BY PAUL MAYNE

A RENOWNED PHYSICIAN. An inquisitive scientist. A tough athlete. And a proud Western alumnus. Jim Roth summed up everything it meant to be ‘purple and proud.’

And now, in honour of his legacy, Western has established the James Roth Research Chair in Musculoskeletal Measurement and Knowledge Translation. The university has matched the $1.5 million committed to the chair, for a total of $3 million.

The completion of the chair will be celebrated Monday.

“Dr. Roth was a valued and respected member of the Western family, not only for his work as a surgeon and scientist, but also as a friend and colleague,” said Amit Chakma, Western president. “Western is so pleased to be able to ensure his legacy continues through the extraordinary support received from his family, friends and colleagues to establish this new endowed research chair.”

Prior to his death in 2013, Roth worked tirelessly to expand his standing as an international leader in upper extremity research and clinical innovation at Western.

Along with Dr. Robert McFarlane at St. Joseph’s Health Care, Roth co-founded the Hand and Upper Limb Centre (HULC) in 1992 and served as its medical director since inception. The centre has grown to be the largest of its kind in Canada, with an international reputation for its research and teaching excellence.

Surgery professor Graham King of the Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry said Roth was as strong a doctor as he was a friend.

“Summing up Jim Roth? Wow, that’s a toughie,” said King, who played a major role in creating this new chair. “For Western, he certainly is ‘true purple’ in every respect. Even though he was not from London, he played football here and was one of the biggest Western supporters you could find. He had a long-standing inter-
6 // THURSDAY
KING’S UNIVERSITY COLLEGE
Names Instead of Numbers: International Travelling Exhibition. Stories and photos of former prisoners from across Europe who were deported to Dachau concentration camp between 1933-45. Darryl J. King Student Life Centre, King’s University College. Runs until Nov. 14.
LEARNING SKILLS SERVICES
Improve Your Concentration. skl.uwo.ca/learning
10:30-11:30 a.m. WSSB 3134.
SCHOLARSHIP INFORMATION SESSION
Offers guidance to students on how to apply competitively for external scholarships. No registration is required.
4-6 p.m. IGAB 1N05.
KING’S VERITAS SERIES
Singing Communities. Free lecture presented by Joey Wesenberg, creative director, Hadar Centre, New York.
7:30 p.m. Kenny Theatre, Darryl J. King Student Life Centre, King’s University College.
MCCINTOSH GALLERY EXHIBIT
The Grant and Peggy Reuber Collection of International Works on Paper, curated by Catherine Elliot Shaw. Between-The-Images, curated by Louise Déry
Opening reception at 8 p.m. Runs until Dec. 6.
7 // FRIDAY
DON WRIGHT
FACULTY OF MUSIC
Percussion ensembles
12:30 and 8 p.m. Paul Davenport Theatre.
DON WRIGHT
FACULTY OF MUSIC
A Sanctuary of Song. Enjoy works by composers Vaughan Williams, Finzi, Warlock and Britten.
12:30 p.m. von Kuster Hall.
DEPARTMENT OF ANATOMY AND CELL BIOLOGY
J. Alex Parker, Centre de Recherche, CHUM, University of Montreal. Talk to the brain: Using C. elegans to find causes and cures for neurodegenerative disorders.
12:30 p.m. MSB 282.
PSYCHOLOGY COLOQUIUM
Laurel J. Trairn, McMaster University, Department of Psychology. Auditory Development in Infants: From Perceiving Music to Social Behaviour.
3:4 p.m. UCC 37.
BASKETBALL
Guelph at Western.
Women’s, 6 p.m. Men’s, 8 p.m.
8 // SATURDAY
DON WRIGHT
FACULTY OF MUSIC
Jazz ensemble concert at the Ontario Music Educators’ Association Annual Conference.
1:15 p.m. London Convention Centre.
WOMEN’S HOCKEY
York at Western.
4 p.m.
MEN’S HOCKEY
McGill at Western.
7 p.m.
DON WRIGHT
FACULTY OF MUSIC
Choral celebration. A London tradition. Come hear all five award-winning choirs in a wide variety of exciting choral repertoire. Tickets $15/$10. Grand Theatre box office, 519-672-8800 or ticketsgrandtheatre.com
7:30 p.m. First-St. Andrew’s United Church.
10 // MONDAY
INTERNATIONAL WEEK
A campuswide celebration of all things international. Celebrate Western’s international community and international collaborations. Learn about international opportunities for students, staff and faculty and engage the London and campus communities in global learning and connection.
Open to the campus community - students, faculty and staff international_week.uwo.ca
WESTERN LAW
12:30 p.m. Moot Court Room, Faculty of Law.
DEPT. OF PHYSIOLOGY AND PHARMACOLOGY
Michael Pest, PhD Physiology student. EGFR Signalling in Osteoarthritis and Cartilage Homeostasis.
4 p.m. DSB 2016.
WESTERN INTERNATIONAL WEEK
Shad, keynote and performance and opening event. Tickets $10 via inter.nationalexchange.uwo.ca. Connections, UCC or Western International Office.
5:30 p.m. Alumni Hall.
DON WRIGHT
FACULTY OF MUSIC
Chamber groups.
6 and 8 p.m. von Kuster Hall.
11 // TUESDAY
SENIOR ALUMNI PROGRAM
Conflict in Russia and Ukraine. Exploring the current situation, its history and impact on Russia’s ties with the West. Charles Ruud, Department of History.
9:30 a.m. McKellar Room, UCC.
WESTERN REMEMBRANCE DAY CEREMONY
Darryl J. King Student Life Centre.
The University Students’ Council will be hosting a Remembrance Day ceremony for members of the Western community. The ceremony will feature student musical performances, poems and other tributes dedicated to our Canadian veterans and Canadian armed forces still serving.
10 a.m. Mustang Lounge.
HURON REMEMBRANCE DAY CEREMONIES
A celebration of Holy Eucharist using the Walter Brown Communion Kit. Fr. Walter Brown is the only Allied Chaplain to have been executed by the Nazis in the Second World War.
8:40 a.m. Huron Chapel.
The Huron community will gather in the Chapel for the act of Remembrance and laying of the wreath. Anyone from the Western community is welcome to attend. Current members of the Canadian Forces are encouraged to wear their uniform and decorations. Veterans are encouraged to wear their medals.
10:50 a.m. Huron Chapel.
LEARNING SKILLS SERVICES
Writing Multiple-Choice Tests
3:30-4:30 p.m. WSSB 3134.
SCHOLARSHIP INFORMATION SESSION
Offers guidance to students on how to apply competitively for external scholarships. No registration is required.
4-6 p.m. IGAB 1N05.
KING’S UNIVERSITY COLLEGE
Names Instead of Numbers: Forum on Rights and Citizenship in War and Peace. Invited guest Kerstin Schwerken, Ph.D. candidate in Modern and Contemporary History, University of Munich.
5:30-8:30 p.m. Darryl J. King Student Life Centre, King’s University College.
DON WRIGHT
FACULTY OF MUSIC
Chamber groups.
6-8 p.m. von Kuster Hall.
ITALIAN FILM SERIES
La grande bellezza (The Great Beauty). 8 p.m. SEB 2202.
12 // WEDNESDAY
COMPARATIVE LITERATURE RESEARCH FORUM
Sheena Jany, Parroted Perception or Revolutionized Reader? The Evolution of Simplicity in Flaubert’s ‘A Simple Soul’.
11:30 a.m. UC 207.
Western named among employer elites – again

BY JASON WINDERS

FOR THE SECOND time in as many years, Western counts itself among Canada's Top 100 Employers for 2015. Now entering its 16th year, the Canada's Top 100 Employers project is a national competition to determine which employers lead their industries in offering exceptional workplaces for their employees. The list was announced by MediaCorp Canada on Tuesday.

