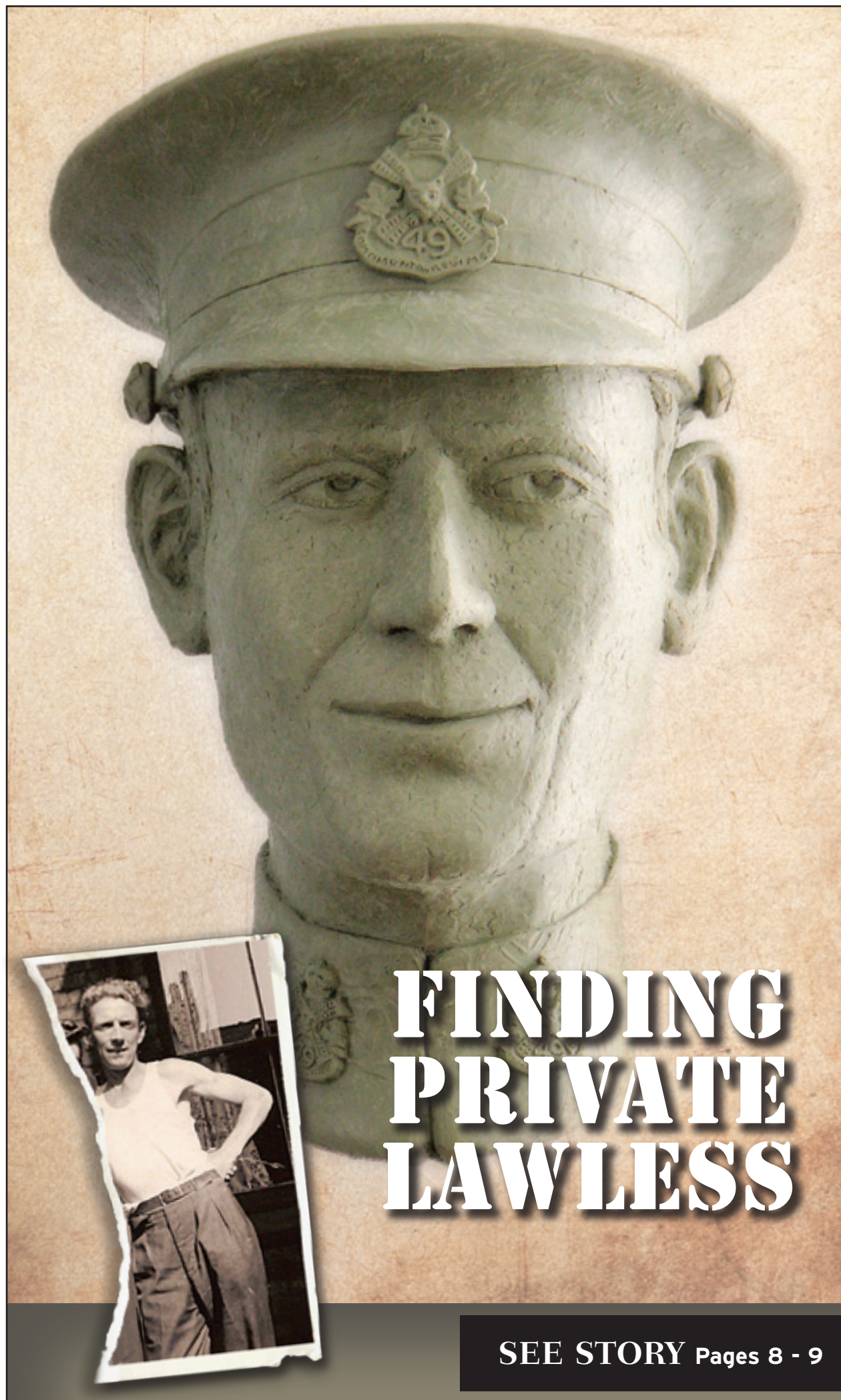


WESTERN NEWS



Schwean named to Education dean position

By Paul Mayne

Teacher education programs have the potential to nurture and develop a commitment to social justice in their students and ensure these students acquire the knowledge and skills they need to promote equality. These are the strong feelings of newly appointed Faculty of Education Dean Vicki Schwean, who begins a five-year term at Western July 1.



SCHWEAN

“Graduates will play leadership roles in changing institutional values, policies and practices and educating the next generation to be socially responsible leaders,” says Schwean, presently Vice-Dean (Finance & Academic Administration) in the Faculty of Education at the University of Calgary, where she also holds the position of Interim Associate Dean in the Office of Graduate Programs.

“Moreover, educational scholarship and research strongly situated within an ethic of social justice can exert important societal influences and point us in the direction of those strategies and actions that will result in equality for all children. Universities, and in particular teacher education programs, are critical to the success of this transformation.”

A registered psychologist, Schwean holds bachelor and master's degrees from the University of Regina, in addition to a PhD from the University of Saskatchewan in educational psychology.

She began her academic career in 1988 as an assistant professor in the University of Saskatchewan's Department for the Education of Exceptional Children. Prior to that, she held various positions as a teacher and school psychologist for the Regina Board of Education and Saskatchewan's Department of Social Services between 1977 and 1988.

“The University of Western Ontario achieves excellence in indicators such as average entering grade, proportion of students who graduate, student awards, class size, awards per full-time faculty, scholarships and bursaries and so on,” Schwean says. “Within this climate, the Faculty of Education at Western is positioned to set a standard for undergraduate and graduate education to which other universities can aspire.”

In addition to a number of books, book chapters and articles focusing on child assessment and mental health, Schwean has been a strong advocate for systemic reform in service delivery for vulnerable and at-risk children and youth throughout her academic career.


“Professor Schwean brings a strong record of professional experience, academic achievement and administrative leadership that will help guide our faculty through the changing landscape of teacher education, scholarship and service,” says Janice Deakin, Provost & Vice-President (Academic). “Vicki impressed the decanal selection committee with her energy and vision, as well as the potential she sees for Western to set new standards in meeting the future needs of the teaching profession.”

Schwean's personal passion and vision for schools – and, in turn, teacher education programs – rests in the adage ‘It takes a village to raise and educate a child.’ But she admits schools can't do this alone. Improving outcomes for all children depends on linking students, their families, and other informal and formal supports into “communities of care.”

Schwean succeeds Carol Beynon, who has served as acting dean since July 1, 2010, following Julia O'Sullivan's departure and appointment as dean of the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education at the University of Toronto.

FINDING PRIVATE LAWLESS

SEE STORY Pages 8 - 9




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WESTERN HEADS EAST FUNDRAISER SET

Richard Tibandebage, Tanzania ambassador, and Maimuna Kanyamala, head of the Kivulini Women's Right Organization in Mwanza, Tanzania, will visit Western to learn more about the university's Western Heads East initiative.

On Thursday, March 24 from 4:30-8 p.m., The Great Hall in Somerville House will be transformed into a lively East African marketplace as Western Heads East hosts a fundraising showcase gala. The visiting ambassador and the activist will be the event's guests of honour.

Tickets are \$50 for general admission, and \$15 for students. Tickets can be purchased at the door, online at usc-online.ca/event_registration.asp, in the Housing Office (Room 102, Elgin Hall), or in the UCC Atrium one week prior to the event.

NOBEL-PRIZE WINNING PHYSICIST TO SPEAK

Nobel-prize winning physicist Sir Anthony Leggett visits Western March 10-11 and delivers a public lecture, "Does the everyday world really obey quantum mechanics?" at 3:30 p.m. Friday, March 11 in UCC 290 (McKellar Room).

Leggett was awarded the Nobel Prize in Physics in 2003. He holds the prestigious MacArthur Chair at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. He was knighted by Queen Elizabeth II in 2004.

This event is organized by the Department of Physics and Astronomy and the Collaborative Program in Theoretical Physics, which is a joint venture of the Departments of Applied Mathematics and Physics and Astronomy. There is also a two-day symposium going on during Leggett's visit, titled "Nanostructures and Condensed Matter Theory." Visit ncmt2011.uwo.ca for details.

PAYOUT TO STAY AT 4 PER CENT

The University of Western Ontario Board of Governors has decided to stick with the 4 per cent investment payout policy.

The board approved a revision in January to its investment payout policy that turns the reduction of investment spending put in place to respond to the economic downturn into standard protocol.

In January 2009, the university set the investment draws at 4 per cent – a drop from 4.5 per cent – to reduce the strain brought on by the global recession. A differentiated policy was put in place for "underwater" endowed investments – those less than the originally donated amount. However, having two different payout policies for underwater and 'above water' investments has created challenges, says Lynn Logan, associate vice-president financial services.

On recommendation of the Investment Committee, based on detailed modeling by internal and external consultants Russell Investments and what payouts seemed to be sustainable, the board decided to revise the policy to set the standard investment payout policy at 4 per cent.

At its peak, Western had 312 underwater endowments. The number has since improved and it is estimated to be at 92 as of Dec. 31, 2010.

The change to the policy will pro-

CAMPUS DIGEST



Contributed

vide academic and administrative units with some much needed certainty regarding how much endowment funding they can expect to receive, Logan explains.

The university will continue to review the investment payout policy and make recommendations for changes if the investment environment changes.

- Heather Travis

9/11 TRUTHER BRINGS MESSAGE TO CAMPUS

Niels Harrit, associate professor of chemistry at the University of Copenhagen, will offer a critique of the official account of the destruction of the World Trade Centres on Sept. 11, 2001, focusing on Building 7. Harrit published an article in 2009 about the discovery of nano-thermite, an incendiary and explosive, in the WTC dust.

