

in the NEWS

Trent's resident sleep expert, Psychology professor Carlyle Smith, was featured in an article entitled "Parenting on Four Hours a Night" in the March 2007 edition of *Today's Parent* magazine.



Prof. Stephen Bocking of the Environmental and Resource Studies Department at Trent was interviewed on *940 Montreal Radio* on Tuesday, February 13 about recent federal and Quebec climate change policy announcements.

The Tuesday, February 6 edition of *The Peterborough Examiner* included an editorial entitled "Nature's Tax Return" by Biology Professor James Schaefer.

First-year history student Nathan Burnett appeared on the cover of the March edition of *University Affairs* magazine. Mr. Burnett was profiled in an article entitled "Welcome to MyWorld," which examines the challenges universities are facing in keeping in touch with a new generation of technically-savvy students.

University Affairs



Tune in

Génération Facebook
Comment communiquer avec
Comics scholarship
Turbulence at the top
The president's job gets tough
Le travail de recteur
se complexifie

The 30th Annual Elders Gathering at Trent was captured in several articles and photographs in *The Peterborough Examiner* on Saturday, February 17 and Monday, February 19. ☺



From left to right: Jen Thurston, Christopher Evelyn, World Bank President Paul Wolfowitz, Ricardo Tranjan, Kate Taylor

TRENT STUDENTS MAKE HISTORY AT WORLD BANK FORUM

Four student envoys from Trent University made history recently when they became the world's first youth to attend the World Bank Global Forum on Science, Technology and Innovation, held in Washington D.C. from February 13-15. This prestigious international event was also attended by Trent President Bonnie Patterson, who served as the only representative of a Canadian university to speak as a panelist during the Global Forum.

The students' role during the conference was to participate in the sessions and recommend how youth can more easily take part in future World Bank Global Forums. The four upper-year students who attended the event were: Christopher Evelyn, Kate Taylor, Jen Thurston, and Ricardo Tranjan. Each student is pursuing a degree in international development studies at Trent University.

During the Forum, the students witnessed the unfolding of international strategies on building science, technology, and innovation capacity for sustainable growth and poverty reduction.

"It was a very hectic three days as we often found ourselves working 13-hour days, only to return to the hotel and have our nightly debriefing session," said Mr. Evelyn, a fourth-year student who came to Trent from

Bridgetown, Barbados as an international student. "During the sessions our team was often seen scribbling furious notes to ensure that nothing was missed."

The conference brought together government ministers, ambassadors, scientists, engineers, professors, private sector representatives, policy makers, and donor agencies from around the world.

"The other delegates were curious about our role at the conference, often asking us about Trent University, our specific academic emphasis and how we managed to be the first undergrads to attend a World Bank Global Forum," Mr. Evelyn said when describing his experience.

The idea to send a Trent youth team was initiated by Senior Research Associate Betsy McGregor, who is also active

not unique and opens the doors for other students to attend future World Bank conferences," commented Mr. Evelyn.

Joining the student delegation was Trent University President Bonnie Patterson, who was invited by the World Bank to participate in a Global



"Trent was uniquely positioned to contribute to the discussion that looked at universities' role in international development." – President Bonnie Patterson

with the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA). The students will submit a report identifying how youth can become more involved in upcoming global forums to the World Bank in mid-March.

"I can only hope that both our report and the impression we left on the delegates and organizers will be enough to ensure that our experience is

Forum's roundtable discussion entitled "Harnessing Research and Development Capacity from OECD [Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development] Countries."

"Trent was uniquely positioned to contribute to the discussion that looked at universities' role in international development," said President Patterson. "I am also very

proud of our Trent students who have accomplished an important milestone for youth involvement in international affairs."

Entitled *Building Science, Technology, and Innovation Capacity for Sustainable Growth and Poverty Reduction*, the Global Forum was an international conference convened in collaboration with CIDA, Department for International Development, Global Research Alliance, Inter-American Development Bank, Science Initiative Group, United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO). Through this Forum, the World Bank and its partners sought to understand the lessons of previous and ongoing science, technology and innovation (STI) capacity building experiences and map out new and more effective ways for governments, industry, academia, foundations, and donors to work together to apply STI capacity building to development in low and middle-income countries.