“We are proud of the teaching, research, scholarship and service that takes place at Western, and grateful to all of those who work together in pursuit of our vision to be a destination of choice for the world’s brightest minds seeking the best learning experience,” said Amit Chakma, Western president. “Western provides employment for more than 13,000 people, and each individual plays an important role in our mission to benefit society through the work we do together, and to graduate global citizens who serve the public good.”

With 4,700 full-time and 8,700 part-time employees, Western joins 3M Canada and list newcomer Digital Extremes as the only honoured employers based in London; 46 of the 100 employers, however, call Ontario home.

“Each year, we see the baselines improve at the employers chosen for the Top 100,” said Richard Yerema, Mediacorp Canada managing editor. “From the small ripples that each employer’s initiatives create, we can recognize a wave that represents the evolving values of the Canadian workplace.”

The Canada's Top 100 Employers competition is the largest editorial project of its kind in Canada, with thousands of employers taking part in each year’s application process. To create the list, MediaCorp examined the recruitment histories of more than 80,000 employers across Canada that it tracks for its job search engine, Eluta.ca. From this initial group, employers across Canada that it tracks for its job search engine, Eluta.ca. From this initial group, employers completed an extensive application process that included a detailed review of their operations and HR practices, comparing them to others in their industry and region.

Jury judges Richard Yerema and Kristina Leung, Mediacorp Canada staff editors, cited a number of the reasons why Western was selected, including:

- New mothers and fathers receive maternity and parental leave top-up payments (to 95 per cent for 17 weeks), including adoptive parents;
- Employees can take advantage tuition support for courses, from $4,000 to unlimited per year, depending on their employee group;
- Is not only an educator of younger Canadians, but the university also plays the role of employer with summer employment opportunities, paid internships and co-op work experience opportunities;
- Mothers can apply to extend their maternity leave into an unpaid leave of absence and can take advantage of an onsite daycare centre operated by the YMCA;
- Most new employees receive three weeks of starting vacation as well as receive additional time off over the Christmas and the New Year’s holidays;
- Employees and faculty are encouraged to keep fit with subsidized memberships to the 160,000 square-foot recreation centre;
- Employees also work on one of the country’s “most beautiful and historic campuses that offers great walking options along the Thames River as well as professionally landscaped grounds with numerous place to unwind during a busy day,” and
- With an eye to the future, employees can participate in free retirement planning sessions, take advantage of phased-in retirement work options when nearing retirement and save with a defined contribution pension plan.

In addition to the comments, each employer is graded by Mediacorp Canada editors on eight key areas; the same eight criteria have been applied since the first edition.

For Western, the judges gave the university the following marks: Physical Workplace, rated exceptional (A-plus); Atmosphere and Communications, rated very good (B-plus); Financial Benefits and Compensation, rated very good (B-plus); Health and Family-Friendly Benefits, rated above-average (A); Vacation and Personal Time-Off, rated above average (A); Employee Engagement, rated very good (B-plus); Training and Skills Development, rated exceptional (A-plus), and Community Involvement, rated very good (B-plus).

The grades in 2015 mirrored exactly the grades in 2014, when Western made the list for the first time in its history.

Only four universities – Western, Dalhousie, Simon Fraser and Toronto – made the cut for Canada’s Top 100 Employers. All the universities appeared on last year’s list.

Founded in 1992, Mediacorp Canada is the nation’s largest publisher of employment periodicals and guides. For 16 years, the Toronto-based publisher has managed the annual Canada’s Top 100 Employers project, which includes 20 regional and special-interest editorial competitions that reach more than 13 million Canadians through a variety of magazine and newspaper partners.

“It’s humbling for us to see employers across Canada taking note of what the leaders in each industry are doing,” said Anthony Meehan, Mediacorp Canada publisher. “Our project has never been about finding the most expensive or over-the-top benefits or employee perks. It’s always been about discovering the truly innovative and cost-effective initiatives that every employer in the country can adopt and improve.”

This year’s winners were announced in a special magazine co-published in the national edition of The Globe and Mail on Tuesday.
Commentary

Difficult to cross the line, when you have no idea where it is

Editor’s note: As part of a Canadian election monitoring mission, Western professor Marta Dyczok visited Sumy Region in Ukraine. In this report, which first aired on Public Radio Ukraine, Hromadske Radio, she tells of her experience of visiting Ukraine’s unprotected border with Russia.

BY MARTA DYCZOK

I WAS AT the Ukrainian-Russian border recently, just outside the Volyn village in the Sumy oblast. It was a field. For a while, I couldn’t figure out where the border was. Our driver didn’t really want to take us there, because the road was well off the main highway and full of potholes. He didn’t want to damage his car. He kept saying, “The border is just over there,” and pointing out the window. “Where?” we asked. But he just kept repeating the same phrase and pointing across the field. Eventually, we asked him to stop and decided to walk. “Do you have good walking shoes?” Antoine asked. “Yes, of course,” he replied calmly. Intrigued, we decided to investigate to see what the Ukrainian-Russian border looked like in rural Sumy. After all, heavy military equipment had been transferred into Ukraine from Russia for months in two border oblasts further south, in Donetsk and Luhansk, where there’s a war going on. It was a sunny, but cold, day. As we walked down a path between green fields, Antoine and I wondered what it said, and the zoom on his camera did not help. “Oh no, you would need a visa,” he replied calmly. Then the phone rang. “Are you guys OK?” our translator wanted to know. “We’re fine, but freezing,” Antoine assured her. When we finally got back to the car, they were visibly relieved. We had seen a car with two armed men in uniform appear shortly after we went to look for the border. Antoine and I were just happy to be back in a warm car. And shocked at how casual the border between two countries in a state of undeclared war can be.

Marta Dyczok, a Western professor joint appointed in History and Political Science, specializes in international politics and history, with a focus on eastern Europe and Eurasia, and specifically Ukraine.

PHOTOS PROVIDED BY THE JOHN P. METRAS MUSEUM

Mustang Memories

PHOTOS PROVIDED BY JOHN P. METRAS MUSEUM

Attendance at football games improved in the 1920s, but the weather did not and spectators desired protection from the elements. This want was fulfilled three years later with the construction of Western’s first purpose-built stadium. Col. J.W. Little, mayor of London from 1895-97, served on Western’s original Board of Governors and became Board vice-chairman from 1908 until his death in 1913. His widow, Kate Little, left $70,000 in her will for a building at Western to honour her husband. This money was used to erect the J.W. Little Memorial Stadium. Well-known University of Michigan football coach Fielding Yost helped design the new facility. The 5,000-seat venue opened on Oct. 19, 1929, with the adulations of a 30-member band, refreshments, a prayer led by former intercollegiate rugby player Rev. John Gibson, official presentations, a pep rally and a dance at Hotel London. The game on this date was also notable for Joe Brennan’s home debut as head coach of the new semi-intermediate team. Alas, Western was defeated 25-2 by Queen’s University.
Study: Marijuana, depression combo seen as risk

BY PAUL MAYNE

Western-led research suggests marijuana use may pose a greater risk to brain function if you are currently, or have in the past, suffered from depression. Led by Medical Biophysics professor Dr. Elizabeth Osuch, these findings may have implications for the clinical treatment of depression.

