

# FOCUS TRENT



8 December 2005 | Volume 4 | Issue 4

## in the NEWS

**Dr. Ormond** and **Barbara Mitchell**'s new book *The Life of W.O. Mitchell* was reviewed by the *Globe and Mail* on Saturday, November 19, 2005. Prof. Mitchell teaches with Trent's Department of English Literature.

Trent Psychology professor, **Dr. Gordon Winocur** was interviewed on the radio program *Maritime Noon* on CBC Halifax on November 16, 2005. Prof. Winocur recently published a study linking memory impairment to Type 2 diabetes.



**Dr. David Newhouse**, Chair of the Department of Native Studies, was interviewed on the November 24, 2005 edition of *The National* on CBC Television.



Trent student **Janette Buckley** was featured in the November 22, 2005 edition of the *Peterborough Examiner*. Ms. Buckley, in her second year of a Masters degree in conservation biology, has a first degree black belt in tae kwon do.

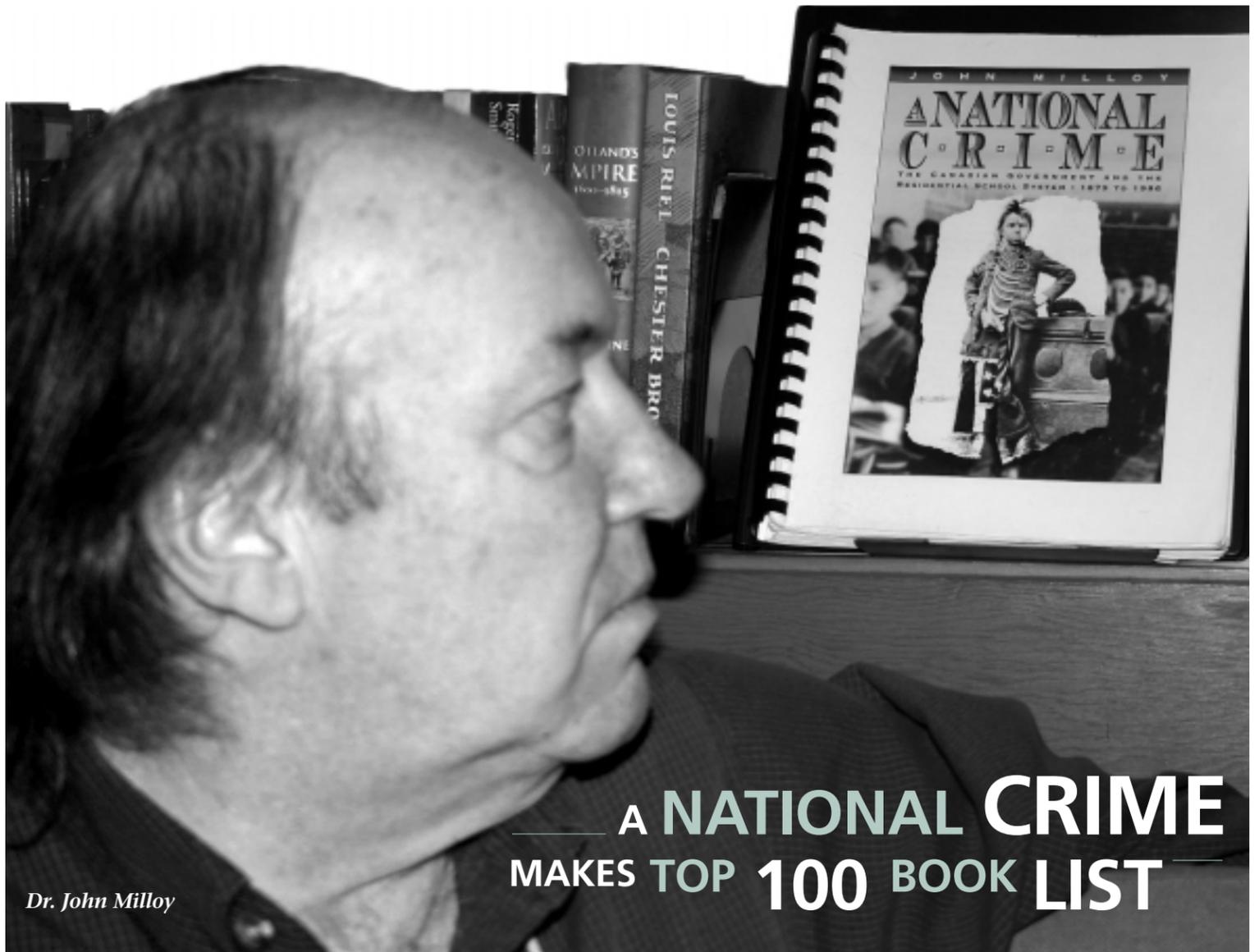
The Fall 2005 edition of the *Ontario Lawyers Gazette* featured a photo of Trent Native Studies PhD candidate **Lynn Gehl**. Ms. Gehl was a panellist at a National Aboriginal Day legal education forum.

