, it will permit younger readers to use their own imaginations to speculate on what is not written. And, of course, not every mystery has to be fully resolved to be enjoyable.
Pool shark

How one Western student hopes to make a splash on sport’s biggest stage

BY PAUL MAYNE

WHEN GAMAL ASSAAD doesn’t have his head buried in his Mechanical Engineering books, you’re likely to find the second-year student in the pool.

A rookie swimmer last year, Assaad quickly made a name for himself as a Mustang, captur

ing three Top 8 finishes at the CIS Swimming Championships and bringing home two bronze medals and two fourth-place finishes from the OUA Swimming Championships.

At the same time, he was one of 10 males chosen to swim for Team Canada at the recent Commonwealth Games this past summer in Scotland and one of 36 swimmers to earn a spot on the Pan Pacific Championships last month in Australia. In between, Assaad participated in the Oakville Aquatic Club talent to campus, while Western, did their best to entice the Oakville Aquatic Club talent to campus, while across the border Columbia and Penn State had their same idea.

“It’s a huge boost for your confidence to have school’s wanting you to represent them,” Assaad said.

So, why Western? “It was Paul and Ken,” he said, referring to Mustangs swimming head coach Paul Midgley and assistant coach Ken Fitzpatrick. “It was the way they approached me and we were ready and prepared to help me succee

ceed, their commitment to the sport and, not to mentio

n, both being Olympians.”

For Midgley, seeing what Assaad accomplished in his first year ranks his excitement level entering this season. But he knows there is work to be done.

“While we were pleased with how last year went, we feel there is lots of room for improve

ment,” Midgley said. “Three areas we identifi
d by universities across North America. In Canada, Victoria, Toronto, Guelph, McMaster and, of course, Western, did their best to entice the Oakville Aquatic Club talent to campus, while across the border Columbia and Penn State had the same idea.

No. 1 is his commitment to preparation for training and putting in the time to do the ‘extras.’ Second, would be his commitment to living the athletic life’ away from the pool,” Midgley said.

“We're doing this together.”

But when you’re out of the pool, the only one who’s in your head and hearing your thoughts. But when you’re out of the pool, the support of your coaches and teammates gives you that vibe of ‘We’re doing this together.’

Assaad’s swimming prowess – which includes a personal best 54.42 seconds in the 100m but

terfly (just a second off the Canadian record held by Londoner Joe Bartoch) – was in high demand by universities across North America. In Canada, Victoria, Toronto, Guelph, McMaster and, of course, Western, did their best to entice the Oakville Aquatic Club talent to campus, while across the border Columbia and Penn State had the same idea.

“A decade into his career, he loves the indi

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“It’s the only way it can be done to attain the levels Gamal aspires to.”

And that level? The Olympics.

“The dream is, of course. I’d like to keep going, to the Rio Olympics in 2016,” said Assaad, who will need to shave off a couple seconds off his personal best in order to make the trip. “It all about how bad you want it and what you’re going to sacrifice, on a daily basis, to make it happen. Paul and Ken trust me that outside the pool I’m doing my best.”

While the Olympics are on his mind, academ

ics remain first on his to-do list.

“As hard as Engineering is, I have to admit, I love it,” he said. “I have to do a lot of work and have set academic goals for myself. Like swimming, it takes more practice and training. I’m able to separate the two and that’s something I’m still learning and perfecting, to be able to excel in both areas.”

With the help of academic counselors, he has reduced his course load this year. Heading into year two, Assaad is even more prepared to put in the time and effort, and accept the sacrifices, in order to better balance the two.

“I’m loving it. I was so excited to come back and swim with the team again,” he said. “The environment here is so strong, it’s completely different than club swimming. I can’t compare the support my teammates provide me – on my cell, tweeting, phone calls. There’s nothing better than that.

“You have to remember you win as a team, regardless if it’s Team Canada or Western. It works both ways. You not only have to swim for yourself and for your team, but you also need to be there for your team.”

Assaad, and his fellow Mustang swimmers, see their first action in the pool this weekend (Sept. 27) when they play host to McMaster at 3 p.m. at the Western Sports Recreation Centre.

Second-year Engineering student Gamal Assaad's skills in the pool have taken him across Canada, Spain, Scotland, Australia and more. His goal is Rio for the 2016 Summer Olympics.

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“I’m simply having fun with the racing. It’s just fun to compete and have that natural ‘go for it’ kind of feeling,” said the 19-year-old Oakville resident, who took up swimming at age 9 while still in Saudi Arabia. He moved to Canada the following year.

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Entrepreneurship

Student scratches out an idea for app

BY PAUL MAYNE

TIRED OF BUYING scratch lottery tickets, only to come up empty handed? Chris Lange is confident his latest app will give you the “best bang for your buck” next time you get lotto fever.