The study was published in the September issue of Frontiers in Psychiatry.

“We know recreational use of marijuana is increasing in adolescents. There is also a growing association between marijuana use and mood disorders,” said Osuch, a Lawson Health Research Institute scientist. “What we were interested in finding out was how marijuana use affects reward-processing in the brain in youth with depression.”

Osuch serves a medical director of the First Episode Mood and Anxiety Program (FEMAP), which helps older teens and young adults (age 16-25) with emotional concerns that fall into the categories of mood and/or anxiety symptoms. In that capacity, she has encountered a number of depressed patients, who use marijuana frequently. Those patients can see the drug as a “quick fix” to treat — or calm — their depression.

In those patients, however, there seemed to be a correlation between the drug’s use and their depression. But in order to determine if one was the cause of the other, Osuch needed a quick-snapshot of the brain.

She used functional magnetic resonance imaging to evaluate brain abnormalities caused by marijuana use alone, in combination with brain abnormalities caused by depression alone, exacerbated one another. “Indeed, the combination of marijuana use and depression is sort of a ‘double whammy.’ If you’re trying to treat it (depression) with marijuana, you’re barking up the wrong tree,” Osuch said.

“It’s a quick fix, you feel better right away, but the problem is, it doesn’t solve the problem in the long run. My evidence suggests it’s actually making the brain pathology of depression worse,” she said. “The reason they (patients) end up in my office is because the temporary fixes stop working — it does all the time.”

Alternatives to marijuana are available for the treatment of depression, Osuch said, including anti-depressant medications and psychotherapeutic treatments. The problem for sufferers is access, she said.

“There are far more people with depression out there than there are treatment providers. That’s a whole other problem,” Osuch said.

London is doing “much better” with this since she began at FEMAP.

Times for young adults to see a psychiatrist has dropped from almost two years to less than three months...

Osuch believes the next step is educating the public, which increasingly sees marijuana as harmless.

“Some people have suggested marijuana may be an effective treatment for depression. Our results suggest this conclusion is premature,” she said. “These findings suggest depressed youth increase their risk of functional brain abnormalities through the use of marijuana and that more research into these effects is needed.”

Osuch is looking to undertake a more longitudinal study to see if brain changes are actually associated with the extent of marijuana use in the context of depression.

Letters to the Editor

// Honest, sincere thinking not cause for frustration

I understand Gordon McBean’s frustration with the Harper government when it comes to climate change and its lack of initiative. (Sharing his frustration around changing climate for science, Western News, Oct. 16.) On the other hand, some people read various sources and, based on these credible sources, think critically about the issue and other accounts they are hearing on the matter.

First of all, the very topic of climate change is ambiguous, at best.

Of course, everyone believes in climate change: History has already recorded the Medieval Warm Period (900-1300) and the Little Ice Age (1300-1880). Who’s to say we’re not experiencing another one? And then we find many scientists, even climatologists, who are “jumping ship” in one way or another. Judith Currie, head of Environmental Studies at Georgia Tech, has. She was impressed by the arguments and data from Stephen MacIntyre’s ClimateAudit website in Toronto. Richard Lindzen from MIT argues the warming is happening, harmlessly so. A paleo-oceanologist from Denmark hasdecided the ripping out of tree in the Maldives that show no dramatic increase in water levels due to climate change — rather, they reveal changing water levels due to destruction of coral reefs.

Ice cores are used to bolster climate change claims, but the excavation of six U.S. planes buried in snow in 1942 on Greenland found them in 1988 under 266 feet of ice. With this rate of deposition, along with the postulation that Greenland’s thickest ice sheet is some 5,000 feet, Greenland would have truly been green in 1000 AD.

A recent CO2 emissions graph published in Der Spiegel, The Economist, and two other British newspapers, showed absolutely no correlation between CO2 levels and global warming.

Even Ivan Semenik of McGill University admitted on the Discovery Channel the global warming phenomenon does actually correlate to solar radiation models. For this reason, the last 16 years had not seen any global warming, according to the National Climate Association in the United States. Rather, there has been a net cooling observed.

A major research paper from a German university I have read that shows a shift between north and south poles, when it comes to increasing and decreasing glacier formation. They seem to vacillate with each other on an ongoing basis.

My understanding of the history of science is the majority voice has almost always been wrong.

Most of the advances ever made by scientists have been made by mavericks who were initially opposed, not embraced. So it is difficult to give our minds over to a theory that isn’t seen as absolutely vital, let alone absolutely true. And even the support of climate science by the President of the United States doesn’t carry weight with many who believe a politician is hardly privy to scientific thinking.

Nevertheless, I understand why McBean is frustrated. I only hope he understands the honest and sincere thinking many people engage in that may fly in the face of what he perceives as the simple “facts of science.”

MALCOLM E. CRAWFORD
BMUC’75, BED’78

PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION
POSTGRADUATE CERTIFICATE

FROM PROJECT MANAGEMENT TO PUBLIC FINANCE, THIS PROGRAM OFFERS THE UNIQUE SKILLS YOU WILL NEED TO LAUNCH YOUR CAREER AS A COMMUNICATIONS OFFICER, PROGRAM OFFICER, POLICY ANALYST, BUSINESS ANALYST AND MANY OTHER EXCITING CAREER OPTIONS.

business.humber.ca/postgrad
Millions of bone-and-joint ailments sufferers across Canada, and around the world, will benefit from the collective capabilities of Western’s latest high-profile research investment. University officials said this week.

Announced Monday, Musculoskeletal Health has been named the university’s second Cluster of Research Excellence. The cluster will be supported by a $5-million funding commitment from the university over five years.

“We’re interested in helping our researcher address ‘big questions.’ And big questions almost always occur at the intersection of disciplines,” said Janice Deakin, Western provost and vice-president (academic). “There is nothing more exciting than having people who understand and know the world from different perspectives come together and address a specific problem. You get questions, more questions, and then answers you never would have dreamed of before these people came together.”

Musculoskeletal Health brings together more than 70 researchers across five faculties – Engineering, Health Sciences, Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry, Science and Social Sciences. Beyond that, the cluster will partner with the Lawson Health Research Institute, London Health Sciences Centre, St. Joseph’s Health Care and the International Centre for Clinical and Innovation, as well as industry and community.

Organizers say the cluster will position Western at the forefront of research affecting bones and joints, including arthritis, osteoporosis and trauma, as well as work-, sport- and exercise-related injuries. Additional support for three Western Research Chairs will allow recruitment of leading researchers in areas of strategic importance for the cluster.

“The concept is to take the already world-class research we have at Western and provide the resources to take them to the next level,” Deakin continued. “When you create the opportunity for a group to have the resources they believe they need to have a higher impact of their work, to be more renowned on the national and international stage, this is an important opportunity.