Trent's Native Studies Program was the subject of an article in the Fall 2005 *National Housing Research Committee* newsletter.

The Trent University Emergency First Response Team (TUEFRT) gave a demonstration of its public access defibrillator at Blackburn Hall, for CHEX Television News on November 24, 2005.



**Dr. Magda Havas**, a professor with Trent's Environmental and Resource Studies program was featured in the November 11, 2005 edition of the *Toronto Star*. ☺



Dr. John Milloy

## A NATIONAL CRIME MAKES TOP 100 BOOK LIST

**D**r. John Milloy's book *A National Crime: The Canadian Government and the Residential School System, 1879 to 1986* has been named one of the 100 most important books in Canadian history.

The list, compiled by the Literary Review of Canada, aimed to pick influential books that have helped shape Canada's national identity. The magazine whittled down the list of 100 books from 300 titles submitted by the magazine's contributors and readers.

Prof. Milloy, a Trent University History professor, began compiling information on the residential school system in 1992 for the Royal Commission on Aboriginal Peoples. He released a 90-page synopsis in 1996. That was followed by a 500-page report forming the first of five volumes released on the Commission's findings.

The Report evolved into *A National Crime*, which was published by the University of Manitoba Press in 1999.

Residential schools were located in every province and territory, except New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island. According to the federal government, about 100,000 children attended these schools over the years in which

they were in operation, beginning in 1879.

The Government operated nearly every school in partnership with various religious organizations – Catholic, Anglican United and Presbyterian – until April 1, 1969. At that time, the federal government assumed full responsibility for the school system.

**"What was shocking – in terms of the neglect, the various forms of abuse and the under-performing educational system – was that they had known about it since the early 1900s." – Prof. John Milloy**

Sitting in his office, his dog Lizzie faithfully curled up by his side, Prof. Milloy spoke candidly about the horrors he uncovered in the thousands of files he sifted through in church archives, at the National Archives and at the Department of Indian and Northern Affairs.

"It was a horrendous experience that people went through. The experiences were all there in the files – it was all there."

Detailed accounts of sexual and physical abuse and neglect in the residential schools were rampant.

"I didn't have to make any judgements. The material was rich; it was easy to write. All I had to do was open up my laptop and

let it flow through. It was an amazing process," he said.

"What was shocking – in terms of the neglect, the various forms of abuse and the under-performing educational system – was that they had known about it since the early 1900s. It was the persistence of carelessness. The (cabinet) ministers, deputy ministers and church

officials all knew and were having open conversations about it. In a sense they convicted themselves."

Often the children returned to their homes and communities worse off, said Prof. Milloy.

"The impact on the children was like a stone you throw in a pond. The fundamental idea of the residential school system was violent. You take the children away from their parents and destroy their culture – it's like cutting an artery."

The push to have the Commission Report become a book came from the Assembly of First Nations and other Aboriginal organizations, said Prof. Milloy. Their goal was to get a government response to what had occurred in the residential schools.

"The book became a minor part of the political process because it ended any argument that the abuse in the residential schools didn't happen."

It was used in court cases, newspaper and magazine columnists picked up on the book and church goers were able to use it to come to terms with what their church had done, he said.

Since writing the book Prof. Milloy has spoken on the issue at churches, church conferences and political conferences. He also campaigned for a compensation package for victims of the system, which was finally announced by the federal government last month.

"I was saddened by the fact it took so long. But at the end of the day, as Canadians, we get most of the answers right – it just takes a long time to get there," he said.

"What is important is that there is going to be an apology and there will be structured places where Aboriginals can go and tell their story – places of respect such as reconciliation panels."