The free lecture takes place 7 p.m. today, March 3 in Social Science Centre, Room 2050. The lecture will be moderated by Dr. Paul McArthur, Western adjunct professor of family medicine.

'GREEN DEAR ABBY' SPEAKS ON LEADING THE CHARGE

Bestselling author Adria Vasil will share the story of her rise to national acclaim as Canada's "Green Dear Abby" at the International Women's Day (IWD) lecture of the Sophia Series at Brescia University College on today, March 3 at 7:30 p.m. In a lively lecture entitled, "How women are leading the charge to protect our planet – and how you can, too!" Vasil will tell the audience how to detoxify themselves and the world.

The Circle Women's Centre is sponsoring Vasil's lecture, which follows an information and volunteer fair featuring local eco-organizations and volunteers from 6:45-7:30 p.m. in the foyer of the Brescia auditorium.

For more information, visit brescia.uwo.ca/thecircle.

FRENCH STUDIES BRINGS PERFORMANCES TO THE STAGES

Just in time for Francophone Week, the Department of French Studies at The University of Western Ontario and the cast of Theatre L'on Donne present Figaro Re-decou. Beaumarchais' *The Barber of Seville* and Figaro's *Wedding* have been

combined and reworked into one two-hour play.

The shows will take place March 23-26, starting at 8 p.m. at the McManus Studio Theatre at the Grand Theatre. The tickets are \$10 for seniors and students, \$15 all others and can be purchased online at grandtheatre.com or in person at either McManus Studio Theatre, 471 Richmond St., or the French Studies Department, University College, Room 138. T

ITALIAN BURSARIES FUNDRAISER SCHEDULED

A fundraising dinner to create bursaries for students enrolled in Italian courses will be held Saturday March 5 at the Marconi Club, 120 Clarke Road.

Tickets are \$40 and can be purchased by contacting Luca Pocci, lpocci@uwo.ca; Cristina Caracchini, ccaracch@uwo.ca; Yuri Sangalli, ysangall@uwo.ca; or Pietro Pirani, ppirani2@uwo.ca. Doors open at 6 p.m.; dinner will start at 6:30 p.m.

Organizers have also scheduled a meeting to be held earlier the same day (3.30 p.m. in University College, Room 205) that hopes to unite Western scholars and whose areas of interest relate to Italy in order to facilitate the sharing of ideas and explore possibilities for cross-departmental collaboration.

These two events aim to support Italian Studies at Western.

ARTLAB CELEBRATES ITS OWN NARRATIVE

Referencing both true and fictional histories of the Artlab Gallery, the Gallery Practices class presents a student-curated exhibition entitled *Remember (when)? A revisionary narrative of the Artlab* held at the Artlab Gallery March 3-17. An opening reception is scheduled for 5-7 p.m. today, March 3 at the John Labatt Visual Arts Centre.

After consulting the archives, students have selected to display the Artlab's history in the form of miniature models to honour of the Artlab Gallery's 100 year anniversary. The exhibition involves visitors in a web of documents chronicling the Artlab's destruction in the flood of 1934 and its former participation in Land Art, feminist and bioart movements. Artefacts from the Artlab's storage, which originally belonged to the past exhibitions, will be included alongside the students' miniature models.

Be the change: Western teams take a Break

From New Orleans to Winnipeg, the Dominican Republic to Costa Rica, Peru to Nicaragua, even right here in London, Western's volunteer teams traveled around the corner or across the globe for Alternative Spring Break 2011. What follows below are selected bits from blogs team members kept throughout the week. Relive the week by reading all the entries – as well as seeing all the photos – at atwestern.typepad.com/asb2011/.

“... The most rewarding thing was seeing the children's eyes light up when we came through. Maybe it was because we looked like a purple alien invasion, or because some people had never heard such butchering of their native tongue. But still, we tried. ...”

One group was lucky enough to happen across a school as it was being let out. The children posed for pictures and walked us back to our clinic. Unfortunately, not all our experiences were uplifting. One group came across a 39-year-old mother of five. Upon approaching her, the group initially thought that she needed our attention because she was expecting. We soon discovered, however, that she had a large tumour protruding from her abdomen.

It was heart breaking. There was nothing that could be done because the medication she needed to treat her condition was too expensive. While doctor's visits are free and a prescription is free, filling that prescription is the monetary obstacle. ...”

Team Nicaragua
Feb. 22

“... After the bumpy bus ride back to Villa Marcelo School where we are working, we immediately got into trench-digging and cement-mixing mode, picking up where we left off yesterday. Compared to yesterday, it was much more satisfying to get right to



Heather Travis, Western News

Huddling together to fend off the cold was a common practice during Team Winnipeg's service learning experience in the sometimes minus-40 temperatures. The team took a break from sorting clothing at Siloam Mission to huddle around team member Alex Qian.

work. It was amazing how quickly wielding a pick axe, heaving rocks and shoveling heavy loads of dirt or cement became natural to us. It was amazing to see how quickly my sore arms went away as I started shoveling and picking rocks out to build the trench again, familiar with the work once again. ...”

Team Peru
Feb. 23

“... You hear about the ASB experience and you think ‘Why not?’ I'll get to travel somewhere new and be able to spend my reading week giving back to others. You don't really realize how much more you'll be getting back. At least, I didn't. I have been on this trip for five days now and feel completely changed. I've met so many wonderful people and made some amazing new friends in this short time and, to be honest, it feels strange to

think that in three days I won't be seeing them every day.

Most of all, I'm incredibly happy that I had the opportunity to come to New Orleans, in particular, I've learned so much that I simply can't put it all into words.

I feel incredible heartbreak and sorrow when I think about what these people have gone through and continue to deal with; but their compassion, unending perseverance and warmth and friendliness have completely amazed me and opened me up to a whole new way of living.

I would not trade this experience for anything.”

Team New Orleans
Feb. 25

“... Reflection is, in one sense, a very private time for the team

to share and expose a deeper and more vulnerable side to our experiences which requires trust and respect within the team. This evening was no exception as I listened to the discussions and watch the growth in each person from day to day. I heard a team member comment this morning how they were having different dreams and pondered if the reflection exercises were still working through their processes long after the evening had finished.

My suspicion is that it is quite possible ... and hence the reason that I find myself writing in my journal after the team has gone home for the evening. This might also explain why I am finishing this blog at 12:30 a.m., two and a half hours after returning home for the evening.

It is hard to turn your brain off, when you go through an amazing day like our team has. ...”

Team London
Feb. 25

ated by the patrons. Our other team leader, Andreas, mentioned that he never heard more Thank You's than when he was working in the Drop-In Clinic.

The stereotype of the homeless as being unappreciative or as taking without giving could not be more wrong. So many of the volunteers we met had been patrons of the Mission in the past.

And just so you don't go away thinking that this trip was all work and no play, we did make it to the Festival du Voyageur last night. It was a great party, with lots of live bands (in heated tents, thank goodness) and historical exhibits about the French fur traders, known as voyageurs, who first came to the Winnipeg area. There were also a ton of huge, beautiful snow sculptures.

The only downside was that the temperature had dropped to about minus 40, so we spent a lot of time dashing between heated tents and buildings. At least now we can say we survived a really cold Winnipeg night out. ...”

Team Winnipeg
Feb. 27

“... The work that kitchen does blew me away, and it is so appreci-

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Letters can be submitted via email to newseditor@uwo.ca. Letters should be less than 250 words and are published at the discretion of the editor. Deadline is noon of the Friday prior to desired publication date.

GUEST COLUMN

Members of the university family and its extended community are invited to submit guest columns on any topic. Columns should be 500 words or less and are published at the discretion of the editor. If interested, please contact Jason Winders, editor, at jwinder2@uwo.ca or 519 661-2111 Ext. 85465 to arrange a column.

STORY IDEAS

Know interesting people, events or research connected to *Western*? Tell us. Contact Jason Winders, editor, at jwinder2@uwo.ca or 519 661-2111 Ext. 85465.