More information about the World Bank Global Forum is available at: <http://www.worldbank.org/sti>. ☺

HOW TRENT IS SAVING THE WORLD'S MOST ENDANGERED WHALES



Dr. Scott Kraus, Dr. Rosalind Rolland, Brenna McLeod, Prof. Bradley White

Even though Trent University is located thousands of kilometres from the nearest ocean, a dedicated research team here is playing a significant role in protecting the North Atlantic right whale. With only 400 animals remaining, this 50-foot-long, 75 ton whale species is hovering on the brink of extinction, making it the most endangered whale in the world.

More than 120 people gathered at Trent University on February 22 for a symposium entitled the "Plight of the North American Right Whale" to learn how scientific research, particularly DNA profiling conducted in Trent's labs, is helping wildlife

scientists unravel the mystery of why these whales are having difficulty increasing their numbers.

Drs. Scott Kraus and Moira Brown from the New England Aquarium of Boston, MA presented their compelling research conducted over the last 20 years and discussed recent conservation efforts to protect right whales from the many threats they face in today's increasingly urbanized oceans. Dr. Kraus is vice-president of research at the Aquarium and has pioneered the research and conservation of the North Atlantic right whale. Dr. Brown is a recent recipient of the 2006 Lifetime Achievement Award from the International Fund for Animal Welfare in recognition of her

success to move shipping lanes in the Bay of Fundy.

"The research we're doing to understand how their behaviours, genetics and environmental factors are combining to impede the right whales' recovery is the marine equivalent to Jane Goodall's work with the great apes," said Dr. Kraus. The results of this research have just been released in a new book called *The Urban Whale*, which includes a chapter written by the Trent research team.

Trent University wildlife scientist Professor Brad White, graduate students Brenna McLeod and Roxanne Bower, and research scientist, Tim Frasier, were recognized by Drs. Kraus and Brown for their extensive work analyzing the right whales' DNA to understand their low birth rate, a primary threat preventing their recovery.

"The research we're doing is the marine equivalent to Jane Goodall's work with the great apes." – Dr. Scott Kraus

"The genetics work at Trent is unique," explained Dr. Kraus. "Through their DNA analysis, Trent's research team have identified how the mating system of right whales appears to

work. They have also been able to determine that right whale calves from less related parents are more likely to survive, a critical finding that enables us to better understand why their birth rates vary so dramatically from year to year."

Right whales were so named over 1,000 years ago by early European whalers who considered them the "right whale to hunt." Human activity continues to be a serious risk to their recovery in the form of collisions and pollution. Fishing gear entanglement and ship strikes are the single largest threat to right whales who live near the busy shipping areas along the eastern seaboard. Although right whales are so rare that people hardly ever see them, 70 per cent of all right whales show evidence of collisions with ships.

Dr. Brown described her efforts to move the shipping lanes in the Bay of Fundy to shift sea-faring traffic away from the popular right whale feeding area near the Grand Manan Islands. This has proved very successful in limiting the numbers of whales struck

by ships, and has helped to educate the various commercial industries on the importance of sharing the oceans to protect threatened marine wildlife. Dr. Brown's next objective is to create protected conservation areas off the southern coast of Nova Scotia. She commended the cooperation shown by Canadian agencies in advancing these efforts.

Despite the precarious situation faced by right whales, 16 mothers and their calves were sighted just weeks ago off the coast of northern Florida, their traditional breeding grounds. Drs. Kraus and Brown hope that with a better understanding of their seasonal migration patterns and behaviours, they can persuade the fishing and shipping industries to modify their activities so the right whales can survive. 



rightwhale.org

CANADIAN AUTHOR INTERACTS WITH HER TRENT READERS

Jane Urquhart Returns to Trent University

"To meet a writer whose book you have recently read and discussed is to extend your relationship to that book and to the whole experience of reading and interpretation," says Trent English professor Michael Peterman.