Prof. Milloy is currently working on the follow-up to *A National Crime*, which will tell the story of Aboriginal children in foster care. ☺

# BUSINESS STUDENTS ETHICALLY CORRECT: TAKE SECOND PLACE IN COMPETITION



Left to right: Brian Langis, Mike Hendren and James Baldock. Inset, Elyse Campbell with the rest of her group.



**"We had a great group dynamic – we didn't know each other before the competition and we are all very different."**

*James Baldock*

business ethics Prof. William Woof, who consulted with the students prior to the competition, for helping to shape the group's approach to the case studies.

"All of the judges were pleased to see a human touch put on the presentations. They felt they could relate to the topic – it wasn't just a case study," Ms. Campbell said.

Mr. Baldock agreed.

"We came in with a good attitude. The judges liked the human aspect of our presentation," he said. "We had a great group dynamic – we didn't know each

other before the competition and we are all very different."

"We didn't sell out, we said what we wanted," added Mr. Hendren. "Sometimes we were wrong with our answers but we were being honest."

The students were given an ethics case study ahead of the

competition and spent about 20 hours working as a group on the presentation. After presenting the case study to the judges, the group moved on to round two.

They were handed another case study and given four hours to read through it. They then had to create a PowerPoint presentation and rehearse it – all the while holed up in a small room.

Placing in the top six of 10 teams after the two rounds, the Trent group moved on to round three – similar to round two but with a new and more challenging case study.

The University of Western Ontario narrowly took top honours. Ms. Campbell said beating out traditional business school stalwarts such as Queen's University and Boston College was satisfying.

"It was thoroughly wonderful," she said. "We went in blind, hoping to go, have fun and give it our best. Just to be there was a privilege – to make it to the end was more than we could've asked for." ☺

The Trent University Business Administration program is flying high after four of its students took home second place at the Dalhousie Business Ethics Competition, held November 17-19, 2005 in Halifax, NS.

Fourth-year students James Baldock, Michael Hendren and Brian Langis as well as third-year student Elyse Campbell brought a unique style to the competition, incorporating skits and humour into presentations on business ethics case studies.

"We had our own style," said Mr. Langis. "We had a great time and we won something."

"We definitely did it Trent style – we had fun," added Mr. Hendren.

Mr. Hendren credited the business ethics course taught by Trent's Prof. John Bishop and

## CONNECTING WITH AT-RISK YOUTH

Trent University students are making community connections through a mentoring program introduced last year by the Kawartha Pine Ridge District School Board.

Champions for Youth is designed to improve student achievement, promote positive behaviour and increase the number of high school graduates. The program identifies students at risk of dropping out of school and matches these students with mentors from the community.

The Board initiated this program to engage students who have had difficulties with the law, and help them succeed academically and socially.

Saera Michael, a recent graduate of Trent University and a Champions for Youth mentor,

said she has enjoyed being part of the program.

"I love mentoring. It can be challenging when I feel like my influence is not enough to meet the needs of the person that I am paired with. Then a few days later, I notice that our conversations and my choices do influence her. She is beginning to dream. I am privileged to be there watching as she grows, gaining strength and skills to deal with the challenges that life hands her."

Fourth year Concurrent Education student Alicia Fahey has been involved with Champions for Youth for a year now.

"I thought it was a really good idea," she said. "I personally know people who dropped out of school. Perhaps if they had someone to put them in

the right direction, they might have stayed and finished school."

Ms. Fahey said Champions for Youth coordinator Dave Ralph focused on trying match mentors with youth who had similar interests.

"She really enjoyed floral arranging and I'm very arts and crafty so we thought that would be a good match," she said.

The youth Ms. Fahey mentors helped her organize a dodgeball tournament at Trent to raise money for breast cancer. This included helping with arrangements, making posters and attending the tournament.

"We're in an interesting situation," she added. "She just had a baby, so we spent the summer going to prenatal classes and researching pregnancy."

The two try to get together once a week to do crafts or go out for lunch. They also talk on the



*Alicia Fahey*

was super shy but she's opened up a bit and she hasn't been in trouble since I've been mentoring her."

Ms. Fahey said spending time with her Champions for Youth friend has led her to realize the challenges facing teens today.

"I've met a lot of her friends. The things that go on, I didn't realize how common they are. They're not valuing school – they miss a lot of school. But the responsibilities they have are overwhelming. They're so young and they have to do a lot for themselves."