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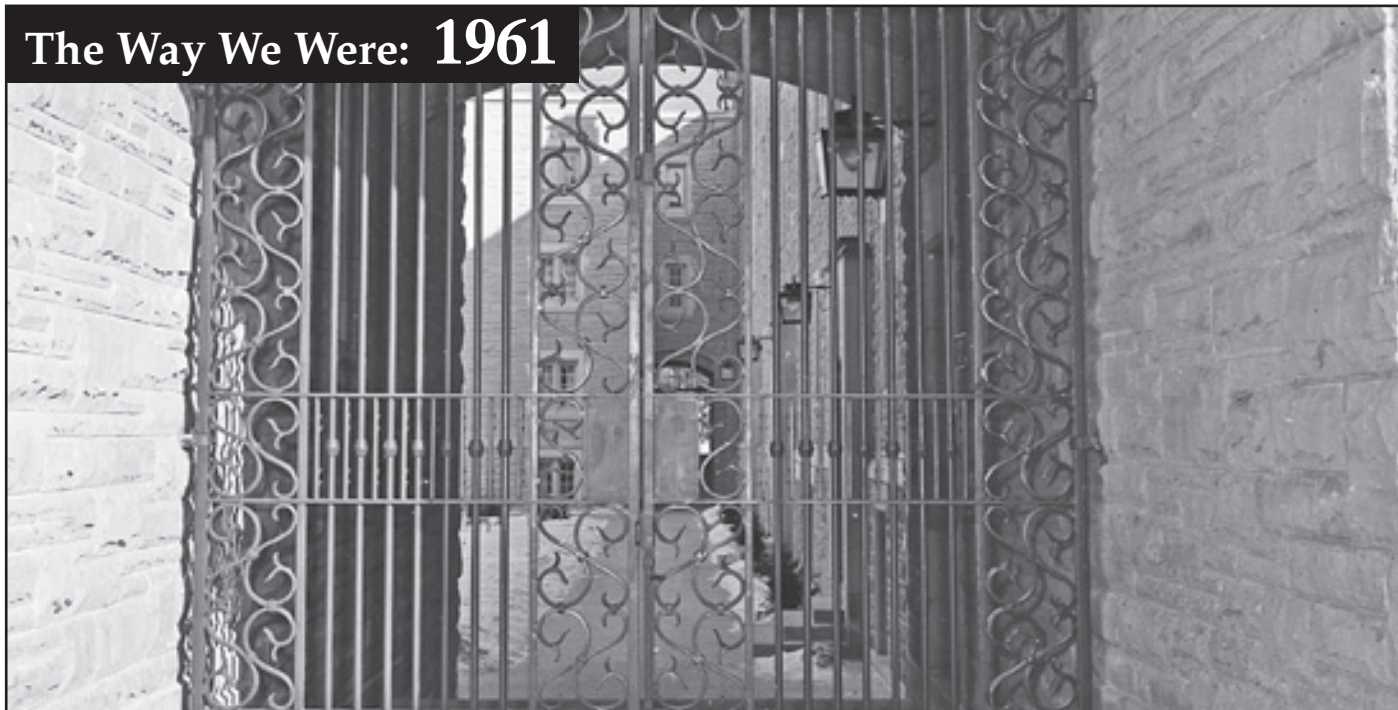


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—L.T. Moore,
University Relations
and Information director,
Nov. 16, 1972

The Way We Were: 1961



Contributed by Alan Noon (anoon@uwo.ca)

London Free Press Collection of Negatives/Western Archives

Western is known for its architectural beauty, but sometimes various aspects and hidden treasures are often overlooked or not seen by the campus population. One example is the three wrought iron gates leading to the inner courtyard of Medway Hall. The gates were custom-made by Percy May, Ernest Smith, Jack Batt and Leonard Withall, all craftsmen employed by the Hancock Company in the United Kingdom. The two smaller sets weigh 3,000 pounds each while the largest of the three is 4,000 pounds. At the time of manufacture they were the heaviest gates ever made by the company.

'Sleeping giant' awakens in Libya

Lack of a constitution, safety and trust, plentiful corruption, then insert genocide to the list and the result is the Great Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya (Republic) under Muammar al-Gaddafi.

Infamously known as the "Butcher of Benghazi," Gaddafi's illegitimate regime remains the sole target for Libya's "Day of Rage" Feb. 17. After 42 years of lies, deceit, fear, inconceivable corruption and horrific crimes ensued upon them, the people of Libya had had enough.

Libya's primary struggle revolves entirely around the Gaddafi family regime, and their lack of co-operation with international law.

Muammar al-Gaddafi claimed power in 1969, and has been the longest-serving ruler of Libya since its engulfment to the Ottoman Empire in 1551. As any Arab ruler born out of the ashes of an oppressing colonial or monarchical past, Gaddafi promised political and social reform. The repulsive effects of these false pledges were felt almost immediately.

In 1973, the Gaddafi regime suspended the Libyan constitution, alternatively delivering verbal proclamations and rulings through the General People's Committee. Individuals opposing the application of verbal decrees were sentenced to execution.

On April 7, 1976, Gaddafi licensed 'Revolutionary Committees' to persecute university students opposing his regime. Students were executed publicly in university courtyards, and hung as a reminder to individuals contemplating opposition. April 7 has since been commemorated annually in Libyan universities with arrests and public executions.

In 1996, prisoners in a local penitentiary located in Abu-Salim protested their deprivation of basic human rights. An approximated 1,200 inmates were murdered in less than three hours, and government officials refused to produce their bodies. Families of the deceased were required to sign documents claiming their family-members had died valiantly as opposed to murder.

These are just a few of the historical implications of the irrational Gaddafi regime.

The beneficiaries of Gaddafi's regime were his fellow tribesmen who monopolized the economic sphere, and struck unruly business-deals with multinational corporations. Bribery and corruption flourished throughout Libya and it became a country manipulated by fear, its citizens not daring to dream of change. That is until a glimmer of hope was sparked by neighbouring Tunisia and Egypt; the primary

reason of Libya's delayed movement.

Years of oppression, fear of persecution and insecurity drove Libyans to demand their fundamental freedoms on Feb. 17.

The price of this demand has been paid in blood. An estimated 2,000 Libyans were murdered by hired African mercenaries in Benghazi, 1,000 in Tripoli and more than 50,000 injured in all cities combined. Bodies and donated blood have been hijacked from hospitals to be burnt and destroyed. Fighter-jets using live rounds of ammunition have pounded Libyan protestors, killing hundreds. Only the Eastern hemisphere of Libya was successful in overpowering the battalion responsible for their oppression.

Gaddafi has preposterously threatened to use chemical weaponry on protesting masses if they do not desist. Claims such as "the unity of China was more important than those people in Tiananmen Square," and similar outlandishly absurd remarks are Gaddafi's primary means of self-justification.

It has become evident that Gaddafi's regime is comparable to, if not more horrifying than, Saddam Hussein's regime, which begs the question: Why were Western nations adamant in removing Saddam's regime, yet turn a deaf-ear to the cries for freedom from a people suffering under an equally-despotic ruler?

Genocide being the primary method of combating protestors, it has become insufficient for the West to merely 'condemn' the irrational actions of Gaddafi. It is imperative that the West play an immediate active role in the removal of Gaddafi. The people of Libya demand justice, democracy, freedom and the repatriation of the suspended constitution; all for which they are willing to risk their lives.

Libya, Tunisia, Egypt, Bahrain and Yemen have all caught 'revolution-fever.' Some claim that these revolutionary movements are merely a proxy for 'Islamist' regimes to overtake the Middle East. What critics fail to recognize, however, is that these are not ideological struggles.

The plain and undeniable truth is the Middle East has focused its struggle on attaining liberation, fundamental human rights and prosperity; the sleeping giant has awoken, and will not be pacified until all its rightful demands have been met.

Emhemmed Youssef is a Ph.D. Candidate in chemical and biochemical engineering at The University of Western Ontario.

IN MEMORIAM

Frederick M. Barnard

Frederick M. Barnard, Department of Political Science professor emeritus, passed away Feb. 21 at his home on the Bruce Peninsula. He was among Canada's leading political philosophers and intellectual historians.

Barnard came to Western in 1970, having previously held appointments at the universities of Salford (U.K.) and Saskatchewan, and taught political philosophy and political sociology here until his retirement in 1986. He was a world-renowned interpreter of the work of



BARNARD

J.G. Herder, and his many works on Herder, including Herder's Social and Political Thought, J.G. Herder on Social and Political Culture and Herder on Nationality, Humanity and History won him the International Herder Society's Prize in 2002.

But his range was wide. Other books included *Democratic Legitimacy, Self-Direction and Political Legitimacy, Reason and Self-Enactment in History and Politics, Pluralism, Socialism and Political Legitimacy* and, most recently, *Social and Political Bonds*. A collection of his essays on Christian Thomasius is to appear later this year with McGill-Queen's University Press.

A memorial notice on his department's website reads, in part:

"Fred represented, in his entirely unique way, an ideal of intellectual independence and scholarly integrity that will be hard to sustain. His presence lent enormous prestige to our department and to the reputation of our graduate program, and his passing is a sad loss to us and to the community of Canadian political theorists."

A memorial service is to take place later in March in Lion's Head.

Helena Paczko

Retired Physical Plant employee Helena Paczko died on Feb. 4 at the age of 78. Prior to her retirement in 1997, Paczko had 26 years of service.

Antoine Helewa

Professor emeritus Antoine Helewa died Jan. 30 at the age of 74. Helewa, a faculty member in Health Sciences-Physical Therapy, retired in 2002 after 17 years of service at Western.

Losing a grip on foreign students

On May 22, 2009, two men approached an Indian student named Baljinder Singh as he was leaving a railway station in Melbourne. They demanded money. Before Singh could hand over his wallet, one of the men stabbed him in the stomach. Singh screamed, "Don't kill me," but his assailants only laughed. That brutal attack followed several other assaults on Indian students earlier that month including the vicious beating of a student on a commuter train.

The attacks, much publicized in India and elsewhere, were the most newsworthy of a series of events and policy decisions that have led to an exodus of international students from Australia in recent months. The country's universities, once leaders in overseas recruiting, are grappling with a precipitous decline in the number of students from India and possibly elsewhere.

Australia's rise and (potential) fall as an academic destination should be a cautionary tale for higher education around the world. While many factors contributed to today's problems, a key one is that educational providers sought international students as a way to bolster their bottom line. They forgot their core mission to educate individuals; instead they saw them as dollar signs.

THIRD BIGGEST 'EXPORT'

In the six months following the attack on Singh, the number of Indian students applying for visas to study in Australia shrank by 46 per cent. (Since then, the figure has continued to drop.) University leaders were concerned because Indian students represented Australia's second-largest source of international students (China was, and remains, first). In a public campaign to mobilize support to end the violence, they pointed out that education is Australia's third biggest "export" after coal and iron ore.

It may seem strange to think of higher education as an "export," but international students do provide foreign income because they transfer money for their tuition fees and living expenses from their home countries to Australia. For that reason, a decline in international students could significantly affect the balance of trade. It would also play havoc with university budgets, which were (and are) heavily dependent on the fees paid by international students.