It is this belief that led Prof. Peterman to invite Jane Urquhart, an accomplished Canadian author, to return to Trent to speak to students in his fourth-year Literature of Ontario course during her recent visit to the University. The students have been studying Ms. Urquhart's first novel, *The Whirlpool*.

For over an hour, Ms. Urquhart shared with the small group of students how her first novel came to be published. Starting as a series of poems, she drew from her own family experience and reading to create the various scenes and characters.

Students also had a chance to ask her questions about her writing process, her characters, and her career as a novelist. Ms. Urquhart even offered some advice to students during her talk, saying "you should study English literature intuitively."

Reflecting on Ms. Urquhart's classroom visit, Prof. Peterman commented: "What stands out is Jane's ability to connect with the students as a group. She talks to them as equals and shares with them the ups and downs of creating a work. She is a true professional and is an excellent speaker, at ease with audiences big or small, and ever appreciative of the support she receives from her readers."

In addition to interacting with students in an intimate classroom setting, Ms. Urquhart was also on campus to take part in the Writers Reading series, organized by the Department of English

Literature and supported by the Canada Council, the Writers' Union of Canada and the Colleges of Trent University. On the evening of February 13, Ms. Urquhart delivered a reading to over 150 students, faculty, staff, alumni, and members of the Peterborough community. During her public appearance she read from two of her six best-selling novels, *The Stone Carvers*, and *Map of Glass*, her most recent, and talked about the impact of place and physical structures on the people and environment around them.

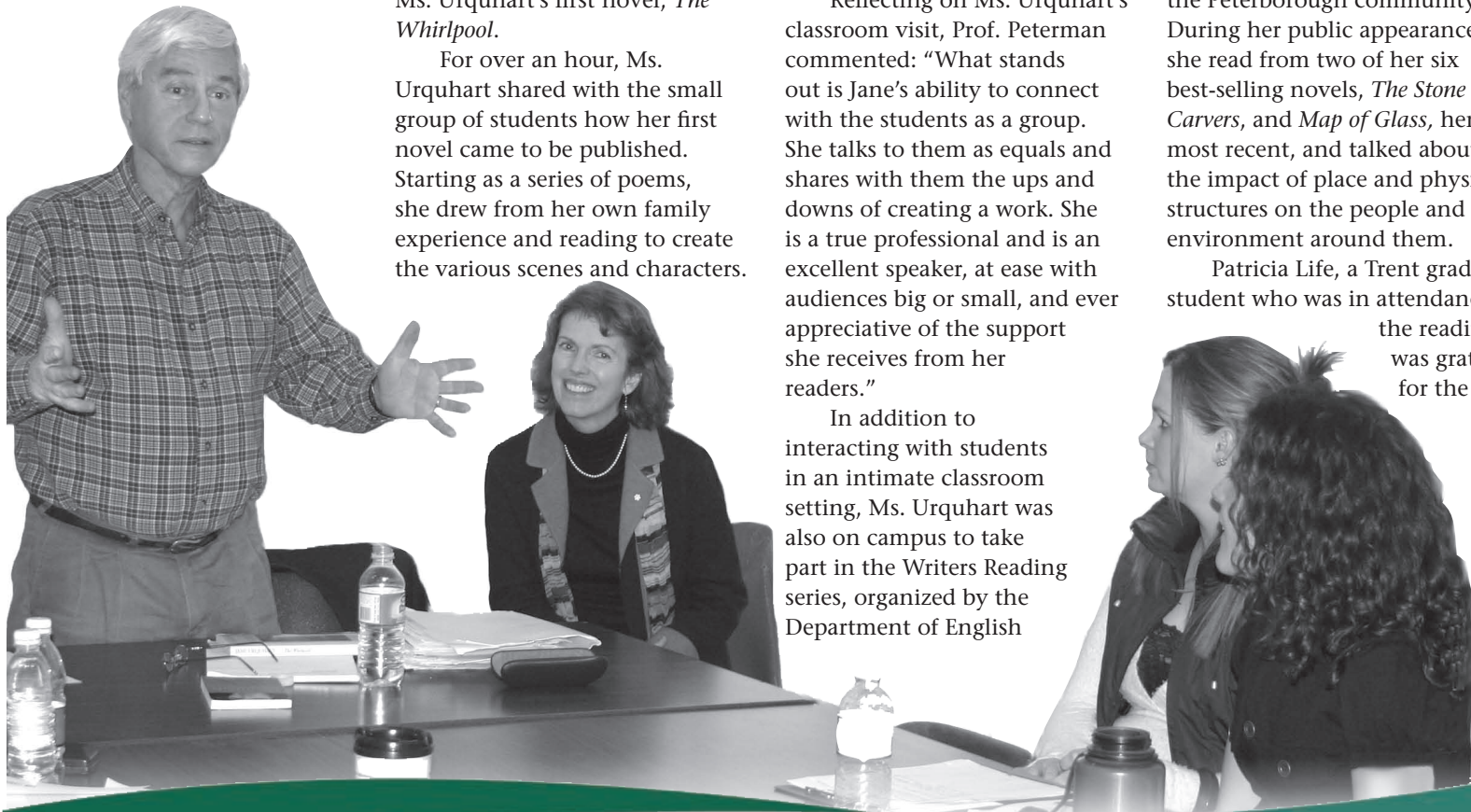
Patricia Life, a Trent graduate student who was in attendance at the reading, was grateful for the