“This group does basic research, but has a great record in translation. What they do really does have an impact at the bedside and, hopefully, will continue to influence policy and practice in Canada.”

In April 2013, Western named Cognitive Neuroscience as the first research cluster. That area built on established research strengths at the Brain & Mind Institute, which leads efforts to understand consciousness, various cognitive disorders and how our brains see, learn and think about the world.

Musculoskeletal Health’s success is a tribute to the efforts of the team over a long period of time, organizers said. The benefits of this designation will have almost immediate impact.

“Being recognized as a cluster of research excellence will provide a tremendous boost,” said Medical Biophysics and Surgery professor David Holdsworth, the cluster’s scientific director. “We already have outstanding individuals, working in a variety of areas, but the additional resources that will be provided through the cluster funding will allow us to expand our program, recruit new faculty and enhance our training programs— all toward bringing in the best and brightest in the world.

“It may sound cliché, but our competitive advantage is we’re really greater than the sum of our parts. Cluster funding will allow us to expand this potential in significant new ways and take us to international prominence.”

Other organizers echoed Holdsworth’s sentiments.

“This has been a real team effort. This isn’t a top-down kind of initiative, it has been a real bottom-up thing,” Physiology and Pharmacology professor Jeff Dixon said. “It has really grown because of people in basic research, clinicians, engineers, rehab people, all got together to work on this. It has been a truly rewarding experience.

“Over many years of working together, we have proven ourselves capable of doing excellence science and being able to translate that into impact for health care and society. We’re ready to make this next step.”

That “next step” may benefit millions across the country—and around the world. Organizers point to the fact musculoskeletal conditions cost the Canadian economy more than $22 billion per year. As for the area of study, all say the timing is right for a focused research effort on bone and joint ailments.

“A lot of people just accept musculoskeletal conditions as a normal part of aging that we need to accept and get over,” said Health Sciences professor Trevor Birmingham, a Canada Research Chair in Musculoskeletal Rehabilitation. “In reality, there are lots of things we likely could do that would have an impact on quality of life and the economic impact of these diseases. The cluster will help us bring a bunch of people together to have a big impact.

“Western is well-positioned to tackle these issues. We have a breadth of expertise and infrastructure that can do research others cannot. Now, this cluster helps us assembled these research teams to better answer more complex questions than we could before.”

On campus, the cluster will transform research and innovation in musculoskeletal health through several strategic programs. For example, scholar-ship support for the nationally recognized Collaborative Training Program in Musculoskeletal Health Research will attract trainees from around the world.

“Stable funding will allow us to expand on that program, recruit nationally and internationally, and provide the kind of scholarships that attract top trainees to Western,” Holdsworth said.

Targeted recruitments of outstanding faculty will fill gaps in the expertise of researchers currently working in this area at Western, Holdsworth added.

“That’s key. We’re talking about everyone from new recruits at the assistant professor level all the way up to established researchers with national— even international— prominence,” he continued. “These recruits are strategically targeted to bring in additional strengths synergistic to the capacity we already have.

As an example of what a cluster designation can accomplish, Cognitive Neuroscience recruited internationally renowned researcher Ingrid Johnsrude as the first Western Research Chair. Recruitment efforts are well underway for a chair in Computational Neuroscience as well.

The new cluster also aligns closely with the proposed London Medical Innovation and Commercialization Network. This network, awarded $10 million by the City of London, will accelerate technology transfer related to musculoskeletal health, medical devices and imaging, creating economic opportunities and growth in London.

“The core component of a cluster like this is our ability to enhance collaboration between researchers,” Holdsworth said. “That is something we are prepared for, and we all built this, even though it’s a lot, but it’s difficult. In a university environment, researchers tend to focus their efforts on a specific area. You need an additional incentive to get people to work across disciplines, across faculties, to combine their efforts.

“We have been quite successful with that strategy. It has really enhanced our research.”

Dixon echoed those sentiments.

This isn’t about doing a little bit more or doing a little bit better,” he said. “This is going to take us up a notch. People have used the word ‘transformative.’ We envision being one of the top centres in the world for this type of research and development.

“This is a credit to the people involved that they are collaborative and willing to work together as a team. It’s a real ‘burning the egos and getting on with the job’ type of approach. This would be an example of how, in other areas, Western could work together across faculties. It’s an example and inspiration of what can be accomplished if you work together in a collegial way.”

Deakin concluded the new investment is in line with Western’s strategic plan, Achieving Excellence on the World Stage, which commits to creating a world-class research and scholarship culture where innovation, knowledge creation, translation and mobilization can thrive.
‘Maturity,’ ‘readiness’ led to cluster designation

BY JASON WINDERS

FROM A POOL of interesting and innovative ideas, one group of Western researchers – and their readiness for the “next level” of research collaboration – stood out for reviewers.

Announced Monday, Musculoskeletal Health was named the university’s second Cluster of Research Excellence. The cluster will be supported by a $5-million funding commitment from the university over five years.

“We were looking for demonstrated excellence, excellence that had to be multidisciplinary and had to have evidence of outputs,” said Janice Deakin, Western provost and vice-president (academic). “With Musculoskeletal Health, we’re starting at the top, working with a group who is already a demonstrably excellent and internationally recognized multidisciplinary area.”

“This is a start of a journey for Western to try and provide some additional institutional support to help this group get to the next level.”

The cluster designation decision followed a competitive internal process adjudicated by a panel that included members of the University Research Board and an external peer review. Led by Medical Biophysics and Surgery professor David Holdsworth, the Musculoskeletal Health team won the competition by assembling a long-term strategy building upon institutional strengths that cross over several faculties and disciplinary boundaries.

Proposals for clusters were submitted following consultation with deans and Research Western. Five projects were requested to submit full applications including:

- Musculoskeletal Health;
- Big Data Synergy @ Western;
- Building Stronger Societies: Equality and Inequality, Global and Local;
- Leadership Development, and
- Sustainable Urban and Natural Environments.

Deakin said Musculoskeletal Health stood out for judges because it had a track record of collaboration working with ideas with the potential to produce social and economic benefits on a local, national and international scale.

“While each had interesting ideas, really interesting proposals, they were not at the level of maturity in terms of the conditions we set to be a cluster, a cluster,” she continued. “While Western is choosing to support only one new cluster at this time, this process has highlighted other important areas of study that demonstrate high potential for further development.

“Some, by their own admission, are not where Musculoskeletal Health is today. But it brought people together to talk about it. Our job is to harness that and help those researchers define and move parts of their proposals forward using all the tools at our disposal.”

As Musculoskeletal Health researchers can attest, success was not overnight achievement.

The group organized under the university’s Interdisciplinary Development Initiative (IDI), as well as in contention when the university sought to land, although eventually unsuccessful, a second Canada Excellence Research Chair (CERC). Musculoskeletal Health’s efforts did not make the final cut for the CERC submission, but in that failure grew the foundation of its later success.

“At the time, we didn’t see enough evidence of outputs in terms of collaborations,” Deakin said. “I remember delivering the message as acting vice-president (research) at the time. I told them, ‘You say you’re a team, and I see that you are working as a team, but you don’t have the outputs to support that. There are not enough multi-authored, peer-one journal publications to get you there.’

“That informed their view of the world when it came time for their cluster proposal. That contributed tremendously to its readiness.”