It was not always like this. In 1990, Australia enrolled only 47,000 international students; today there are more than 600,000. Around a third are enrolled in universities. The rest are studying in technical-education institutions, English-language schools, or high schools.

For universities, the growth in international students was spurred mainly by financial exigency. Beginning in the early 1980s, Australian governments of all political persuasions gradually reduced the public contribution to higher education from close to 100 per cent to less than 40 per cent (and at my institution, Macquarie University, only 28 per cent). Universities have replaced the lost income with the fees paid by large numbers of international students. Those students, who are charged whatever the market can bear, subsidize Australian domestic students, whose fees are fixed by the government. The government also makes money from international students by charging them high visa-processing



Contributed

fees.

Given the money they must spend to study abroad, international students gravitate toward subjects that will provide an economic return on their investment. Not many choose to study philosophy or classics. But income is not their only motivation for choosing a course of study. A substantial number of international students are interested in staying in Australia permanently. Until recently, qualifying for an occupation listed on the government-maintained Migration Occupations in Demand List, or MODL, assisted an international graduate to immigrate. Accounting was one of the occupations on the MODL. Proving once again that people respond to incentives, the course of study with the largest enrollment in practically every Australian university is accounting.

RISE OF QUESTIONABLE COURSES

Australian education is generally high quality, but any policy can be scammed and the MODL was a gift to those out for a fast profit. Cooks, hairdressers and airline pilots were included in the MODL. Not surprisingly, technical-education students who wanted to migrate sought to enrol in training for those careers, and unscrupulous providers were quick to respond. The result was cooking schools without kitchens, hairdressing courses without salons and, wouldn't you know it, pilot-training schools without any airplanes. It took a while to uncover such abuses because students were not particularly bothered by those scams. Their aim was not to learn to cook, style hair, or fly, but to obtain permanent residency. The program diploma was simply a means to an end.

As journalists delved further into the back story of Indian students targeted for attack, it became clear that most were not enrolled in universities but in bogus technical courses. Recruited by unscrupulous commission agents in their home country, the students were promised permanent residency if they completed their program. "Completion," in this context, did not mean successfully mastering a body of work or learning a skill; it simply meant paying the required tuition and receiving a worthless diploma. Students lived many to a room sharing a single bed (a practice known as hot-bedding) while they drove cabs or worked in fast-food restaurants to earn money to pay their tuition. Although Australian student visas allow students to work for only 20 hours per week, many worked long hours to earn their tuition.

CLAMPING DOWN

The public was appalled, the political backlash was terrible, and it was clear that something had to happen. In February 2010,

nine months after the incidents in Melbourne, it did. The government canceled 20,000 permanent-residency applications, revoked the MODL, and revised the visa-assessment process. Shortly thereafter, Australia had a federal election in which immigration was a major issue. Not surprisingly, visa requirements were subsequently tightened not just for traditional migrants, but for students as well. Students from high-risk countries (those with a history of students who overstayed their visas) are now required to demonstrate they have sufficient funds in the bank not just to pay their tuition fees, but also to pay for food and accommodation for the length of their entire study program. After an outcry from educational providers and others, the government in December promised to review its visa policies again.

Although the tightened visa rules were largely intended to curb the abuses of bogus education providers, university students have been affected as well. A Chinese applicant for a visa to enrol in a three-year accounting degree now has to show evidence of having around \$100,000 in the bank for at least six months prior to applying. The new financial requirements — coupled with an appreciating Australian dollar, the long waits for visas, and competition from other countries such as the United States — have resulted in a marked downturn in the number of students applying for visas to study in Australia. If the trend continues, universities will no longer be able to depend on increasing numbers of international students to make up for decreasing public support and inflexible domestic student fees.

Internationalization enriches the learning environment for all students. By studying with students from other countries, domestic students not only learn about other cultures, places, and languages, but they also learn communication skills, tolerance, and fair play. Those are vitally important lessons.

A problem arises when international students are recruited for the income they bring. Universities that pursue that strategy make their budgets hostage to immigration policy, international financial conditions, even to a few domestic hoodlums. Students do not think of themselves as foreign "exports," and we in higher education should not think of them in that way either.

Steven Schwartz is vice chancellor of Macquarie University, in Sydney. This article originally appeared in the Jan. 27 edition of the Chronicle of Higher Education. It is reprinted here with full permission of the author and publication.

Why not Winnipeg?



By
Heather
travis

Western News

When I signed up for Western's Alternative Spring Break program I expected to be challenged, but I didn't expect to have such an emotional and transformative experience.

I got the news I was going to be a team leader for Team Winnipeg and the first thing that came to mind was the cold. I was dreaming about volunteering in a sunny destination and, while sunny, 'Winter-peg' wasn't exactly a walk on the beach.

Looking back over the week, I think it was serendipitous I was selected for the trip.

Siloam Mission challenged every assumption and myth I carried with me about the people and the needs of the homeless population. The mission stresses the importance of treating people with 'dignity' and operates with this as their primary philosophy.

Our first day, volunteer co-ordinator Lindsay Smith gave us a tour of the facility. I could hardly hold back the tears when I looked around the room with all the shelter beds. I was disheartened by the thought of people calling a shelter home and felt tremendous guilt about my own privilege as a homeowner and university employee.

At the same time, I was struck by the thought and care that went into the aesthetics of the room. The concrete floors were heated so the patrons could walk around barefoot or in socks; the chandelier lights cast a soft, warm glow across the room; and the crisp, clean white bathroom all made the space feel like a home.

I have heard people say shelters "shouldn't make people feel too comfortable" because the clients will not want to leave. But this couldn't be farther from the truth. How could anyone have a good night's sleep when you are worried about the person sleeping next to you?

Many of the people using the facility pitched in to help clean floors, gather dishes and help out in other areas of the building. Some of the people working at Siloam Mission were former patrons.

I was impressed at the integrated approach to providing services at the mission. There was a medical and dental clinic, and chiropractors and sports therapists volunteering their time to help the clients. One day a hairdresser set up a chair in the middle of the drop-in centre for those wanting a trim. There was even a fitness centre in the building.

The mission had a chef cooking daily gourmet meals, which ranged from spinach and walnut salad with cream soup and sandwiches, to meat-loaf, mashed potatoes and bread pudding. Every meal served to the patrons was also served to volunteers and it was delicious.

Everyone who worked at the mission shared the same commitment and passion for their work. It wasn't just a job for them — they knew they were changing lives every day.

We also spent two days at Winnipeg Harvest, one of Canada's largest food banks, where we sorted food donations to be distributed across Winnipeg and Manitoba.

It was tough to hear food bank users were only given three days' worth of food every two weeks. This hardly seems like enough to help them get by. Many of the people using its services are the working poor and children.

Overall, I was so proud of the students I worked with, having given up their spring break to volunteer in Winnipeg, and I learned so much from my incredible co-team leaders, Andreas and Daryn, who I leaned on so much during the week.

Before taking part in this service-learning experience, we were often asked by co-workers, friends and family, "Why Winnipeg?" After looking back on how my perspective has changed this past week, my answer is "Why not?"

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Chaplain look to expand conversation on campus

By Lauren Nisbet

Western students in search of spiritual guidance don't need to look very far. Chaplaincy at Western offers religious support to students on campus in a variety of ways, working to break down the barrier between faith and academics.

"People have a perception of religion as something that narrows conversations, but ask any chaplain and they'll tell you the opposite," says the Rev. Michael Wagenman, co-ordinator of chaplain services. "Talking about faith and what we believe can bring people to a point where they can engage in the widest possible search for truth and meaning."

Chaplains have been a part of the Western community since the school opened and are featured in the university's administrative policy. Any religious tradition or denomination can request for a person of their choosing to serve as university chaplain, who is then appointed by the university president along with the faith community. Western currently has five chaplains from various Christian traditions, in addition to one representing the Jewish and one representing the Muslim faith.

In terms of their role on campus, the chaplains' mission statement emphasizes an aim to "empower, enable, encourage and engage the university in reflection on spiritual, ethical and faith value issues." The pursuit of this goal involves interaction with students and faculty alike.

"People don't leave their beliefs at the door," points out Susan Grindrod, associate vice-president, housing and ancillary services, who oversees the chaplains. "Faith influences your values and how you behave. It's part of your personal choices."

For students looking to define themselves through their university experience, chaplains can offer much-needed guidance.

"Students are at a different place in their life, and many are looking for higher meanings, trying to define how they feel about religion and spirituality," Grindrod says. "It's great for them to have a resource to get information and think these things through."

Professor of Philosophy John Thorp echoes this sentiment, commenting "students are at that age where they're bridging the gap from adolescence to adulthood. They have particular needs and it's good for them to have people on campus who are attuned to those needs."

Western's chaplains make themselves available to students and faculty in many ways, working together with departments and organizations on campus to provide support which accommodates a variety of different individuals and situations.

"Everything is tailored to the unique questions people ask. We take an organic approach to make our efforts a true partnership between what the chaplains have

'Daunting' task awaits me



By
The Rev. Jan
Temple-Jones

Western United
Church Chaplain

Starting as The University of Western Ontario's United Church Chaplain is very different for me. I left a job as the Spiritual Care manager and chaplain to Second World War veterans and their families in the Regina Qu'Appelle Health Region to work with a new demographic of young people and their professors on this very dynamic campus.

The task at hand seems daunting: How can I possibly relate to 34,000 students? I can't. However, my hope is to effectively relate to those students who are interested of finding some 'spiritual' connection and community in small groups or one-on-one.