The innovative Champions for Youth program is a partnership among the Kawartha Pine Ridge District School Board, community agencies, the Youth Criminal Justice System and probation officials with the Ministry of Children and Youth Services, Youth Justice Services.

Community members are invited to participate in this program by becoming mentors. For more information on Champions for Youth, visit [www.kprdsb.ca](http://www.kprdsb.ca) ☺

phone on a weekly basis, said Ms. Fahey.

Since they began spending time together, Ms. Fahey has witnessed a change for the better.

"I've noticed a change in her social skills for sure. Sometimes I bring some of my friends with me when we spend time together because she likes hanging out with older people," she said. "She



## house of hope

*"I would do it again a hundred times."*

**M**arisa Capozzi, a third-year History and International Development Studies major, speaks emphatically about her work at an orphan care centre as part of a summer placement in Botswana.

Ms. Capozzi took part in the World University Service of Canada (WUSC)/Trent International Program (TIP) Summer Service-Learning Placement program and spent May 15 to July 2 in Palapye, Botswana.

She did her placement at House of Hope. All of the 60 children at House of Hope have lost at least one parent to AIDS. Some of the children are HIV-positive

themselves and they are all between the ages of two and six.

"I went to focus more on the development of child-centred learning for teachers," said Ms. Capozzi. There are two teachers and one teaching assistant at House of Hope.

"I worked with the teachers to develop and further the children's education. They have some disadvantages going into elementary school so it's important to develop their education at the pre-school level."

This included playing and interacting with the children on their level, said Ms. Capozzi.

"The teachers didn't know much about that method of learning. In Botswana education is very

*Marisa Capozzi with one of the House of Hope students.*

serious and rule-based. I tried to make it more fun for the children."

Ms. Capozzi developed the Polaroid Project during her time there. Working with five children a day, she took Polaroid photos of each individual child and placed the photos on star-shaped cut-outs. The children were given crayons and stickers to decorate their star any way they wished. At the end of the project, all the stars were posted for everyone to see.

"Working with the children on this project gave them some one-on-one attention – they are often missing that," said Ms. Capozzi.

Fourth-year Trent student Jennifer Brown also did her placement at House of Hope and was involved in research on the administrative side of the orphan care centre.

### EXPERIENCE LIFE IN BOTSWANA

For the first time last summer, World University Service of Canada (WUSC) and the Trent International Program (TIP) offered a Summer Service-Learning placement in Botswana, Africa. Three Trent University students took part in the placement program.

Students who participate in the program are placed under the supervision of WUSC mentor for a period of six to 12 weeks between May and July.

The placements available include House of Hope orphan care centre in Palapye, Mokolod Nature Reserve, Camphill or Dule Sente orphanages in Otse Village, Jessica's Project, a teen centre, in Otse Village or the Gaborone YWCA.

For more information, or for an application, visit [http://www.trentu.ca/tip/botswana\\_more.shtml](http://www.trentu.ca/tip/botswana_more.shtml)

The application deadline for summer 2006 is March 1, 2006. ☺

Both students were placed with a mentor, a WUSC volunteer, when they arrived in Botswana.

"The program is unique because you have that mentor," said Ms. Capozzi. "You really learn how development works in real life."

Ms. Capozzi highly recommends a placement experience to other students.

"Even a short placement will affect your education. Any international experience in university will affect your entire university experience," she said. "It can be challenging but it's so rewarding." ☺

### UPCOMING events

**December 14:** Thugs & Artists, Carnival & Music: Humanities Research Day 2005. An annual celebration of research initiatives in the Humanities at Trent. Trill Lecture Hall, 310 London Street.

**January 13:** Trent University is hosting the Ontario Sustainable Campuses Conference at Gzowski College. Elizabeth May, executive director of the Sierra Club and recent recipient of the Order of Canada, will be the keynote speaker. For more information, contact Ryan Sisson, [ryansisson@trentu.ca](mailto:ryansisson@trentu.ca)

**January 19:** Kenneth Kidd Lecture Series, "Uncovering the Logic of Technological Decision-Making in Prehistoric S.W. Calabria, Italy: A Research Design." Lecture by Kostalena Michelaki, assistant professor of Anthropology, McMaster University. Lecture begins at 3 p.m. in Otonabee College, room 109. Everyone welcome.