Deakin warned against thinking of this recent competition in terms of “winners and losers.”

“We had a competition, we set the criteria and only one met – exceeded even – those criteria,” she said. “We had some proposals that were quite nascent in the areas they wanted to work in. We need to find ways to support them, and harness their energy, excellence and ideas those people have. This process brought people from across campus to talk together.

In some ways, it achieved some of our objectives. “Our challenge now is to support that energy outside the cluster initiative.”

No new cluster announcements are expected in the near future. Instead, the university will focus its efforts on moving along its first two clusters, as well as nurturing ideas not as far along as Musculoskeletal Health.

“There is tremendous energy and effort in these proposals, writ large, and I expect deans will comment on the components of those other clusters, and how they might want to support them using other tools we have at hand to move them along,” Deakin said. “Our objective is to have more world-class, interdisciplinary areas at this institution. We’ll navigate a pathway of assistance to move them along the same way Musculoskeletal Health moved from an IDI through external funding by individual researchers to, ultimately, a place that made them successful.”

Part of that will include creative thinking around research chairs. Modified after the Canada Research Chairs program, and in direct support of cluster development, the Western Research Chairs program looks to recruit of up to 10 mid- to senior-level researchers to build capacity, enhance collaborative and interdisciplinary research and produce research results with global implications.

Currently, each cluster may propose up to three Western Research Chairs. However, while the chair program is currently linked to clusters, Deakin said that doesn’t mean it will be so going forward.

“We’ll be talking about whether we can create these chairs as an appointment independent of the clusters. In other words, these clusters will get them, but would we consider augmenting research areas that meet the bar in terms of international excellence with Western Research Chairs? Possibly. I don’t know yet,” she said.

“It’s a good program, and we need to think about how to deploy that program in terms of research excellence.”

Deakin assured that, despite no new clusters on the horizon, funding will remain in place and available to support research excellence.

“It is not going away,” she said. “We will deploy it in support of multidisciplinary areas of research that have achieved a world-class reputation.”

Health Sciences professor Trevor Birmingham, left, Physiology and Pharmacology professor Jeff Dixon, middle, and Medical Biophysics and Surgery professor David Holdsworth are three of more than 70 researchers across five faculties in the recently announced Cluster of Research Excellence in Musculoskeletal Health. This is the university’s second Cluster of Research Excellence, a top designation reserved only for collaborative areas where “innovation and world-class research thrive.”

TYLER GREY // SPECIAL TO WESTERN NEWS
Events

Promoting global awareness and Western’s International Week

BY JULIE MCMULLIN

OVER THE LAST few years, there has been a lot of talk on Western's campus about ‘internationalization.’

As we approach our third annual international week, I would like to reflect on the past while looking forward to the future.

As Julie D. Peters, former director of international initiatives at Western, has said, ‘internationalization’ is not a linear process. Rather, it is a continuous, ongoing process that requires sustained, intentional effort from all levels of the university community.

Promoting global awareness and Western’s International Week

INTERNATIONAL WEEK 2014

NOVEMBER 10-14

Events

Opening Event Featuring Shad
Traditional Indigenous Opening, Alumni Hall, 5:30 pm

World’s Challenge Challenge
Mustang Lounge, UCC 4, 5-8 pm

Medieval Day | International & Graduate Affairs Annex, 10:30 am-5:30 pm

International Learning Panel
McKellar Room, UCC, 10:30 am-12:30 pm

Africa/Western Collaboration Reception
International and Graduate Affairs Annex, 5-7 pm

International Learning Fair
UCC Annex, 10 am-3 pm

Western Goes Global
Mustang Lounge, UCC 3-7 pm

Songs of Many Lands
Von Kuster Hall, Music Building, 1:30-2:30 pm

International Community Service Roundtable
Arts & Humanities Building, Room 3B15, 1-2:30 pm

* Registration required

Explore your #globalwestern

Collect a stamp for each event attended and enter our draw to win prizes including a $1,000 scholarship towards an international experience

* See website for contest rules and requirements

International Week is a celebration of Western’s commitment to internationalization. It is a time to reflect on the progress we have made and to consider the challenges we still face.

As we look back on Western’s journey towards internationalization, there are many things to be proud of. Western has a strong commitment to providing opportunities for students to gain global experience and to engage with people from different cultures. We have made significant investments in international programs and initiatives, and we have seen many students benefit from these opportunities.

However, there is still much work to be done. We need to continue to think about how we can better prepare students for the globalized world and to create more opportunities for cross-cultural exchange.

As we move forward, we must remain committed to the idea that internationalization is not just about the number of exchange programs or the number of international students on campus. It is about creating a campus culture that is truly inclusive and welcoming to all.

I look forward to seeing everyone at this year’s International Week events and to hearing your thoughts and ideas about how we can continue to promote global awareness and to make Western a truly global university.
Professor looks to zero in radiation treatment

By ADELA TALBOT

RADIATION THERAPY is a precise science—one Engineering professor Kibret Mequanint aims to fine tune.

Nearly 200,000 Canadians are diagnosed with cancer each year, according to the Canadian Cancer Society. The ailment is considered the leading cause of premature death in the country.

The standard course of treatment for cancer patients includes surgery to remove a tumour, radiation therapy, chemotherapy, or any combination thereof, noted Mequanint, whose work focuses on the design and development of materials for biomedical applications. Approximately 50 per cent of patients will end up receiving radiation therapy.

But the current methods used to determine their treatment plans aren’t entirely effective.

“A radiation oncologist will prescribe a certain dose (of radiation) for the tumour using fractionation—they fraction out the total dose of radiation because patients can’t handle the entire dose in one shot,” Mequanint explained.

A patient could receive a prescription totaling 20 gray (Gy)—the unit used to measure radiation—target a tumour and could have 10 treatment sessions of 2 Gy each.

Doctors don’t want to do more harm than good, Mequanint explained, so radiation physicists consider the prescribed dose and use imaging techniques such as magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) and computed tomography (CT) to assess the volume of the tumour and determine the exact amount of radiation required, as well as its exact location.

“You know how much radiation is required to shrink or destroy the tumour, but you have to be careful that you don’t target vital organs or healthy tissues. What has been challenging is determining how much of the delivered dose ends up going to the target volume—the tumour,” Mequanint said.

This is where his lab comes in.

Current methods of measuring delivered radiation leave patients exposed to an increased risk of systematic and random errors, which are difficult to quantify, Mequanint said.

His lab was approached by a medical device company and tasked with creating a hydrogel dosimeter—something that would help radiation physicists and oncologists measure, in 3D, the dose and distribution of radiation applied to a tumour.

“You have a gel in a jar, and you take this jar and deliver the exact dose of radiation you plan to deliver to the patient to the gel. After you irradiate the gel, inside the jar, you take it out and then you image it and measure where the radiation is distributed. You can translate that into a patient’s treatment plan,” Mequanint explained.

In 2008, his lab started the work and has since developed a hydrogel that is proving its effectiveness in lab settings. The hydrogel dosimeter, which basically looks like a jar of jelly, is mostly made up of water. Molecules that are so sensitive to radiation they receive it. This means by the time a medical team images the gel to see where the radiation went, the molecules have moved, yielding an inaccurate model for a patient’s treatment plan.

