

**INSIDE** 50th Anniversary  
Highlights, page 30

# TRENT

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**Cloak and Dagger**  
Robert Wright '79 and  
Ken Taylor Tell the  
Real Iran Rescue Story

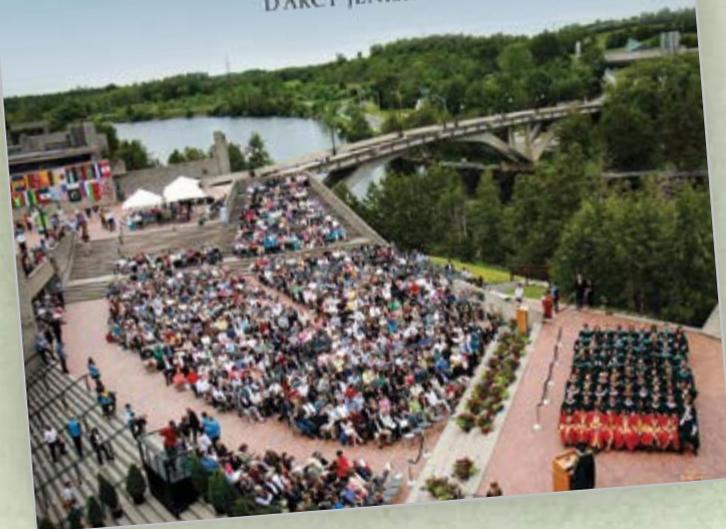
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TRENT   
UNIVERSITY 1964-2014

# TRENT UNIVERSITY

CELEBRATING 50 YEARS OF EXCELLENCE

D'ARCY JENISH



“It was a delight for me to read this wonderful book and to reflect on the great accomplishment that is Trent University.”

Dr. Don Tapscott '66,  
Chancellor

# TRENT UNIVERSITY

## CELEBRATING 50 YEARS OF EXCELLENCE

1964 – 2014

D'Arcy Jenish

The highly anticipated anniversary book that captures the remarkable history of Trent's first 50 years—triumphs, setbacks, crises and celebratory moments—told through the stories of alumni, faculty, staff and members of local communities.

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TABLE of CONTENTS

- 2 Editorial
- 3 Association President's Message
- 4 A Word from Dr. Steven Franklin
- 5 What's New at Trent
- 8 Cover Story: Robert Wright
- 11 Commemorative Anniversary Book
- 12 A Word from the Alumni Director
- 14 Showcase Excerpt
- 16 Making History: Alumni Profiles
- 22 Alumni Accomplishments & Pursuits
- 25 Slo-Pitch League
- 26 Legacy Society
- 28 LEC Anniversary
- 30 50th Anniversary
- 31 Symposium
- 34 Sunshine Sketches
- 35 A Student's Perspective
- 36 In Memoriam
- 39 Upcoming Events
- 40 Looking Back

14 Showcase  
Shining a Light on Leading Edge Research

16 Making History  
These alumni forge tomorrows from their love of the past  
Michelle Watson '94, Christina Vasilevski '03, Hannah Ellesworth, Carly Snider '03

25 Having a Ball  
Trent Slo-Pitch Hits a Home Run  
Jack Roe '73

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**ON THE COVER**  
Ken Taylor and Robert Wright '79 (right)  
Photo: Michael Cullen '82

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EDITOR'S NOTES

# INGLORIOUS History

DONALD FRASER '91

My history of History at Trent has some inglorious origins.

I should point out that, as a writer, I'm not exactly a morning person. More accustomed to working by midnight lamplight than by early-morning sunshine, I am part a creature of professional habit and part one of circadian confusion. Forced into attending morning meetings, I am inevitably groggy, lethargic, and seemingly undead. I often wince from the first light of day. My hatred of the dawn is truly vampiric.

In short, my pre-noon functionality is somewhat limited.

Thus it is, and thus it has always been. Particularly in my student days.

Which doomed a first-period, first-semester, first-year history course right from the get-go.