opportunity to hear from one of Ontario's greatest writers. She said, "[Ms. Urquhart's visit] is typical of one of the most beneficial features of a Trent education – that is, the chance to personally interact with the people from whom you are learning, whether they be teachers or special guests. Interactive teaching is not only more effective but a lot more fun too."

Ms. Urquhart also enjoyed the opportunity to interact with the Trent community and commented that having the chance to speak to her readers is one of her favourite parts of being an author. "It is always a fabulous experience and it is always a different experience," she said. "You can't predict in advance what it will be like."

As her fourth visit to the University, Ms. Urquhart was once again impressed by Trent students and the Trent environment.

"Trent is a really exciting university," she said. "I like that it is a relatively young and I like that it is landscape-focused; it's a university to which place is very important. There is also a sense of intimacy about this university that I think is really important. You don't find that in a lot of places." 



HISTORIANS REVEAL WOMEN'S POWER THROUGH THE AGES

Third Annual History Research Day



Profs Jennine Hurl-Eamon, Carmen Varty, Fiona Harris-Stoertz, Ivana Elbl, Ismael Montana, David Sheinin

On February 2, Trent University's History Department gathered for its third annual "A Day in History" event featuring the latest research conducted by professors in the department.

Covering a wide spectrum of topics and timeframes, several presentations this year nonetheless revealed an interesting thematic convergence: the various forms of power wielded by women throughout history, both formal and informal.

Beginning with Professor Fiona Harris Stoertz's paper on fosterage during the high Middle Ages, the role of girls and boys in cementing inter-family loyalties among the ruling classes was explored from new angles. She argued that the medieval practice of

sending young children to be raised by other noble families as a gesture of political allegiance should not be exclusively interpreted as evidence of parental neglect and abandonment. In fact, often it resulted in close relationships between foster parents and their charges. Young girls in particular were expected to learn the languages, cultures and ways of their foster families as this preparation was crucial to their influential role over their husbands when married.

Professor Ivana Elbl gave a lively presentation about the life of Dona Beatriz de Meneses, a Portuguese noblewoman from the 15th century. Dona Beatriz's ability to amass considerable personal wealth and maintain her independence revealed strategies available to upper class women to gain social power within the ruling elite.

Complementing this theme of women's ability to find and exploit power mechanisms within patriarchal societies was Professor Jennine Hurl-Eamon's lecture describing the subsistence strategies of military wives during the 18th century. By uncovering the variety of methods these women used to earn extra income, such as oyster selling, pawning objects and working as laundresses, Prof. Hurl-Eamon stressed the importance of looking at military wives more as agents of survival than simply as passive victims dependent on their husbands.

The important "behind the scenes" political role of Susan Anne Howe (wife of Joseph Howe, Nova Scotia's Father of Confederation) was discussed by Professor Carmen

Varty. According to Prof. Varty, the lack of recognition given to Mrs. Howe's active contributions to Canada's political formation through her husband betrays the intrinsically masculinist nature of the public sphere, as compared to the private.