The fourth-year Engineering student sees no need to waste money on lottery scratch tickets when, in fact, there may be no top prizes left. By using his Scratch This! app, you can now find out which ticket offers the best return on investment.

“I’ve always been the kind of guy who does his research before making any kind of purchase,” Lange said. “So, when a buddy of mine was looking at the OLG (Ontario Lottery Gaming) website, it got me thinking of a new idea to make money.”

The app, available on Android, provides users with a quick and easy way to determine which scratch card lotteries offer the best odds. While such data is publicly available on the OLG website, Lange said it can be difficult to find. His app makes the sea of numbers make sense.

“I use what it called the ST (Scratch This) score,” he said. “I’m not re-distributing the data from the website, but rather reading the data and making my own calculations. There is no guesswork with the algorithm. It straight-up shows you the most money available per printed ticket, plus the dollars you would spend on the ticket, and simply shows you the best bang for your buck.”

His app pulls the available data, which is updated daily, and ranks each lottery using an algorithm, which is mostly based off of currently available prizes from the OLG. While Lange emphasized the app doesn’t encourage gambling, nor increase your odds of winning, he said it conveniently provides scratch lottery enthusiasts with a way to make informed decisions.

While only out a short time, early feedback had been good. Should it continue to be successful, Lange said he would look into offering an iOS version of the app and, potentially, expand into other provinces.
Research

Device lets docs stay ‘tuned in’

BY PAUL MAYNE

FOR DR. JOHN Murkin, the medical device business is about “making a better mouse trap.”

The Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry professor is part of a team of Western and Lawson Health Research Institute (LHRI) researchers studying a new technology that may change the way patients undergoing cardiac surgery are monitored and managed in the hospital.

The device, known as CerOx, non-invasively monitors cerebral blood flow and helps physicians and nurses assess brain perfusion in real time.

Murkin, who has been involved in the machine’s development, said this information could be used to support critical treatment decisions made to protect the patient from potential complications.

“We use near-infrared light routinely in all hospitals to measure oxygen saturation in the brain. That’s been out for 30 years,” Murkin said.

“This new device is not just measuring oxygen saturation; it’s also measuring blood flow to the brain, in real time, and non-invasively.

“If a patient has a brain injury, the more you know about the brain, the better you are at being tuned into their needs.”

In cardiac surgery, cerebral monitoring reduces complications, including permanent stroke. An anesthetist at London Health Sciences Centre and a researcher at LHRI, Murkin has studied cognitive and neurological outcomes in cardiac surgery for more than three decades.

He said there has been an unmet clinical need for a noninvasive tool that provides accurate, real-time measurements of cerebral blood flow in these highly vulnerable patients.

Currently, 11 different studies have evaluated CerOx in different applications.

“We’ve seen the potential of the machine and we’re convinced it works,” he added. “If you don’t know what’s going on in the brain, you can’t help. But, when you start to monitor this, and you see changes in blood flow, in oxygen saturation and its because of the blood pressure or hemoglobin, or whatever it is, if you pick things up early enough, you can hopefully avoid any possible complications.

“If you can monitor in real time, you can act in real time.”

The device is expected to be used primarily by physicians in neuro-critical care areas.

“While the device can alert you to potential problems, the next part is what are you going to do about it? You still need to act,” he said. “We want to start looking at what are some of the therapeutic interventions we can use to improve outcomes.”

Paul Mayne // Western News

Western News // September 25, 2014

Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry professor Dr. John Murkin shows off a research-based CerOx device, used to monitor oxygen saturation in and blood flow to the brain.

Sounds of the season

Direct from Serbia
Boban and Marko Marković Orchestra
Saturday, Sept. 27, 8:00 pm
$30 Advance — $35 Door

Direct from Pakistan
Rizwan-Muazzam Qawwali
Saturday, Oct. 4, 8:00 pm
$30 Advance — $35 Door

Direct from Chile
Inti-Illimani
Friday, Oct. 31, 8:00 pm
$30 Advance — $35 Door

Jason Wilson Reggae Band with Dave Swarbrick
(The legendary fiddler from Fairport Convention)
Wednesday, Nov. 5, 8:00 pm
London Music Club, 470 Colborne St.
$20 Advance — $25 Door

Most concerts are at Aeolian Hall, 795 Dundas St. (at Rectory), London.

Tickets available at The Aeolian Box Office, Continental Hall Box Office, The Village Idiot, and online at sunfest.on.ca & ticketscene.ca

Information: 519-672-7950 info@sunfest.on.ca ~ Website: sunfest.on.ca

Don Wright Faculty of Music professor Stephan Sylvestre performs on a Yamaha CFX concert grand during the faculty’s Friday Concert Series last week. The piano, on loan for this performance from Yamaha Canada and D&S Pianos, is known for its remarkable range of expressive abilities.