Some of my focus will be to provide religious and spiritual care to those students who currently have, who have in the past or who hope to have connection with the United Church of Canada through their local congregations, youth and young adult groups and camps. Another part of my focus will be to provide spiritual care to those students without any particular faith connection but who are trying to find connections between their current circumstances and what really gives them

meaning and purpose.

Through the Women's Issues Network (WIN), I will soon be providing two groups for women which will run once-a-week: a mid-week Minutes for Meditation group employing a brief prayer, a line or two of scripture and/or a poem to gather to relax, reflect and refresh during a busy week; and an Exploring Spirituality group touching the lives of all people asking "Who am I?"

My hope is also to provide some support to faculty and staff. Any faculty or staff person interested in a discussion group on matters of the faith or the spirit are welcome to call me any time.

In the not-to-distant future, I hope to connect with the Faculty of Music and the Department of Fine Arts. There is an indelible connection between matters of the spirit and the aesthetic responses of both music and art.

Coming to London is the first step in coming 'home.'

I am originally from Peterborough; my spouse is from Sarnia. We both still have family in those cities. While all of our children were born on the prairie their 'home' will be wherever we settle.

It is interesting where life takes you. Quite often it seems rather circular.

The Rev. Jan Temple-Jones is the Western United Church Chaplain. Contact her at 519-661-2111 ext. 82794.

to offer and what students want to explore," Wagenman explains.

Some examples of the support provided can be found in the Student Success Centre, where individuals coming from faith backgrounds can participate in conversations addressing their specific concerns and at Western Film where movie-lovers can engage in discussion groups after film screenings which address religious questions brought up by popular movies.

Western's Anatomy Department also benefits from the presence of chaplains during students' work with cadavers. "Working with dead bodies often brings up questions of our own mortality, so we've developed a program for first-year students working in the anatomy lab to help them process their feelings and questions about life and death," Wagenman says.

Through an academic lens, the role of religion is viewed by some as a necessary part of our education.

"We should be training people to be global citizens of the world, and

to do that you have to have some kind of broadly sympathetic knowledge of traditions," Thorp says. "It used to be predicted that religion would die out, but the opposite has happened. We need to acknowledge the huge growth in presence and strength of religion worldwide."

Despite this growth and the support and services chaplains provide, their presence on university campuses can be a source of tension in the academic community.

"People have this perception that faith and learning don't go together," Wagenman says. "That's an ironic point of view because universities are a place to explore new knowledge, and people are saying certain areas are off-limits or not valid."

Wagenman looks forward to continued development in the university community towards a structure encompassing both scholarship and devout faith. "I think we're capable of being a space that welcomes the whole person, faith included. The question is whether or not we have the will to expand our community vision in this way," he says.

Unique MRI offers new world, opportunities

By Jason Winders

Dr. Jorge Burneo finds himself staring into a whole new world.

On Feb. 14, Canada's only 7Tesla MRI, located at The University of Western Ontario, scanned its first clinical research case. A patient with temporal lobe epilepsy was put through the scanner to study whether it can be used to better pinpoint where seizures originate. The 7T scanner provides images of the brain with much stronger resolution and contrast compared to common 1.5T MRIs found in most hospitals.

And that's what excites Western researchers like Burneo, an associate professor of neurology, epidemiology and biostatistics at Western's Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry and a neurologist in the epilepsy program at London Health Sciences Centre.

"It was very amazing," he says of that first image. In it, Burneo saw things previously unseen without the aid of dissection. He explains how witnessing a living, functioning brain at this level of detail opens a world of possibilities.

"The hope is, in the future, high-field scanners get into hospitals where we can scan not only the hippocampus, but other parts of the brain that are also responsible for some symptoms," he says.

In his study, Burneo plans initially to scan 10 patients with temporal lobe epilepsy. Along with the anatomical images, the 7T scanner provides metabolic measurements using magnetic resonance spectroscopy (MRS). This provides an amazing look into the brain previously unseen allowing researchers to catch earlier smaller changes in the brain signaling a potential problem.

Beyond epilepsy, the images provided by the 7T could offer insight into Parkinson's, Alzheimer's and multiple sclerosis, all research slated for Western.

The 7T magnet arrived two years ago. To get to that first patient, however, an in-house team of four engineers and physicists have been building hardware and software tailored to optimizing image quality as well as data processing.

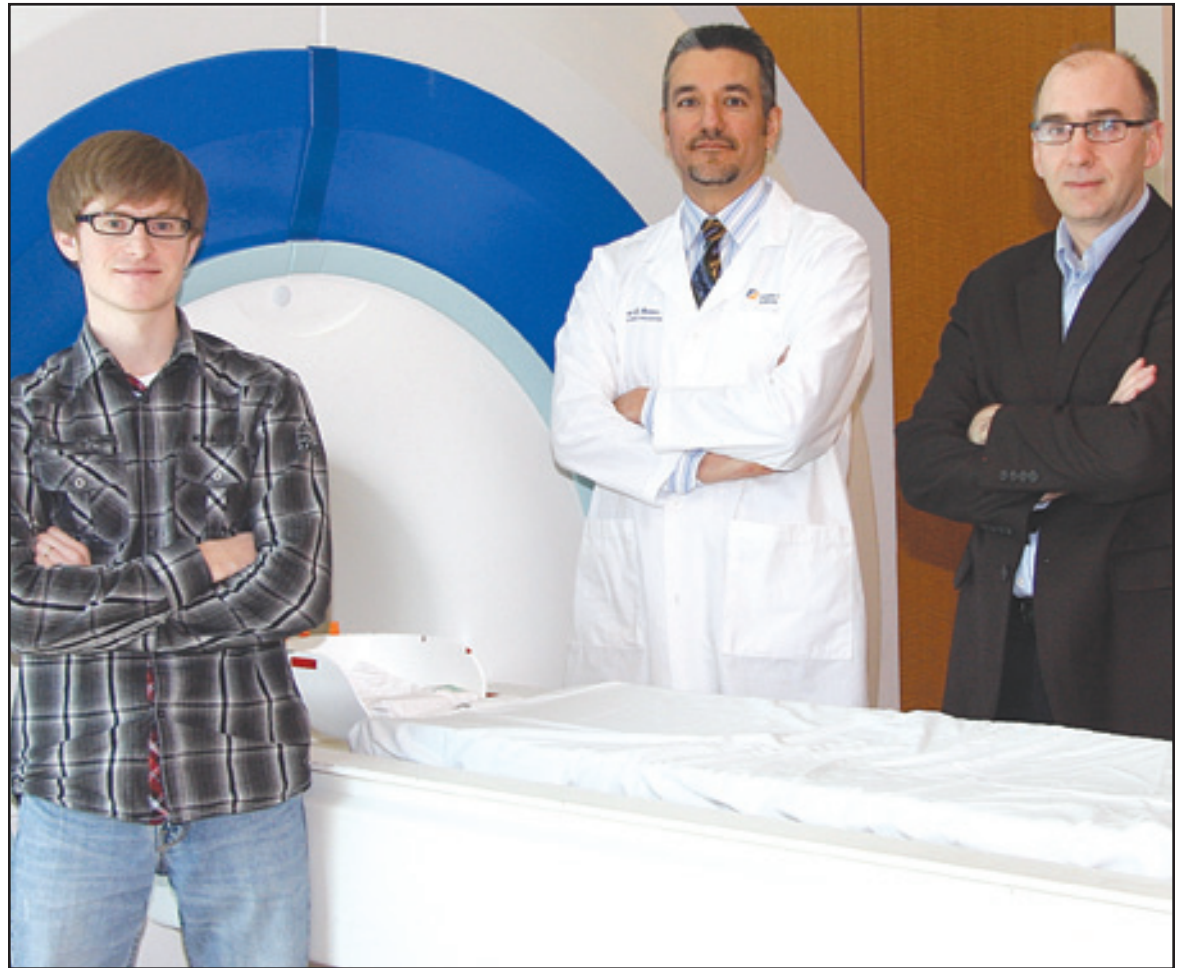
"There are only a handful of these things, probably a few dozen worldwide, and every one of them is a bit of a custom job. Every group that works at this ultra-high field is going to be doing a certain amount of technical development on their own," says Robert Bartha, an imaging scientist at the Robarts Research Institute.

Along with assisting on the epilepsy study, Bartha also uses the 7T scanner to study the metabolic and structural changes in the brain in subjects with Alzheimer's disease. He scanned a subject with mild cognitive impairment just a couple days after the first clinical research patient went in it.

In addition to the clinical use, the technical innovations surrounding the device offer great opportunity as well.

While there will be on-going customization and fine-tuning for the life of the machine, researchers have seen breakthroughs in the two years prior to its 'official' use. Already, they have been publishing some of the work on technical developments, and while somewhat specific to this system, some of the innovations could be applicable to other scanners benefiting imagers across the globe.

"This kind of scanner is not out-of-the-box, ready-to-use," Bartha says. "It's been a lot of technically difficult work to get us to this point."



Paul Mayne, Western News

PhD candidate Jake Penner and Drs. Jorge Burneo, associate professor of neurology, epidemiology and biology, and Robert Bartha, imaging scientist at Robarts Research Institute, find themselves at the doorstep of potential life-saving discoveries as Canada's only human 7T MRI scanned its first clinical research case.

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FINDING PRIVATE LAWLESS

Western researchers put First World War mystery to rest



By Paul Mayne

Nearly a century after a Canadian soldier gave the ultimate sacrifice for his country, he will receive the full military burial worthy of a First World War hero thanks to a group of University of Western Ontario researchers.