Rounding out the event were two more politically-oriented presentations. Having just successfully defended his Ph.D. thesis days earlier, Professor Ismael Montana spoke about the 1846 emancipation decree of Tunisia, followed by Professor David Sheinin's presentation on the role of the nuclear sector in 20th century Argentina.

Robust exchanges between faculty, students and guests characterized the day, reflecting the best of Trent's close-knit learning environment. ✎

Students Highly Satisfied with Trent Experience: NSSE Results

For the first time, Trent University participated in the National Survey of Student Engagement (NSSE) in the 2005-06 academic year and the results show that Trent is, in many cases, outperforming our provincial and national counterparts in each of NSSE's five benchmarks of student engagement:

1. Level of Academic Challenge
2. Active and Collaborative Learning
3. Student Faculty Interaction
4. Enriching Educational Experiences
5. Supportive Campus Environment

Satisfaction levels with Trent were also very high with 85 per cent of first year students stating that the quality of their entire educational experience was good or excellent versus only 79 per cent for the Ontario average. This statement was amplified by senior respondents, as 91 per cent the graduating class of 2006 stated they had a good or excellent educational experience versus the 78 per cent at other Ontario Universities.

In addition, when our graduating students were asked if they could do it all over again would they go to the same university, a resounding 88 per cent of Trent's class of 2006 would do it all over again at Trent, while only 76 per cent would go to the same University in Ontario again. These satisfaction levels were the highest of all Ontario Universities!

All Ontario universities participated in NSSE, which surveyed over one million students in North America. ✎

SERVING FOOD WITH A NARRATIVE: THE SEASONED SPOON

If you were to walk into the Great Hall of Champlain College in the middle of the day, you might be overwhelmed by delicious aromas permeating the air. If you were moved to investigate the source, you would discover the Seasoned Spoon: Trent's student-driven, multi-disciplinary, vegetarian, organic, and fair trade café.

The "Spoon" stemmed from a food issues working group of Trent's branch of

food alternatives at Trent as a way to raise awareness," explains Jessi Dobyns, one of the Seasoned Spoon's founding members.

The Seasoned Spoon came to its current form and location with a great deal of help from a number of sources. Local restaurants donated the dishes, cups and cutlery, the café still uses today. Faculty, colleges, and two academic departments gave donations of both money and goods to

"All food has a narrative: the route from field to plate varies and has all sorts of political, economic and environmental implications."

— Karen Sutherland

the Ontario Public Interest Research Group (OPIRG) in 2001. The group's first project was the Stone Soup Project, which brought together students in an Otonabee College pub to serve soup, with payment by donation. The project aimed to "[provide]

help start the café. Stephen Brown, master of Champlain College, was instrumental in helping to acquire the space. Prof. Jennifer Clapp joined the founding board as a faculty representative, providing endless support and expertise, and Meri Kim Oliver, director of Student Affairs, negotiated a contract ensuring the Spoon had a place on Trent's campus.



As the Seasoned Spoon, has evolved the focus has remained on educating the community on local food issues and sustainability. Student projects are also an important

component of the Spoon, which utilizes partnerships with the Trent Centre for Community-Based Education (TCCBE), and on-going research projects such as the rooftop garden on the East Bank and a new one acre garden, which provides some of the food served at the Spoon.

Most employees of the Spoon are full-time or part-time students, and include cooks, counter staff, bakers, and an outreach coordinator. In addition, the board hires a coordinator to manage the Spoon, which Annie Whitty has been doing for the last three years. There is also an opportunity for a Trent business student to work on the Spoon's finances.

Committed to its founding principles of providing alternative, local, eco-friendly choices, the Spoon employs a student in the summer to source fresh produce from local farms,

and process and preserve it for winter. Paying local farmers fair value for their goods is also a priority.

"All food has a narrative: the route from field to plate varies and has all sorts of political, economic and environmental implications. We want to pay attention to that and make those links explicit," says Karen Sutherland, another founding member.