Sylvestre ranks among the most sought-after Canadian pianists. Compared by critics to Artur Rubinstein for his natural talent, he has given performances in numerous countries throughout North and South America, Europe, the Middle East and in Russia. His recordings have been hailed by critics and his latest Brahms recording was placed alongside Murray Perahia’s Brahms interpretation by WholeNote magazine.
Rokhsana Mortaza, Pathology, Role of SIRT1 in Vascular Complications of Diabetes, LHSC-UNI. 1 p.m. Sept. 29. LHSC U1.
Ahmed Hamada, Civil and Environmental Engineering, Numerical and Experimental Studies of Transmission Lines Subjected to Tomatoes 2 p.m. Sept. 29. SER 3102.
Aviva Atlani, Comparative Literature, The Ha-Ha Holocaust: Exploring Levity Amidst the Ruins and Beyond in Testimony, Literature and Film. 1 p.m. Sept. 29. IGB 3203.

Appointments
Stewart B. Harris was reappointed as the Canadian Diabetes Chair of Diabetes Management, Departments of Family Medicine and Medicine, Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry, through Dec. 31, 2018.
Michael J. Rieder was reappointed as the CIHR-Glaxo Smith Kline Chair in Paediatric Clinical Pharmacology, Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry, through April 30, 2019.

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

Employment opportunity
Part-time (max 24 hours/week) lab technician position available in immunology lab on 1-year contract with possible renewal. Two-years experience with mouse models and at least an undergraduate science degree required. Contact Ibarsm@uwo.ca.

Muscical Instruments
Piano - Steinway upright model 45” walnut finish, like-new, $4,900 moving included. Please contact the Piano Technology Program 519-661-3497 or affirming@uwo.ca for more information.

// STUDENT BULLETIN
Student Central In-Person Registration Hours
9:30 a.m.-4 p.m. Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Wednesday. Follow Office of the Registrar on Twitter for updates @western.ca.

Student Central Helpline Hours
519-661-2100. 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Monday-Friday.

Get Ready, Get Set, Get Hired!
Visit the event calendar on CareerCentral regularly for details on upcoming career workshops offered through the Student Success Centre; registration opens two weeks in advance of the workshop date; westerncareercentral.ca.

Need resume, cover letter or CV help?
Get into Western’s Employment Resource Centre and talk to a career leader today. No appointment needed. This service is offered in more than 15 different languages. E-advising is available by emailing weekends@uwo.ca. Student Success Centre, UCC 210. weekend@uwo.ca.

Western’s Career Fair
11 a.m.-4 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 25. Western Student Recreation Centre. Recruiters are visiting campus hoping to hire the best and the brightest from Western. Be sure that you don’t miss the event that could help you gain the industry connection that you need in order to get the job you want.

Writing Support Centre
Graduate and undergraduate students can make appointments for one-on-one writing consultations at The Writing Support Centre by calling 519-661-3031. Half-hour drop-in sessions are available from 2:7 p.m. Monday through Thursday and 12-3 p.m. Saturday at the D.B. Weldon Library location (next to Quetes Cafe).

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, Emotional Regulation, and Public Speaking Anxiety. Registration will be open all online, so check website for details. scc@uwo.ca/psych.

Twitter Contest
Do you use Twitter? Follow @Western_ UWO for a chance to win prizes every business day in September with a grand prize of $250 to The Book Store at Western. This contest is only open to current Western students, faculty and staff. Registration closes on the 29th of September. Organisations/groups and Western Student Services employees will not be entered into the draw, but they are still encouraged to follow publications.uwo.ca.

Undergraduate Course Registration Dates
Oct. 1: Last day for students to exchange or withdraw a registration, or to request permission to submit transcript for graduation at Autumn Convocation.

Huron University College is seeking an Academic Advisor to provide academic advice to undergraduate students on academic courses, programs, policies, and regulations.

This position requires detailed understanding of university academic rules, regulations and programs, understanding of course content, of course and program requirements and of Faculty and Senate regulations governing course and program registration as well as knowledge of the Student Services and Professional Services available to students on and off campus.

This position requires highly developed interpersonal skills, including demonstrated ability to develop and make public presentations, develop web communication streams and peer guidance structures. Must possess the ability to access information; create and maintain web-based information for students.

The Academic Advisor reports to the Dean of Faculty of Arts and Social Science. A Masters degree in a relevant field is preferred and applicants should have two years of experience in student academic advising. This position is part of the OPSEU Employee Group and has a salary range of $47,780 to $59,726 (under review).