**January 26:** 2005-06 Rooke Lecture Series, "Poetry Now: What Poetry is Doing in Canada These Days." Lecture by Prof. Gordon Johnston of the Department of English Literature, Trent University. Prof. Johnston has been teaching and writing about Canadian poetry at Trent since 1971. Lecture begins at 7:30 p.m. at the Peterborough Public Library. Everyone welcome.

**February 17:** Nomination deadline for Symons Award for Excellence in Teaching. Students, faculty, alumni and staff are invited to submit nominations online at [http://www.trentu.ca/idc/symons\\_nomination.html](http://www.trentu.ca/idc/symons_nomination.html) ☺

## SUMMER SERVICE – LEARNING IN BOTSWANA

**J**anice Nyarko-Mensah had an eye-opening experience working with the residents of Otse Village in Botswana as part of her seven-week placement in the African country.

"In the first couple of days I was there, what struck me was that according to statistics, one in three people I saw walking on the street could have HIV/AIDS," she said.

Despite the AIDS epidemic, Ms. Nyarko-Mensah said that very few individuals admit publicly they have the disease because of the stigma attached to HIV/AIDS sufferers in Botswana and throughout Africa.

*Janice Nyarko-Mensah*

Ms. Nyarko-Mensah, a fourth-year Business Administration and Economics student at Trent University, participated in the World University Service of Canada (WUSC)/Trent International Program (TIP) Summer Service-Learning Placement from May to July 2005.

Placed in Otse Village, she worked with Botlhale Jwa Phala Trust, an environmentally-friendly paper recycling workshop.

The workshop made paper products out of recycled material – everything from cotton to porcupine quills, said Ms. Nyarko-Mensah.

Ten women and one man worked at the collective making picture frames, gift bags and stationery. The workshop, an entrepreneur program created for the village youth, also had a

paper collection business. The paper was either sent for recycling to South Africa or used in the workshop's products, she said.

"It's a positive way for the youth of the village to earn an income," said Ms. Nyarko-Mensah. "It's their effort and the profits are shared equally among them."

### providing a helping hand in Otse village

Ms. Nyarko-Mensah helped with marketing the business locally. She also trained the workers, helping them with administrative skills, computer skills and accounting.

"It was very interesting," she said. "Working with a non-profit is really not an easy job but I

noticed by the end of the placement that you could see development and improvement in the women – they took more initiative and had more confidence."

While in Botswana, Ms. Nyarko-Mensah had the opportunity to do some travelling. She went on safari and visited Victoria Falls in Zimbabwe.

Looking ahead, Ms. Nyarko-Mensah hopes to attend graduate school for Development Management Studies.

For now, she recommends the program to others.

"It was a great experience – it definitely broadens your perspective." ☺

## Trent Receives Personal Library of Sylvia Gelber

Trent University's Bata Library has received the personal library of Sylvia Gelber, former director of the Women's Bureau in the federal Department of Labour. Ms. Gelber was a tireless social activist and advocate for women's rights.

The personal library contains thousands of volumes and spans a wide range of topics including history, humour, music, travel, and literature. The collection is currently being processed and will be available in 2006.

Ms. Gelber received an honorary doctorate of laws from Trent University in 1997. She died last year at the age of 93.

## Provincial Funding for Trent/Fleming BScN Program

Students in the Trent/Fleming School of Nursing Collaborative BScN program will benefit immensely from a \$355,200 grant that was announced by the provincial government this month.

"We're thrilled," said Dr. Dauna Crooks, director of the Trent University Nursing program. "It was amazing news – it really allows us some flexibility in providing learning experiences for our students."

The funding is designated for simulation learning and will be used to purchase training videos and highly mechanized, lifelike mannequins that perform human functions. As well, a portion of the funding will go to train humans to simulate certain health conditions.

The funding is the result of a grant proposal written to the Ministry of Health and Long-term Care by Prof. Crooks and Trent's Dr. Janet Rush as well as Fleming College's Kate Kincaid.



## Update on DNA Building Construction

Construction of the DNA Building is progressing on schedule, says Linda Smith, capital projects coordinator.

The steel is currently being erected and should be complete prior to the holiday season. The next steps include masonry and siding, which will form the exterior shell.

The shell should be completed in January at which time the interior trades such as electrical and mechanical will begin their work. Also, new light poles are being installed along the roadway out to Nassau Mills Road.