Private Thomas Lawless will be buried March 15 at La Chaudiere Military Cemetery in Vimy, France, about two kilometres from where he and 16 other members of the 49th Battalion, Canadian Infantry (Alberta) were reported missing following a raid on German trenches the night of June 8-9, 1917. Their fate had remained unknown until recently.

In October 2003, while building a gas pipeline at a construction site south of Avion in the vicinity of Vimy Ridge, workers discovered two sets of human remains.

Through DNA, the first soldier was identified in 2007 as Private Herbert Peterson of Berry Creek, Alberta. But it wasn't until earlier this year, following almost four years of detective work using documentary evidence, three-dimensional facial reconstruction and stable isotopes study, Western Anthropology professors Andrew Nelson and Christine White and Earth Science professor Fred Longstaffe confirmed the second remains as those of Lawless, a 28-year-old Irish immigrant to Calgary, as the second soldier.

NARROWING IT DOWN

Experts had quickly identified the discovered remains as Canadian males because of the style of uniform buttons and helmets found. An anthropological survey of the remains, including the individual's height, age and previous medical conditions, further narrowed the search.

"One of the most important clues to an individual's identity is their face," Nelson says.

Nelson, who began his investigation in 2007 in France, provided analysis of the skeletal remains, including a CT scan and X-ray of the fragmentary skull at the Medical Centre at the Universite de Lille 2.

In this particular case, the condition of the remains presented a challenge, with Nelson having to reconstruct the bony part of the midface in

epoxy resin.

Nelson and Steve Kruithof of the National Research Council Canada combined four separate CT scans to create a computer model of the skull. They then made a 3D print using bone fragments and photographic superimposition to recreate the bones of the midface.

Then, renowned portrait artist Christian Corbet used those findings for a forensic reconstruction of the face. This narrowed the field to two soldiers - one from Cape Breton, one from Ireland.

But neither could be ruled out conclusively.

"It's using our expertise in slightly different ways than usual," Nelson says. "We eliminated everyone else, but it could still be two people on the basis of facial reconstruction. Christian and I had our own idea of which one it was, but we just couldn't be sure."

Hitting a wall, Nelson decided to try a sort of 'Hail Mary' attempt at solving the mystery. He appealed to colleagues using isotope analysis for what would hopefully be a definitive identification.

A NEW WAY OF LOOKING AT IT

Isotope analysis identifies an isotopic signature. At molecular levels, an individual's teeth preserve a permanent record of the place in which he/she was born and spent the first few years of life.

These isotopic signatures, derived from drinking water, vary in diagnostic ways from location to location around the world, with each location's composition of oxygen and hydrogen being a function of its latitude, altitude, elevation and regional wind patterns.

Teeth are not subject to continual remodeling, such as bones, and so their oxygen isotopic ratios remain constant from the time of formation. They represent the ratios of the region in which the individual was born and raised.

"We use isotopes in archeology for reconstructing diets, geographic origins and tracking changes over a person's life history," White says. "In this case they did have teeth and bone, which meant that we could go back to their childhood and reconstruct their diet. We knew they had come from different places but had come to Edmonton at the same time and were deployed together to France."

Longstaffe adds with the help of graduate students Paul Szpak and Emily Webb, they worked on extracting collagen organic matter out of the bone sample and the oxygen out of what is called structural carbonate in the teeth.

"Christine had written up a report which described the basic dietary information that we could get from this," Longstaffe says. "At the time we were looking at the oxygen isotope data - and I was the 'blindest' of the team - I knew nothing other than we were looking at an individual and we wanted to know where this person was from."

He felt he didn't have enough information to give a definitive answer as to the soldier's identity. If they were going to use, in this case, the oxygen isotope method to try and make a distinction, they needed to have all the information available.

'TOO GOOD TO BE TRUE'

Prior to Christmas, Longstaffe received the location of birth and estimated time of residency for the each of the two candidates. Using recorded data from the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), which tracks oxygen and hydrogen isotope composition with rain and snow at specified stations around the world, Longstaffe started to map the possibilities.

Since IAEA's network cannot cover every place in the world, Longstaffe employed an algorithm, developed several years ago by Gabriel Bowen, and made freely available through Purdue University. This algorithm creates a 'precipitation calculator' from the IAEA database and other data. "So if you know the latitude, longitude and elevation of any place, you can obtain an estimate of what the isotopic composition would be of that place," Longstaffe says. "So that's what I did."

And that was when the mystery cracked. "I still remember calling Christine, 'My God, I've got a perfect match to one of the people,'" he says. "This is too good to be true. The real difference in the life history of these people was where they were born, because they had a similar history of being in Alberta and then to France. Where they started out life was significantly different."

Using the isotope signature from the soldier's teeth, the researchers recognized the individual

must be Lawless, born in Ireland before immigrating to Canada as a teenager to work on a farm in Gleichen, Alta., about 60 kilometres east of Calgary.

"For me it was a thrill," White says. "It's always a thrill when you realize you are the first to discover something that nobody else in the world knows about. I experience this all the time in archeology, but this was particularly poignant for me probably because of the fact he died in the war. It had really special meaning."

COLLABORATION KEY TO SUCCESS

Laurel Clegg, Directorate of History and Heritage with National Defence casualty identification co-ordinator, agrees. She says partnering with Western was a perfect fit in being able to solve the 8-year-old mystery.

"When you have that university environment you have all these different people working together on one problem with very different approaches, and I found it fun to be a part of," Clegg says. "Working with the scientists at Western was a great experience because I knew if I could present them with a problem they would have all the tools and people to throw at it."

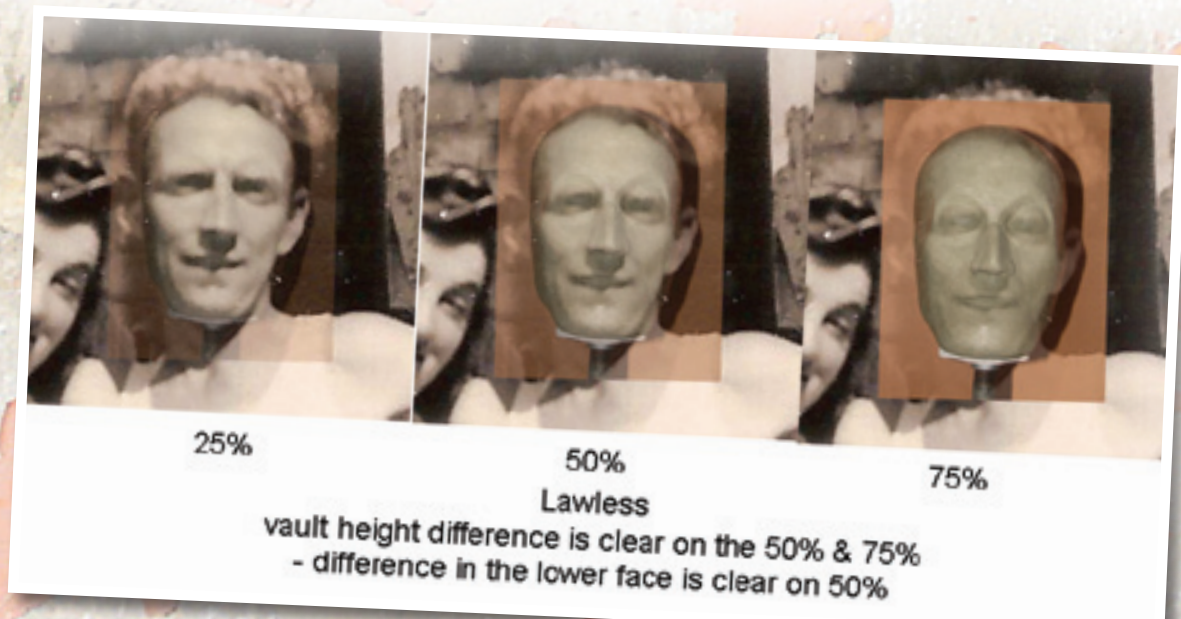
While war dead have been identified through osteology and DNA numerous times, Nelson thinks this is the first time facial reconstruction and isotopes have played an important role in solving such a mystery. He also credits the contributions of many other researchers from departments across campus and throughout London.

"This is the sort of thing that emerges from a collaboration," he says. "You think here's my little thought, but because I work with Christine and Fred it's like 'a-ha' what can they bring in. That collaboration was the critical piece."

"It's a really nice case study of multi-disciplinary collaborative work all coming together."

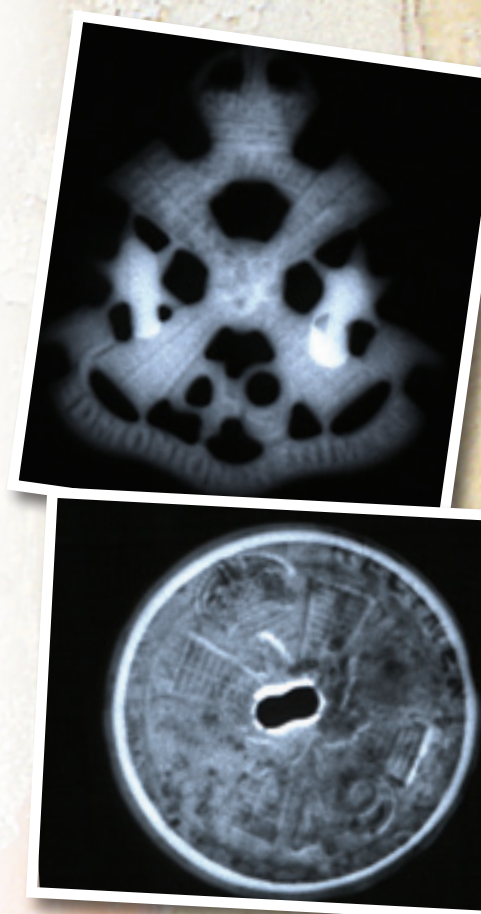
Nelson admits the last four years have been trying at times. But when the final conclusion is a war hero being honoured after almost 94 years, it's all worth it.