The café is only the beginning. Future goals include increased faculty and student involvement, new research projects, and possible initiatives involving high school students.

In the winter, the Seasoned Spoon is open Monday through Thursday from 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. and Friday from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. ✎

Written by fourth year Trent English student Julia Horel

Trent Registrar Honoured with OURA Award of Achievement

Susan Salusbury, Trent University's registrar, was presented with the Ontario University Registrars Association's (OURA) Award of Achievement at the organization's annual conference held from February 19 to 21, 2007 in Niagara Falls.



The award is given by the OURA Executive to an OURA member who has held membership in the organization for at least ten years and who has made significant contributions to the provincial and national registrarial associations.

"It has been a very rewarding experience, volunteering in this way; in addition to networking with registrarial colleagues, my OURA experiences have enriched my home institutions as well as myself," says Ms. Salusbury, who was appointed registrar at Trent University in 2000. "I am still somewhat overwhelmed by the acknowledgement of my efforts by my peers. That makes it very special!"

Forensics Society Lecture

The Trent Forensic Science Society had the pleasure of hosting a lecture with renowned international forensic scientists Selma and Richard Eikelenboom on February 26. The Eikelenbooms are the founders Independent Forensic Services, based in the Netherlands.

The Eikelenbooms showed the differences and similarities of the investigation process across the world. They emphasized the importance of thinking like a criminal, despite the aversion, to effectively solve cases. Through the dynamic presentation of real cases, the lecture demanded unique thought and interaction from an eager audience.

Chancellor to Chair Provincial Working Group

Trent University chancellor Dr. Roberta Bondar will chair a working group on environmental education as part of the provincial government's new curriculum review process. As part of an initiative to connect community leaders and education experts to curriculum development, the Ministry of Education announced a new curriculum council consisting of 11

Six Distinguished Canadians to Receive Honorary Degrees at Trent University's 2007 Convocation Ceremonies

On behalf of Senate, the President of Trent University has announced the outstanding individuals who will receive honorary degrees at convocation ceremonies on May 30, 31 and June 1, 2007.

Ron Fourney

Dr. Ron Fourney is an international leader in DNA forensic science. He is a founding member of the RCMP DNA program and is currently the Officer in Charge of Canada's National DNA Data Bank. Dr. Fourney was also a significant contributor to the development of the Trent-Fleming Forensic Science program.

Stuart McLean



Mr. Stuart McLean is a best-selling author, award-winning journalist and humourist, and host of the CBC Radio program *The Vinyl Cafe*.

Mr. McLean is also professor emeritus at Ryerson University in Toronto and former director of the broadcast division of the School of Journalism. In 1993 Trent University named him the first Rooke Fellow for Teaching, Writing and Research.

Jim Balsillie

Mr. Jim Balsillie is the co-CEO of Research in Motion (RIM). A leading philanthropist, Mr. Balsillie established The Centre for International Governance Innovation (CIGI), and is also a founding donor of the Perimeter Institute for Theoretical Physics, a patron for the Grand River Hospital in Kitchener, Ontario, and principal benefactor for the Balsillie Collection of Roy Studio Images in his native Peterborough.

community leaders and education experts from across Ontario, including Dr. Bondar. The council will advise the Minister of Education on curriculum issues that require broader public consultation.

Trent Brings Forensic Training Expertise to California

Ashley Byrnes, a lab demonstrator with Trent University's forensic science program, was invited to California in early February to share Trent's innovative forensic science training program



Rosemary Spiers

Dr. Rosemary Spiers is a retired political journalist for *The Toronto Star*. She has also been a feature writer and commentator, specializing in Canadian politics and environmental policy.

President of the Board of Directors of Ontario Nature, she is also co-founder and chair of Equal Voice, and founder of The Women's Political ConneXion. In October, 2004 Ms. Spiers received a Governor-General's award for advancing the cause of Canadian women.

Margaret and Wallace McCain

The Honourable Margaret Norrie McCain is the first

woman Lieutenant Governor of New Brunswick. She has received the Order of Canada, the Muriel McQueen Ferguson Award for



© Honourable Margaret Norrie McCain

Work in the Field of Family Violence, the Canadian Red Cross Humanitarian Award, the Centre for Excellence for Early Child Development Award and the 100 Most Powerful Canadian Women Award.