Applicants are requested to send a resume and cover letter by October 2, 2014 to:
Jane Parker, Assistant to the CAO
Huron University College
1349 Western Rd. London, ON N6G 1H3
mparker@huron.uwo.ca

We thank all applicants however, only those who qualify for an interview will be contacted.

Huron University College values its place in an interconnected world and desires to create a diverse and equitable employment and educational environment that recognizes the intrinsic worth and dignity of every person.
UWOFA files for conciliator

Campus Digest

Campaign gets year off to a banner start

BY JASON WINDERS

DON’T WORRY IF you start seeing some familiar faces hanging in new places around campus.

Last week, Western began installing across campus the first in a series of new banners featuring prominent alumni. Five of the 30-foot-high banners went up Thursday on the Alumni Hall facade – just in time for Homecoming. The remainder will be hung over the next six weeks.

The banners are designed to raise on-campus awareness for the university’s Be Extraordinary fundraising campaign, which recently surpassed the two-thirds point of its $750-million goal.

“They will create a sense of excitement and renewed momentum in this next phase of the campaign,” said Kelly Cole, vice-president, External.

The banners’ look mirrors the style of the university’s print and online Be Extraordinary ad campaign, which has been running for the last year. The high-traffic, high-visibility locations for the banners – along with the alumni featured – were picked in consultation with deans.

Currently hanging on Alumni Hall are Cameron Bailey, BBA’72, Stacey Allaster, BA’85, MBA’00, Roberta Jamieson, LLB’74, LL.D’93, and Joseph Rotman, BAs’77, LL.D’09. Others in the series include Ken Chu, BACS ’96, LL.D’07; Sarah Richardson, BA’93, Stephen S. Poloz, MA’79, PhD’82; and Antoine Pieczonka, BMS’85.

“We have some truly extraordinary alumni participating,” Cole said. “These banners will instill pride on campus, especially among our students, by highlighting some of our alumni who credit Western for helping them achieve their success.

“Their success speaks to the high quality of education we provide our students.”

The project was designed in house by Communications and Public Affairs graphic designer Rob Potter and installed by London-based FastSigns.

The banners are expected to hang until the end of the campaign in 2018.

NEWS AND NOTES

Western made a slight move up the QS World University rankings, released last week.

Western found itself ranked No. 190 and Technische Universitat Berlin (Germany), University of Hamburg (Germany) and University of Florida (United States), all tied at No. 192.

The Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) again topped the rankings, just ahead of the University of Cambridge. Imperial College London, Harvard University and University of Oxford rounded out the Top 5.

U.S. and U.K. universities continued to dominate the top tier of the rankings, occupying 17 of the Top 20 places. Canada again had one university in the Top 20; the University of Toronto fell to No. 20.

Rounding out Canada’s rankings in the Top 200 were McGill University (No. 21), University of British Columbia (No. 43), University of Montreal (No. 83), University of Alberta (No. 84), McMaster University (No. 113), University of Waterloo (No. 169), University of Calgary (No. 171), Queen’s University (No. 187) and Western.

Visit the QS website, topuniversities.com/university-rankings, for the full rankings.

An exhibition of work by Western emeritus John A. Schweitzer, HBA’74, entitled John A. Schweitzer’s Benjamin’s Alphabet: Diary of a Series, will be on display Sept. 29-Dec. 19 in the John A. Schweitzer Gallery, Archives and Research Collections Centre, D.B. Weldon Library.

This commemorative exhibition, on the occasion of the 40th anniversary of the graduation from Western of the Montreal-based artist, traces the collagist’s creative process in the realization of a series. McGill University professor Ricardo L. Castro, guest curator, opens a window into Schweitzer’s studio to reveal his working methodology, textual research and literary influences. Selected works of John A. Schweitzer and Benjamin’s Alphabet are juxtaposed with material culture and artefacts from the artist’s extensive personal library and archive.

Western students will have an opportunity with 55-plus employers across various industries and professions and to learn more about future career paths as the university’s Student Success Centre hosts its annual Career Fair 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 25 in the Western Student Recreation Centre, 4th floor gym.

More than 1,500 students are expected to attend the Career Fair, where they can also receive free on-the-spot resume and cover letter feedback courtesy of Western’s Employment Resource Centre.

The Senate Honorary Degrees Committee will meet during the last week in October to select a recipient of the President’s Medal for Distinguished Service to be awarded at Western’s Spring convocation. To ensure that consideration is given to as many worthy candidates as possible, the Committee invites the submission of nominations from any member of the University Community.

Nomination forms may be downloaded from the following website: uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/senate/service_award/Distinguished_Service_Nomination_Form.pdf and submitted electronically to ibibrell@uwo.ca prior to October 24, 2014, for consideration by the Honorary Degrees Committee.

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- Leadership opportunities and applicable skills for future career