The initial hint that things weren't going to go my way was when the Otonabee College kids all stumbled into Wenjack wearing pyjamas. They weren't so much attending school as continuing their morning slumber. One look at a snoozing student would be all that it would take to knock me out cold.

For me, watching a morning nap is like watching someone else yawn: physiologically contagious.

My first set of notes from that class started out in paragraph form. They quickly moved to bullet points. Then single-word squiggles that may or may not have been relevant.

Finally, there was an unintelligible scrawl that trailed off into a long single scratch of ink. It flat-lined off the page and across the fabric of my jeans. Physical evidence of when my fuzzy-brained head drooped and my hand fell to my side. I can only hope that I didn't drool.

I can tell you this: my involvement in History courses did improve over time. As my lectures and tutorials moved into more humane timeslots, my participation grew and grew. By the time I took John Wadland's sublime course on "Canada: The Land"—yes, actually a Canadian Studies course, but truly historical in context—I was hooked on the stories of our nation-building.

This edition of *Trent Magazine* showcases alumni who have carved careers from their study or use of history. All of them look back on their formative Trent years as stepping stones to what they have accomplished. From award-winning authors, to teachers, to curators, to hockey writers, all of these talented folks have one foot in the present and one firmly rooted in the past.

The best part? Their varied and lively stories are all inspiring enough to ward off slumber—no matter your personal sleep patterns.

Good morning, friends. Good afternoon. Goodnight. Enjoy. ❖

**Drop us a line today at**  
[trentmagazine@trentu.ca](mailto:trentmagazine@trentu.ca)



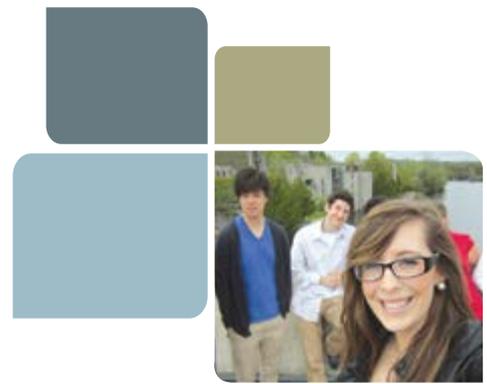
**Ooops.** In our previous issue, we featured a photo of **Gary Wolff '67**, Jean-Luc Dewez, Anita Dewez, Gerard Gengembre, **Iris Gengembre '67**, and **Ruth Wolff '67**. We mistakenly left out Anita's alumni status and class year 1968. Gerard and Jean-Luc attended Trent for one year as exchange students.



ASSOCIATION PRESIDENT'S NOTES

## Alumni Association News

ROBERT TAYLOR-VAISEY '66,  
ASSOCIATION PRESIDENT



www.trentu.ca/alumni

### Looking back

2013 was a very busy year. We were involved in the positioning initiative, discussions about the endowment lands, the Strategic Mandate Agreement (SMA) process, the presidential search committee, Head of the Trent (when 1,000 alumni returned), planning for the 50th anniversary, convocation, the Leadership Conference, alumni-student networking events, and various university committees. There were lots of chapter events as well, in Vancouver, Calgary, Saskatoon, Halifax, Toronto, Peterborough, and Oshawa. Alumni represented us as guest lecturers and members of panel discussions. Trent's eleventh chancellor is an alumnus, **Don Tapscott '66**. Alumni are a significant donor base. We are Trent's largest constituency, and yet we have barely scratched the surface of our individual and collective support of our alma mater.

### Student meeting

The face of universities and colleges is changing as the province looks to institutions to define how they are unique. In December at Trent, students assembled to talk about the SMA. I was invited to join the discussion, as were faculty, and we met with a solid representation of our demographic. It was an exciting meeting, most of all because it was so inclusive and quintessentially Trent. The tradition of engagement found in the Trent community was established from the very beginning, and it was great to see it alive and well.



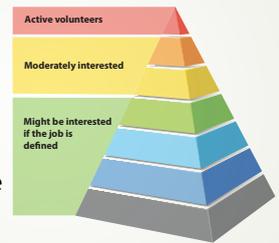
### What does being one of the community of Trent Alumni mean to you?