“In essence, the gel is a surrogate for a cancer tumour, Mequanint explained. Once a medical team irradiates and images the gel, doctors are able to develop a more precise treatment plan for a cancer patient because they have a more precise idea of where radiation will be delivered.

“There are other gel systems right now and at least two to three companies who claim they have gels that can measure the delivered dose, but they have their own challenges,” Mequanint noted.

While other gel systems are comprised of molecules that are so sensitive to radiation they react and move away from the site where they received it. This means by the time a medical team images the gel to see where the radiation went, the molecules have moved, yielding an inaccurate model for a patient’s treatment plan.

“You can’t say that the radiation was delivered to the correct location,” Mequanint said.

Other gel systems have been developed. But the current methods used to determine their treatment plans aren’t entirely effective.

“Clinically, the imaging of the irradiated gel could be cost-prohibitive in treatment plans. His lab has solved this problem and has developed a more stable gel. But there’s more.

“Clinically, the imaging of the irradiated gel is done by MRI and that is very expensive, it takes time. What we needed to do was develop an inexpensive imaging system,” Mequanint continued.

At $350-500, a one-litre jar is expensive and could be cost-prohibitive in treatment plans. His team is looking to see if a dosimeter could be used two-three times.

“We have data that shows we could be able to do it and that’s where we are heading.”

If we can design the gel to become transparent before and after irradiation, we can use optical methods, which are inexpensive compared to MRI, to image it.”

His lab has likewise succeeded in this and Mequanint believes his is the first to do so. He has licensed his dosimeter to a medical device company who is making the hydrogel on a pilot scale and distributing samples to cancer centres around the world.

“They are getting good feedback and now, we’re continuing to Phase 2 to make it even better,” Mequanint said, noting his lab is looking at ways to reuse the gel.

“Once a medical team irradiates and images the gel, doctors are able to develop a more precise treatment plan for a cancer patient because they have a more precise idea of where radiation will be delivered.”

“...”

“...”

“...”

“...”
Campus Life

Portrait pilferer returns to scene – three decades later

BY JASON WINDERS

IT WAS THE perfect crime – until it became the perfect mystery.

“It was really surprising, like something out of a novel. Why would you steal this picture – of all pictures,” laughed Joyce Bruhn de Garavito, professor and chair of Modern Languages and Literatures. “Think of this picture, and then think of it ‘decorating’ someone’s dorm room.”

The mystery began May 21, when a package arrived at the University College offices of Modern Languages and Literatures.

It had been delivered by hand, while office staff were in a meeting. Nobody saw the package delivered or, perhaps more importantly, the person who delivered it. It was found propped atop the department drop box as it was too thick to slide into the mail slot. The package bore no return address – only the department name written across it in black marker.

“I can’t tell you how surprised I was when I opened it. I was away from my desk when it was dropped off, and when I returned there was a padded envelope that was addressed to our department,” said Sylvia Kontra, a graduate affairs assistant for the department. “I opened it up, and this is what I found inside.”

Tightly packed were two items: A framed sketch of a military man, whose garb hinted at the mid-1800, along with a neatly handwritten note on ruled paper.

After some Internet sleuthing, de Garavito and Kontra now believe the sketch to be of Otto Von Bismarck, the person credited with unifying the German empire, who served as the new nation’s first chancellor.

“It’s been professionally framed, so I can’t remove the back of the picture to see if it says anything on the page. However, I found an image of Bismarck online, and it literally looked like it could be the photograph that this drawing is based on,” Kontra continued.

The sketch was circulated around the department. However, given no faculty members were around 30 years ago, nobody remembers it, or the fact it went missing in the first place.

And then there was the note, which read:

To whom it may concern:

I ‘lifted’ this from the German Dept 30 years ago to decorate my dorm room.
Here it is back – framed.
Thanks for the use of it.
A former student

“And that’s it,” Kontra said. The sketch and note made the move with the department when it relocated to the Arts & Humanities Building this summer, while University College undergoes renovations.

Kontra plans to hang both items in the front of the office, hopefully to one day spark a hint of recognition in a visitor. “We would love to talk to them,” she continued. “It would be great to hear their story, hear about how our department was back then and what drew them to this picture.”

Inside the mystery package, which arrived at the University College offices of Modern Languages and Literatures in May, were two items: A framed sketch of a military man, whose garb hinted at the mid-1800, along with a neatly handwritten note on ruled paper.
Research

Happiness findings may resonate beyond the family

BY ADELA TALBOT

YOUR HAPPINESS AS a parent largely depends on two things – your age at the time of the first arrival and the number of children you have, according one Western researcher.

"People's happiness trajectories are based on when they have children, and based on the number of children, and this really aligns with what we're seeing in all developed countries, with low and late fertility – people wanting to have a child, and people deciding to have one, two or more," said Sociology professor Rachel Margolis, who recently published a paper outlining parental happiness trajectories in the journal Demography.

Going forward, these findings could lead to changes in family-related policies, involving child care and maternity leaves, among others.

The paper, a collaboration with Mikko Myrskylä from the London School of Economics and Max Planck Institute for Demographic Research in Rostock, Germany, is part of a larger Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council study looking at parental decision-making about when to have children and how many to have.

The study used a large dataset from The British Household Panel Survey and the German Socio-Economic panel, and came from developed countries that have fertility patterns similar to what would be expected in Canada.

"We used data collected over a long period of time, and we selected a subgroup of people who became parents during that time," Margolis continued.

A survey of the data showed parents' happiness increases in the year before and after the birth of the first child. However, it quickly dropped afterward. According to Margolis, this suggests relationship dynamics between the parents after the birth of a child and the ability to make plans for the future play a role in the trajectory of parental happiness.

"What's more, women were happier than men when expecting a child, and following the birth. Consequently, they had steeper drops in happiness following the first year after the child is born. But in the long run, there was no difference between the happiness levels of men and women, the study found."

Individuals who are older and more educated at the time of their first arrival seemed to be happier, and parents between the ages of 35-49, had the strongest happiness gains around the time of birth and stayed at a higher level of happiness after becoming parents.

"What we see is that if a gain in parents' happiness is X-size for the first child, it's half of that for the second child and negligible for the third child," she explained. "This means, in terms of happiness trajectory, the third child is statistically insignificant."

That's not to say parents shouldn't have three or more children, she continued, but these findings suggest happiness trajectories may, at least, partially explain ever-increasing low fertility rates.

"We're not saying the exact findings are replicable to all families in Canada, but we're talking more generally about countries where there's low fertility, where fertility is being postponed more and more – and Canada is one of those countries," Margolis noted.

"Canada and lots of other developed countries are dealing with a huge problem of population aging – the average age of the population is increasing over time and this has major implications for how we are spending our country's money. We need more money for health care, pensions for older people. The demographic reason for population aging is low fertility, so when you have smaller cohorts of new children being born, this is what's causing all these budget problems."

"In the past, the feminist movement, the rise of women in education and their entrance into the labour force was looked at as a contributing factor to lower fertility and parental happiness trajectories, Margolis continued, noting her project considers the potential of policy, on things such as childcare, to affect fertility and happiness."

"Policies which actually affect how parents are able to transition into parenthood and integrate children into their lives are really important to helping people, maybe have another child. If they wouldn't otherwise," she said.