Mr. G. Wallace F. McCain is one of Atlantic Canada's most successful entrepreneurs. Co-founder of McCain Foods Limited, Mr. McCain is the vice-chairman and director of associated companies within the McCain Foods Group as well as the chairman of the Board



of Maple Leaf Foods Inc., and co-chair of the National Ballet School Financial Campaign. He is an Officer of the Order of Canada and member of the Canadian and New Brunswick Business Halls of Fame. ☞

Donor Creates Opportunities for Aboriginal Students

Trent University is pleased to announce that Aditya Jha, a leading Canadian IT entrepreneur and chairman of the POA Educational Foundation, has agreed to create a \$100,000 endowment to support bursaries and awards for Indigenous Studies students.

The endowment, created through a donation made by the POA Educational Foundation and matched dollar-for-dollar by the provincial government's Ontario Trust for Student Support (OTSS) program, will be used to support both the Aditya Jha Indigenous Studies Awards and the Aditya Jha Indigenous Studies Bursaries, which will first be made available to Trent students in 2008-2009. Preference for these awards and bursaries will be given to applicants of Aboriginal heritage.

In addition, a longer-term partnership between the University and the POA Educational Foundation has been formed to collaborate on several projects to nurture entrepreneurship among Canada's Aboriginal population.



Keeping the Fires Burning: 30th Annual Elders Gathering

A longstanding tradition held annually on Trent's campus, the 30th Elders and Traditional Peoples Gathering ran from Friday, February 16 to Sunday, February 18 attracting more than 250 people. Over the course of the weekend many well-respected elders and traditional teachers from across the continent shared their stories on the theme of "Today and Tomorrow." A new feature this year was Sylvia Maracle's women's circle, the first one in ten years at the Elders Gathering.

"I think that the Gathering is the University's best annual event," said visitor Drew Carrell. "It gives people the chance to interact with all of the teachers and hear their stories, and learn things that I would not have been able to learn elsewhere." ☞

www.trentu.ca

March 15: Theory, Culture and Politics speakers series, Richard Fung, associate professor at the Ontario College of Art and Design, "Continental Drift: The Imaging of AIDS." Traill College Lecture Hall, 7:30 p.m.

March 15: TALKS (Trent's Aboriginal Learning & Knowledge Seminars), "Stereotypes and Symbols." First Peoples Gathering Space, Gzowski College, 6 p.m. No charge, donations accepted.

March 15: Writers Reading series with Judy Fong Bates, author of *Midnight at the Dragon Café*. Traill College, 8 p.m.

March 19: Stanley Adamson Powerhouse Open House, 4 p.m. to 6 p.m., Blackburn Hall, Room 134.

March 21: Writers Reading series, poet Nicole Markotic. Lady Eaton College, 8 p.m.

March 22: Cultural Studies in Canada speakers series with Arthur Kroker, CRC in Technology, Culture & Theory at University of Victoria. Traill College Lecture Hall, 7:30 p.m. All welcome. Reception follows.

March 22: Rooke Lecture Series: The Flying Words Project – a performance in American Sign Language by Peter Cook and Kenny Lerner. Peterborough Public Library, 7:30 p.m. All welcome.

March 26 to 28: 2007 Ryle Lecture Series featuring Prof. Simon Blackburn from the University of Cambridge and Fellow of Trinity College, Cambridge. "Pragmatism, Mimimalism, and Common-Sense." Full details at www.trentu.ca/philosophy.

March 28: Writers Reading series with poet and creative non-fiction writer Molly Peacock. UOIT, Room 1-110 (Oshawa), 7 p.m.

March 29: Writers Reading series with poet and Brock University professor Adam Dickinson. Gzowski College, 8 p.m.

April 5: Classes End

April 6: Good Friday (Holiday)

April 10: Trent University hosts 2007 Peterborough Regional Science Fair. See www.peterboroughsciencefair.org. ☞

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