"From fragments of bone, through high technological radiographic and computer processing, to the hands of the artist," Nelson says, "the visage of Private Lawless emerges once again."



25% 50% 75%
Lawless
vault height difference is clear on the 50% & 75%
- difference in the lower face is clear on 50%

Paul Mayne, Western News
Earth Sciences professor Fred Longstaffe and Anthropology professors Christine White and Andrew Nelson used everything from three-dimensional facial reconstruction to stable isotopes to help solve the mystery of identifying First World War soldier Thomas Lawless.



STAFF CONFERENCE



Paul Mayne, Western News

Western's 9th Annual Western Staff & Leaders' Conference proved to be a huge success this year, with hundreds of staff and faculty given the opportunity to open up a world of possibilities to connect with colleagues and build the Western community. The conference included map librarian Cheryl Woods offering tours of the Map and Data Centre, an inspirational talk from social activist Marc Kielburger, and the Western's Got Talent skills of Becca Carroll, Mark Cleland and Whitney Barrett.

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ACADEME

PhD Lectures

Dawn Meme Harvard, Education, The Power of Silence and the Price of Success: Academic Achievement as Transformational Resistance for Aboriginal Women, Mar. 3, FEB 1010, 3 p.m.

Parisa Hudson, Physics, Pushing the Boundaries in Gradient and Shim Design for MRI, Mar. 4, ChB 115, 9 a.m.

Kaothara (Kemi) Adeyanju, Microbiology and Immunology, HIV-1 Tat protein and Adverse Drug Reactions: A model system utilizing Jurkat T cells and sulphamethoxazole-hydroxylamine, Mar. 4, MSB 282, 9 a.m.

Rhys Lewis, Psychology, Exploring process dissociation as a tool for investigating discrimination in hiring situations, Mar. 8, SSC 9420, 1:30 p.m.

Faculty & Staff

Michael Groden (English) delivered an invited lecture titled "Ulysses - and Us?" at Princeton University.

New books

Marjorie Ratcliffe, associate professor of Spanish, Department of Modern Languages and Literatures, has published "Mujeres épicas españolas: silencios, olvidos e ideologías." This book was published by Tamesis (an imprint of Boydell and Brewer specializing in monographs about medieval Spanish literature) in January 2011.

Please send submissions to newseditor@uwo.ca

CONFERENCE CALENDAR

Send submissions to comeingevents@uwo.ca. This column features conferences based at Western or in London for a student, staff or academic audience.

ACCESS WESTERN NEWS

Coming Events

Seminars, sporting events, lectures and cultural events for the coming week. Send submissions at least two weeks in advance to comeingevents@uwo.ca. Events may also be posted on the online events calendar at uwo.ca.

Conference Calendar

Scholarly conferences at Western or in London. comeingevents@uwo.ca.

Faculty & Staff

Have you presented a scientific paper, earned a milestone appointment or published a new book? newseditor@uwo.ca.

Letter to the Editor

Offer praise, criticism or a fresh take on the news, or any aspect of campus life. Up to 300 words. newseditor@uwo.ca.

Opinions

Western News welcomes Viewpoint articles of 600 words. Offer your perspective on campus and post-secondary issues. Send submissions or find out more at newseditor@uwo.ca.

Public Space

Tell campus neighbours what's new in your department in 500 words or fewer. newseditor@uwo.ca.

Tribute

We recognize significant accomplishments by faculty, staff and students. Submit 200 words or fewer about the award and the winner. newseditor@uwo.ca.

CAREERS

A central website displays advertisements for all vacant academic positions. The following positions are among those advertised at www.uwo.ca/pvp/facultyrelations/jobs/index-jobs.html. Please review, or contact the faculty, school or department directly.

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

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COMING EVENTS

March 3

Huron University College - Black Odyssey Conference. Presented in conjunction with Huron's Community-based Learning office and the Promised Land Project. Members of the public are welcome to join in the enlightening view of Black History, in keeping with 2011's designation as the UN International Year for People of African Descent. Contact Nina Reid-Maroney, 519-438-7224 ext. 358. Email nreidmar@huron.uwo.ca.

Graduate Programs and Research, Faculty of Education - Presented in collaboration with the Theory Centre at Western. Author/film maker Bunni Oynsan on "The Role of Oral Traditions in African Women's Writing and Film Making." 5 p.m. Community Room (1139), Faculty of Education Building.

Department of Biochemistry - Dr. Maud L. Menten Memorial Lecture Series. Nahum Sonenberg, McGill University, Biochemistry and Goodman Cancer Centre. "Mechanism of action of microRNAs" MSB 384. 10:30 a.m.

Physics & Astronomy Colloquium - Murugappan Muthukumar, Polymer Science & Engineering Dept, University of Massachusetts. "Packaging biological macromolecules and delivery" Chemistry, Room 9. 1:30 p.m.

Writing Support Centre - Concise Writing. WSS Room 3134, 12:30 - 1:30 p.m. Register at sdc.uwo.ca/writing.

Don Wright Faculty of Music - UWO Singers. von Kuster Hall, 12:30 p.m.

Centre for Research on Migration and Ethnic Relations- Colloquium - Jasmin Zine, Department of Sociology and Muslim Studies, Wilfrid Laurier University "Race, Religion, and Securitization: Embedded Academics" and the Construction of Islamist Youth Radicalism" SSC 5220. 4 - 5:30 p.m.

Don Wright Faculty of Music - My Heart Remembers You: Songs of Love and Longing presented by the St. Cecilia Singers. von Kuster Hall. 6 p.m.

Don Wright Faculty of Music - Converging Soundscapes (New Music Fest): Wind Ensemble with Orchestra London Canada. Works by Estacio, Tommasini, Varèse, and Maslanka. Featuring Patricia Green, Mezzo Soprano. Paul Davenport Theatre, 7:30 p.m.

March 4

The Western Interdisciplinary Student Symposium on Language Research (WISSLR) Conference. Talks present undergraduate and graduate research in linguistics. Streaming live online over WebCT. Conron Hall, University College 224a. 10 a.m. Run until March 5th. For more information visit: uwo.ca/linguistics or email: wisslr.uwo@gmail.com.

Western Green Tour - Claudette MacKay-Lassonde

Pavilion, Stevenson Hall, and McIntosh Gallery. A free, guided walking tour hosted by Physical Plant and EnviroWestern. Every Friday until the end of April. 2 - 4 p.m. Sign up at: uwo.ca/ppd/greentours.html.

The School of Occupational Therapy - 13th Annual Conference on Evidence-Based Practice. Posters on display in room 1534 & 1549, Elborn College. Mary Egan "Safety and Connection: Key Concerns of Occupational Therapy" For more information contact Jeff Holmes at jholme@uwo.ca or Trish Tucker at ttucker2@uwo.ca. 9 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Don Wright Faculty of Music - Ensemble Transmission (New Music Fest). A group of six Montreal musicians "putting the good word out about modern music in post-modern times." von Kuster Hall, 12:30 p.m.

Department of Biology Seminar - Bill Karasov, Department of Wildlife Ecology, University of Wisconsin-Madison. "Digestive Physiology: A view from molecules to ecosystems". WSC, Room 240. 2:30 - 3:30 p.m.

Western Medical Students - Annual Hungry for Change Gala. Featuring musical entertainment and a keynote address from Dr. David Zakus, University of Toronto, Centre for International Health. Supports the Global Health Funding Committee and the Huruma Children's Home, Kenya. The Great Hall, Somerville House. Tickets: \$100 per person / \$50 per student / \$750 per table of 8. 6:30 p.m. For more information visit: uwoeds.com/hfc.

Don Wright Faculty of Music - New Music Fest: Orchestra London. Paul Davenport Theatre. 8 p.m.

March 5

Modern Languages and Literatures - Italian Studies (DMLL) invites you to a VIP fundraising dinner for students' scholarships. Five-course meal, entertainment, dancing. Location: Marconi Club. 6:30 p.m. Tickets: \$40 Call P. Pirani at 519-472-7910.

Don Wright Faculty of Music - London Music Scholarship Competition. von Kuster Hall, 8 p.m.

March 6

Don Wright Faculty of Music - Perfect Pairs. A recital of songs by famous poet-composer pairs performed by Carolyn Herrington, piano and members of the vocal faculty. Paul Davenport Theatre. \$15/\$10 seniors and students. 3 p.m.

March 7

Founders Day Events - Founder's Day Open House at Western Student Recreation Centre (free day pass for staff/faculty/alumni), Hospitality Services providing cake at Centre Spot, Founder's Day Theme dinner in all Campus Residences, Founder's Day theme lunch at Michael's, SOGS Quiz Night tie-in, USC event at the Spoke, Faculty of Engineering cake celebration.

Department of Physiology and Pharmacology - Elena Fazio, Western Physiology PhD Student. "The endoplasmic reticulum stress response and pancreatitis" DSB, Room 2016, 4 p.m.