A survey of the data showed parents' happiness increases in the year before and after the birth of the first child. However, it quickly dropped afterward. According to Margolis, this suggests relationship dynamics between the parents after the birth of a child and the ability to make plans for the future play a role in the trajectory of parental happiness.

"What's more, women were happier than men when expecting a child, and following the birth. Consequently, they had steeper drops in happiness following the first year after the child is born. But in the long run, there was no difference between the happiness levels of men and women, the study found."

Individuals who are older and more educated at the time of their first arrival seemed to be happier, and parents between the ages of 35-49, had the strongest happiness gains around the time of birth and stayed at a higher level of happiness after becoming parents.

"What we see is that if a gain in parents' happiness is X-size for the first child, it's half of that for the second child and negligible for the third child," she explained. "This means, in terms of happiness trajectory, the third child is statistically insignificant."

That's not to say parents shouldn't have three or more children, she continued, but these findings suggest happiness trajectories may, at least, partially explain ever-increasing low fertility rates.

"We're not saying the exact findings are replicable to all families in Canada, but we're talking more generally about countries where there's low fertility, where fertility is being postponed more and more – and Canada is one of those countries," Margolis noted.

"Canada and lots of other developed countries are dealing with a huge problem of population aging – the average age of the population is increasing over time and this has major implications for how we are spending our country's money. We need more money for health care, pensions for older people. The demographic reason for population aging is low fertility, so when you have smaller cohorts of new children being born, this is what's causing all these budget problems."

"In the past, the feminist movement, the rise of women in education and their entrance into the labour force was looked at as a contributing factor to lower fertility and parental happiness trajectories, Margolis continued, noting her project considers the potential of policy, on things such as childcare, to affect fertility and happiness."

A survey of the data showed parents' happiness increases in the year before and after the birth of the first child. However, it quickly dropped afterward. According to Margolis, this suggests relationship dynamics between the parents after the birth of a child and the ability to make plans for the future play a role in the trajectory of parental happiness.
Alumni

Competition offered chance for Brescia alumna to ‘Lead’

BY ADELA TALBOT

CHRISTINE PEET WAS determined to walk away victorious.
She first tackled Take the Lead, a public-speaking con-
test for high school students at Brescia University College,
in 2009. Her speech, deemed too long, eliminated her after
the first round.
Peet, originally from Hamilton, returned the following
year, sweeping away the judges – and the competition – by
landing second place in the final round.
The annual competition encourages female high school
students to speak about women who empower others
through leadership on a large or small scale. The first-place
winner receives a scholarship covering full tuition and resi-
dence fees for the first year of study at Brescia.
Though Peet did not take first place,
Take the Lead brought her to Canada’s only women’s university, she said.
She decided to stay, and couldn’t be happier she made
that decision. Having recently started work in sales and
marketing for Procter & Gamble in Toronto, Peet credits the
contest and her time at Brescia for her success.
“I go to Take the Lead every year in some capacity. It’s the
day. When I did this, I met some great people and
it’s such an awesome environment,” said Peet, who started
her studies at Brescia and graduated from Ivey Business
School with an HBA this summer.
“‘I go to Take the Lead every year in some capacity. It’s the
day. When I did this, I met some great people and
it’s such an awesome environment,’” said Peet, who started
her studies at Brescia and graduated from Ivey Business
School with an HBA this summer.
“One of the judges, Colleen Sharen, has actually
become a really good personal friend. She was my profes-
sor. There are so many inspiring people. It’s a place where
people care about each of their students so much, and
mentor students,” she continued.
During her time at Brescia, Peet was involved with
the community and residence life. In her second year, she was a
residence advisor. She also co-founded the Brescia Leader-
ship Association.
“As part of our program, I had to take business. My
professor came up to me after my first exam and said, ‘You
need to apply to Ivey.’ She pushed me to do that, and I did,” Peet noted.
“I know, for sure, I wouldn’t have gone to Ivey without
being a student at Brescia, and I wouldn’t have this job
without going to Ivey. I wouldn’t be here without being
mentored by people like Colleen Sharen, Colleen Aguilar
(Brescia communications, marketing and external rela-
tions officer), Colleen Hanycz (Brescia principal) and Carlie
Forbes, my business professor. These are key people who
really shaped me – and continue to shape me. It’s a pretty
special school.”
Peet recently became part of a women’s network lead
team at Procter & Gamble, something she directly attri-
butes to her time at Brescia and her interest in women in
leadership.
“Being able to create those opportunities now in my
new organization is great,” she said.
For Take the Lead, Peet has returned each year since
her involvement, taking turns as a judge and speaker. She
plans to remain active in the competition for as long as she
can, she said.
“What I tell girls that come is to be really open-minded
about Brescia. Be open-minded that this could be a place
for you, even if it didn’t fit into the box of what you had
planned,” Peet continued.
“I personally think there’s no better place if you are
interested in being a woman in leadership than Brescia,
because of the amount of opportunities there are to take
on in leadership roles. I tell girls to be engaged and to take
advantage of the opportunities available on campus.”

You know that new
home smell? Still got it.

Proud of your residence? Tweet us your best tagline!
@westernuRezLife #staywithme
Who’s quarterbacking the management of your pension assets and retirement income?

visit www.mitchoff.com to learn what your colleagues have to say about us.

"I placed my pension assets with Mitch 18 years ago. Mitch has clearly understood our risk tolerance and investment goals and has always provided timely advice and professional guidance. I have every confidence that our funds could not have been managed better."

Dr Bill Hopkins, Professor Emeritus

Mitch Orr, HBA, CPA, CMA, CFP
Director, Wealth Management
519-660-3230
Kopp taking on a new challenge as associate dean

BY HEATHER HUGHES

CIVIL AND ENVIRONMENTAL Engineering professor Gregory Kopp is known for being the man on the ground assessing wind-ravaged homes following a tornado as part of his research. But now Kopp is stepping behind the desk to face different challenges in his new role as Western Engineering’s associate dean, graduate and postdoctoral studies.

Kopp, research director at the Boundary Layer Wind Tunnel Laboratory, is excited about his new administrative position, which begins Jan. 1.

“I think it’s where the future is, and there are opportuni-
ties for growth,” he said.

This is a new position for Western Engineering, as for-
merly the role fell under the associate dean, research and
graduate studies.

While the two are inherently intertwined, separating the
administrative roles of research from graduate and postdoctoral studies reflects the growth of Engineering, Kopp said.

“I view the graduate and postdoctoral studies role as dealing with students. Research is dealing with the money,” he said.

How the division of roles will play out “will probably evolve as we go,” he added.

A former Tier II Canada Research Chair (2001-10) and a core research team member of the Insurance Research Lab for Better Homes, Kopp serves in many leadership roles in the wind engineering profession, including as president of the American Association of Wind Engineering.

He also served as associate chair, graduate, in the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering from 2004-2006.

“I’ve been here a while and I was looking for a new chal-
lenge,” he said.

With his extensive experience in the faculty and the
broader wind community, Kopp is looking forward to hav-
ing a different perspective on the university.

Crediting students for their significant role his research
successes, he is pleased with the opportunity to serve them in an administrative role.

“What I love about doing research is student interac-
tion,” he said. “In Engineering, our students are intricately related to our research programs.”