Construction of the new building, located on the East Bank of the main campus, began in August 2005. Work on the DNA Building is expected to be completed in late Spring 2006.

## Sustainable Campuses Conference

Trent University will host the Ontario Sustainable Campuses Conference January 13.

The conference will bring together students, faculty and university administrators from across Ontario to discuss how to

make post-secondary institutions more sustainable. Elizabeth May, executive director of the Sierra Club, will be the keynote speaker.

The conference, organized by third-year Environmental Resource Studies student Ryan Sisson, has received support from the T.E.W. Nind Fund.

## New Presidents for Toronto chapter of Trent Alumni Association

Trent alumni Jaime McKenna, Josh Mills and JoAnne Callaghan are the new co-presidents



Jaime McKenna

of the Trent University Alumni Association Toronto Chapter.

The association meets about twice a month. There are various events planned for 2006 including a social gathering at a pub in February, an innovation session featuring a guest speaker, a wine and cheese reception, golf tournament and some family-oriented activities.

There are about 3,500 Trent alumni in the Toronto Chapter.

## Trent to Host Gifted Students

Conference and Hospitality Services at Trent University is gearing up for the 14th annual Mini-Enrichment Program to run in May 2006.

The program is organized by Conference Services and offers gifted and highly motivated students in Grade 7 and 8 the opportunity to study topics not normally offered at the Intermediate level. It also introduces the students to Trent University.

In 2005 there were 17 enrichment courses offered by Trent faculty, staff and graduate students on a variety of courses such as Ancient Rome, DNA Profiling, Learning Japanese and the Chemistry of Everyday Life.

Each course was sold out. This year, Conference Services plans

## The Symons Award for Excellence in Teaching

### Call for Nominations

Students, faculty, alumni and staff are invited to submit nominations for the Symons Award for Excellence in Teaching to the Instructional Development Centre (Champlain College I13).

Nomination forms are available at all college, department, and program offices, as well as Bata Library and the TCSA office.

Nominations may also be made online at [www.trentu.ca/idc/symonsnomination.html](http://www.trentu.ca/idc/symonsnomination.html)

**DEADLINE: Friday, February 17, 2006**

The Symons Award for Excellence in Teaching is named for Professor T.H.B. Symons, the Founding President of Trent University, and is made available through the generous support of Professor and Mrs. Symons.

The Award is presented each year to a member of the Trent faculty or staff (full-time or part-time) in recognition of outstanding teaching in the broadest sense and, in the words of Professor Symons, "exemplary concern for students."

The Award is made each year at the Spring Convocation. A faculty or staff member may receive the Award once during his or her career.

to expand the program to 20 courses and will add another week to meet the growing demand. Offered to students across the Peterborough area, the program has increased from 64 students in 1993 to 649 students in 2005.

## Academic All-Canadians Honoured

In celebration of excellence in athletics and academia, 42 Trent University students were recognized as Academic All-Canadians at a special ceremony on Thursday, November 24, 2005.

The annual awards event, hosted by the Department of Athletics and Recreation, honours students who participate in varsity sports and achieve an academic average of 80 per cent or higher.

"I commend our Academic All-Canadian students for the level of excellence they have achieved

within their sport and their studies," said Trent President Bonnie Patterson. "Here at Trent we strive to ensure our environment is conducive to encouraging and supporting the diverse endeavours of all of our students, including our varsity athletes. These students have clearly illustrated that being athletic at Trent doesn't have to come at the expense of being academic."

"To receive this recognition in sport and scholarly accomplishment is truly exceptional," added Bill Byrick, Athletics director.

"Congratulations to all of our Academic All-Canadians, as well as the people who support and sustain them."

Trent has 200 varsity athletes and 20 varsity teams that compete within the Canadian Interuniversity Sport organization, Ontario University Athletics and the Ontario Colleges Athletic Association. ☺

*Below: Academic All-Canadians*



Vol. 4, Issue 4 *Focus Trent* is published by the Communications Office at Trent University on the second Thursday of each month, from September through June. E-mail: [focustrent@trentu.ca](mailto:focustrent@trentu.ca). *Focus Trent* copy submissions are due at the end of this month for placement in the next issue. Distributed in accordance with Canada Post Mail Sales Agreement #40064326.



Dr. Janet Rush and Dr. Dauna Crooks