March 8

Senior Alumni Program - Steven Bruhm, Department of English, Western. "Danse Macabre, Choreography, temporality and AIDS" McKellar Room, University Community Centre. 9:30 a.m.

Schulich Dentistry and the School of Communication Sciences and Disorders - Koichiro Ueda, Nihon University School of Dentistry, Tokyo. "Dysphagia Rehabilitation at Nihon University School of Dentistry & Public Long Term Care Insurance in Japan" Health Sciences Addition H101, 12:00 p.m. Lunch provided - RSVP before March 4 to cathy.ferrie@schulich.uwo.ca. Visit: schulich.uwo.ca/dentistry/index.php.

Writing Support Centre - Writing Essay Exams. WSS Room 3134, 1:30 - 2:30 p.m. Register at sdc.uwo.ca/writing.

Faculty of Law - 2011 Beattie Family Lecture in Business Law. Leo E. Strine, Jr. Vice Chancellor, The Delaware Court of Chancery. 5:30 p.m. Rm. 38, Faculty of Law. A public reception will follow in the Law Library.

March 9

Toastmaster's Campus Communicators - Build your confidence in public speaking. Meets every Wednesday 12-1, UCC 147B unless noted otherwise on website: cctm.freetoasthost.info/. Contact Donna Moore, dmoore@uwo.ca or 85159.

Writing Support Centre - Writing a Professional Statement. WSS Room 3134, 1:30 - 2:30 p.m. Register at sdc.uwo.ca/writing.

The Department of Modern Languages and Literatures presents "La Tertulia" Spanish Conversation Group. Anyone wishing to speak Spanish and meet people from different Spanish-speaking countries is welcome. Wednesdays at 3:30 p.m. UC 117. Email tertuliala@uwo.ca.

Please send submissions to comingevents@uwo.ca

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International study eyes democracy in action

By Jason Winders

While the world's attention remains focused on emerging democracies in the Middle East, Laura Stephenson hopes to unlock the secrets of existing ones.

Making Electoral Democracy Work, a seven-year research project funded by a major grant from the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada, brings together economists, political scientists and psychologists from Canada, Europe and the United States to explore the relationship between citizens, parties and electoral systems in a functioning democracy.

"The key would be to understand how voters feel about their system, their satisfaction, when and how do voters and parties express their views and how do we move toward this idea of a 'democratic ideal,'" says Stephenson,

a University of Western Ontario political science associate professor. "... All of the different rules of the game can change the outcome significantly."

Spearheaded by grant-holder André Blais at the University of Montreal, the project will examine 27 elections in five countries – Canada, France, Germany, Switzerland and Spain – over the next four years. The first elections studied will take place in Zurich and Lucerne, Switzerland in April. In Canada, provincial and federal elections in Ontario and Quebec also go under the microscope.

This first-of-its kind study, already several years into the planning stage, looks to form some insight into these different forms of the same system.

Citizen surveys comprise a major part of the project which, along with data on party strategies and a series of experiments, will

form the basis for the investigation

"The idea being when we have an election and the conservatives get a majority, let's say, with 40 per cent of the vote, how do the other 60 per cent feel? So we ask before and after, how do you feel about the outcome, do you think your party won or lost?" Stephenson says. "We're trying to gauge how voters feel about their system, how they interact with their system and what are the things that parties do differently across these different systems."

To accomplish this, a multi-year contract has been signed between public opinion pollsters Harris/Decima and Western to conduct online election surveys, perhaps one of the largest studies to do so.

Stephenson is co-ordinating data collection efforts through Western.

In each country, the same voters will be

interviewed three times (twice in Canada) during the election cycle. The questionnaire will include questions about if a citizen voted or not, who they voted for, strategic considerations from parties and/or media, personal political attitudes, political awareness and overall impression of their electoral institutions.

"What are the implications of different electoral democratic forms and how do these interact with the people. The biggest thing is we can't just run easy experiments where all of a sudden Canadians are going to vote a different way, let's go this way," Stephenson says. "There's history. There's learning. It's hard to know the implications of things without doing some systematic testing."

For more information on Making Electoral Democracy Work, visit electoraldemocracy.com.

Senate: Graduates can obtain their diplomas earlier

By Paul Mayne

University Senate approved a measure Feb. 18 making degrees, diplomas and certificates available in advance of convocation ceremonies to assist graduating students requiring a

work visa or seeking an overseas employment opportunities.

A university transcript alone, in many cases, is no longer regarded by employers as sufficient to verify the potential employee has, in fact, graduated. Each year the Office of the Registrar receives requests

from a number of graduating students who must produce their degree to secure employment prior to the convocation ceremony where the degree will be awarded.

With Senate changing the policy, any student who can show their certificate is required by an employer (official offer of employment needed) can apply to the Office of the Registrar. Certificates, however, will be released no sooner than two weeks prior to their scheduled convocation.

Additional ceremony

With the growing number of students graduating from Western, the

university has added a fourth ceremony to this year's fall convocation. Graduation will continue to be celebrated over two days with ceremonies at 10 a.m. and 3 p.m. both days. With fewer graduates now at each ceremony, an earlier start time on the afternoon ceremony (previously 3:30 p.m.) is workable and may be welcomed by the many staff and faculty who volunteer at convocation.

Minor in Dance

A minor in dance will be introduced in the Don Wright Faculty of Music, beginning this September.

Western students have been able

to enrol in dance courses as electives since the mid-1970s. Since 1990, dance has been recognized by the Ontario Ministry of Education as a separate teaching subject within the arts. Students had shown substantial interest in the minor.

Initial enrolment in the dance is projected to be 24 students.

New scholarships

Senate has approved a number of new scholarship, awards and bursaries. They include:

- Mercer MBA Scholarship - Awarded to a full-time graduate student entering the Master in Business Administration program at the Richard Ivey School of Business;
- Evanov Radio Group Journalism Entrance Scholarship - Awarded annually to a full-time student entering the MA in Journalism program who is a Canadian citizen;
- Rita & Vincent Mendes de Franca International Scholarship - Awarded annually to an international full-time undergraduate student entering first year in any faculty, preference will be given to a student from Mexico, Latin America, South America or the Caribbean.




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Continuing Studies steps up pedorthics program

By Lauren Nisbet

For Jordanna Jones, the pedorthics program at Continuing Studies at Western has been a foot in the door for a rewarding health-care career. Literally.

Currently managing two Bio-Ped clinics in London, Jones has been working as a pedorthics specialist for more than six years. "I was offered the job before I was even technically finished my education and ready to work," she says, "but I was very comfortable with the position and felt well-prepared when I started."

Her career path began with the pedorthics program at Continuing Studies which offers specialized training for lower limb care, a skill set in high demand as the profession continues to expand.

The College of Pedorthics of Canada defines the practice as one of the few health-care professionals trained in the assessment of lower limb anatomy and biomechanics. Pedorthists help alleviate pain, abnormalities and debilitating conditions of the lower limbs and feet that if left untreated could result in limited mobility.

"The field has been growing since I started," Jones says. "Everyone is looking for someone who specializes in foot care."

Practicum co-ordinator Heather Wakely agrees, pointing out "the employment prospects are fantastic. There are opportunities everywhere for students to apply their knowledge or even set up their own clinics."

Jones' experience with the program has come full circle, transitioning from student to instructor. In addition to providing practicum opportunities at Bio-Ped for current students, she also teaches a course in pathomechanics, bringing a unique perspective to the classroom.

"I see things differently from other teachers because I've been on the other side of things," she says, "I try to be there for students and advocate for them as much as I can, pushing for things that I know will make their experience better."

Reflecting back on her history with Continuing Studies, and her more recent involvement in the program, Jones highlights the broad range of knowledge offered to students.

"There's no better way to learn everything you need to know," she says.

Started in 2004, the Continuing Studies' 12-month program is the only one of its kind in Canada, combining coursework with three different practicum placements covering the clinical, footwear and fabrication aspects of the field. Offering online courses and a part-time option, the program is very accessible for interested students all over the country. In total, 73 students have passed through the program.

Currently, the program's job placement rate is 100 per cent.

For kinesiology students looking to get into the health care field, pedorthics provides an opportunity to be part of the treatment process in a way similar to physiotherapy and chiropractics.

"There's that hands-on experience of being able to make the product we're treating clients with, so you're not just getting the medical knowledge side of things but also the technical skills to actually make the products," Jones says.

The topics covered in the coursework prepare students for both lab work and the business aspect of the industry, while the practicum provides an opportunity for hands-on experience.

"It's a great opportunity to learn about the industry and gain business insight. The more variety they have in their experience, the easier it will be to make choices about what style fits them when they begin their own careers," Wakely says.

For that reason, students are encouraged to complete their practicum placements at a minimum of two different clinics to gain a comprehensive understanding of the field's professional environment. In Jones' case, her placement is what led to an offer for permanent employment enabling her to begin a career right after graduation.

Horn 'o plenty



Paul Mayne, Western News

World-renowned French horn player and Western alumnus James Sommerville returned to campus Feb. 17 to conduct a masterclass with students at the Don Wright Faculty of Music. Third-year performance student Jeff Dittmer was one of the lucky few to receive one-on-one instruction and advice from Sommerville, who holds the principal horn chair with the Boston Symphony Orchestra and is artistic director of the Hamilton Philharmonic.

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Mustangs meet Blue Jays



David Cooper, Toronto Star

Members of The University of Western Ontario Mustangs women's softball team try to get autographs from Adam Lind after the Blue Jays played their first inter-squad game of spring training Thursday, Feb. 24 at Florida Auto Exchange Stadium in Dunedin.

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