Based on his experience, Kopp feels he can help grow Western Engineering’s graduate and postdoctoral pro-
grams. In particular, he plans to focus on expanding the Master’s of Engineering program; improving recruitment and retention; increasing the number of domestic gradu-
ate students.

“I’m certain I can’t do anything on my own. I have to work with the department chairs and professors. It has to be a team effort,” he said.

For Kopp, “research is a way of life” and he intends to continue throughout his term as associate dean. However, much like the changing winds, Kopp was ready to add a new challenge to his resume.

“I’ve been looking for new opportunities,” he said. “It is an interesting role and an area of increasing importance at the university and in society.”

NEWS AND NOTES

■ The University Students’ Council will be hosting a Remembrance Day ceremony for members of the Western community on Tuesday. The ceremony will feature student musical performances, poems and other tributes dedicated to Canadian veterans and armed forces still serving. The ceremony begins at 10 a.m. in the Mustang Lounge in the University Community Centre.

King’s University College will observe the day by gathering at the flagpoles in front of the college at 10:45 a.m.

Huron University College will celebrate Holy Eucharist using the Walter Brown Communion Kit at 8:40 a.m. in Huron Chapel. Fr. Walter Brown is the only Allied Chap-
lain to have been executed by the Nazis in the Second World War. The Huron community will also gather at 10:50 a.m. in the Chapel for the act of Remembrance and laying of the wreath. Current members of the Canadian Forces are encouraged to wear their uniform and decorations. Veterans are encouraged to wear their medals.

If you are unable to attend either ceremony, you are encouraged to observe two minutes of silence at 11 a.m. in your work area. Where this is not possible, the two minutes can be observed between 11 a.m. and noon.

■ The time is right for a new tradition on campus. Start-
ing Tuesday, Western will lower the flag on University College from sun-up to sun-down each Remembrance Day.

Western traditionally lowers its flag to mourn the loss of members of Western’s community, and also to mark significant occasions of national loss and remem-
brace.

“One of those occasions is of course Remembrance Day,” said Gitta Kulczycki, vice-president (resources and operations). “Nov. 11, 2014 is particularly notewor-
thy as 2014 marks 100 since the start of the First World War. Many Canadians made the ultimate sacrifice in that war and in other conflicts that have followed in defense of freedom and our country.

“In honour and recognition of all those who serve, and as an act of remembrance for those we’ve lost, West-
ern’s official flag will be lowered.”

Observed in Commonwealth countries, Remembrance Day (also known as Poppy Day or Armistice Day) was established at the end of the First World War to remember members of the armed forces who have died in the line of duty. In Canada, the Armistice Day Act provided that Thanksgiving would be observed on Armistice Day, which was fixed by statute on the Monday of the week in which Nov. 11 fell, from 1921-
30. In 1951, the act was amended to establish Nov. 11 as Remembrance Day.

■ With International Week around the corner at Western, Bob Gough wants you to step out into the campus community and experience the world.

Gough, project director of Western Heads East (WHE), is most looking forward to one particular event – a recep-
tion meant to highlight various collaborations between Western and African nations from 3-7 p.m. Wednesday in the atrium of the International and Graduate Affairs Building. It’s an event that will bring together cultural associations in the city and bridge African communities abroad, in London, and on campus.

“What I’m most excited about – aside from our stu-
dents and faculty being able to showcase and talk about our neat collaborations with our African partners – is this as an opportunity to engage our community in an on-the-spot fundraising effort,” Gough noted.

In what promises to be a fun and interactive event featuring entertainment and dance lessons, the recep-
tion features a silent auction organized by the Africa Institute and WHE to raise $2,000 to equip a Predator yogurt kitchen planned by a student leadership group at Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Tech-
nology in Nairobi, Kenya, Gough explained.

■ The University Students’ Council will be hosting a Remembrance Day ceremony for members of the Western community on Tuesday. The ceremony will feature student musical performances, poems and other tributes dedicated to Canadian veterans and armed forces still serving. The ceremony begins at 10 a.m. in the Mustang Lounge in the University Community Centre.

King’s University College will observe the day by gathering at the flagpoles in front of the college at 10:45 a.m.

Huron University College will celebrate Holy Eucharist using the Walter Brown Communion Kit at 8:40 a.m. in Huron Chapel. Fr. Walter Brown is the only Allied Chap-
lain to have been executed by the Nazis in the Second World War. The Huron community will also gather at 10:50 a.m. in the Chapel for the act of Remembrance and laying of the wreath. Current members of the Canadian Forces are encouraged to wear their uniform and decorations. Veterans are encouraged to wear their medals.

If you are unable to attend either ceremony, you are encouraged to observe two minutes of silence at 11 a.m. in your work area. Where this is not possible, the two minutes can be observed between 11 a.m. and noon.

■ The time is right for a new tradition on campus. Start-
ing Tuesday, Western will lower the flag on University College from sun-up to sun-down each Remembrance Day.

Western traditionally lowers its flag to mourn the loss of members of Western’s community, and also to mark significant occasions of national loss and remem-
brace.

“One of those occasions is of course Remembrance Day,” said Gitta Kulczycki, vice-president (resources and operations). “Nov. 11, 2014 is particularly notewor-
thy as 2014 marks 100 since the start of the First World War. Many Canadians made the ultimate sacrifice in that war and in other conflicts that have followed in defense of freedom and our country.

“In honour and recognition of all those who serve, and as an act of remembrance for those we’ve lost, West-
ern’s official flag will be lowered.”

Observed in Commonwealth countries, Remembrance Day (also known as Poppy Day or Armistice Day) was established at the end of the First World War to remember members of the armed forces who have died in the line of duty. In Canada, the Armistice Day Act provided that Thanksgiving would be observed on Armistice Day, which was fixed by statute on the Monday of the week in which Nov. 11 fell, from 1921-
30. In 1951, the act was amended to establish Nov. 11 as Remembrance Day.

■ With International Week around the corner at Western, Bob Gough wants you to step out into the campus community and experience the world.

Gough, project director of Western Heads East (WHE), is most looking forward to one particular event – a recep-
tion meant to highlight various collaborations between Western and African nations from 3-7 p.m. Wednesday in the atrium of the International and Graduate Affairs Building. It’s an event that will bring together cultural associations in the city and bridge African communities abroad, in London, and on campus.

“What I’m most excited about – aside from our stu-
dents and faculty being able to showcase and talk about our neat collaborations with our African partners – is this as an opportunity to engage our community in an on-the-spot fundraising effort,” Gough noted.

In what promises to be a fun and interactive event featuring entertainment and dance lessons, the recep-
tion features a silent auction organized by the Africa Institute and WHE to raise $2,000 to equip a Predator yogurt kitchen planned by a student leadership group at Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Tech-
nology in Nairobi, Kenya, Gough explained.
Looking to give campus health a shot in the arm

Communication Sciences and Disorders faculty member Danielle Ivey popped by on her lunch hour earlier this week to receive her influenza immunization from Occupational Health nurse Kristine Brown. Workplace Health and the Staff/Faculty Family Practice Clinic are hosting flu shot clinics for Western faculty, staff and postdoctoral scholars again this year in the University Community Centre’s Health Services Resource Centre. While no appointment is necessary, the shots are only available to university employees, not family members. Staff is asked to have their health cards with them when they arrive at one of the next immunization clinics, scheduled for 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Nov. 13 and Nov. 20.