The simple answer: it depends upon you. You may connect with the original motto ("Now I know in part"), or you may experience fierce pride in our shared experience and values. You may point to the fundamental value of the college system. Above all, you may reflect upon how Trent changed you, allowed you to become who you are now, or gave you the tools to create rewarding careers and value your life experiences.

Being a member of the community of Trent alumni may take the form of mentorship (students and alumni), support of recruitment strategies, or involvement in meaningful, focused initiatives. Contributions and benefits stretch far beyond financial support—they could also entail providing opportunities for transformational experiences, such as job shadowing or professional development.

### Pyramid level of involvement

It is all too easy to slot alumni into categories and assume these are static, unchanging and unchangeable, but we know the reality is much different. Through time and circumstance, alumni may move among the different tiers and possibilities of involvement.



This is an interesting concept. Where do you fit? Where can you see yourself? What would motivate you to change? What constrains you from change?

### Request for hidden treasures

Trent U is producing a 50th Anniversary video to celebrate its many past and present achievements. You too can share in this production with a very simple donation.

If you own super 8 movies or VHS tapes from your years at Trent, we'd love to see them. So check your basement or your attic and dust off those rare and great recordings of our past. You could be sitting on a gold mine, and if so, we'll put it on the silver screen.

If interested you should contact Stephen Withrow at Kawartha Video Works ([kvideoworks@gmail.com](mailto:kvideoworks@gmail.com)). Please provide a short synopsis of the material you might have, what year it was shot, what format, and we'll get back to you.

### Lost alumni

Do you know an alumnus or alumna who has lost contact? Let's make a conscious effort to encourage lost alumni to reconnect.



[rtaylorvaisey@trentu.ca](mailto:rtaylorvaisey@trentu.ca)



# A University Grounded in *Historia*

*A*s a new year begins at Trent, the University is preparing to celebrate its most significant milestone to date. 2014-15 marks Trent's 50th anniversary year. On the precipice of such an occasion, it is only fitting that we pay tribute to the University's past, as well as look forward towards a bright, bold new future.

Looking towards the year ahead, Trent's history will play a vital role in the University's anniversary celebrations. And what better way to explore a piece of that history than to reflect upon and celebrate Trent's long-standing History program and its distinguished alumni and faculty?

As the theme of this issue of *Trent Magazine*, history has an important role to play in Trent's past, present, and future. Taken from the Greek word "historia," meaning "inquiry and knowledge acquired by investigation," history represents how, at Trent, active learning has always been key—both now and in our past.

Throughout the pages of this issue, in the profiling of some of Trent's most prominent and notable alumni and faculty, the benefits and value of the Trent experience are highlighted. As clarified in the recent Our Time to Shine consultations, Trent's new positioning statement (Trent University is Canada's champion of collaborative learning that is personal, purposeful

and transformative) makes it abundantly clear that the Trent community is committed to providing an education based on understanding "history," and on gaining knowledge through critical inquiry and investigation. There is no question that this positions our graduates for success in any subsequent endeavour they choose to pursue.

Trent History graduates, such as Governor General award-winning historian and author **Dr. Tim Cook '90** and **Dr. Laura Peers '81**, curator of Oxford University's Pitt Rivers Museum, are just two examples of how alumni are leading the way in their chosen fields, and are applying the lessons and experiences they gained in Trent's collaborative learning environment to make an impact on the broader world.



*Left to right: Our Man in Tehran documentary co-writer and director Drew Taylor, Ken Taylor, the subject of the documentary and co-writer Trent professor Robert Wright.*

Setting our graduates up for such success are Trent's distinguished faculty. From Trent Oshawa's historian and alumni professor **Dr. Robert Wright '79** to preeminent women's history scholar **Dr. Joan Sangster '70**, the University's renowned faculty are making their own significant contributions to their areas of

study, continuously positioning Trent as a leader in the field.

These stories of success and leadership of Trent's alumni, as well as past and present faculty and staff across the entire University, will represent a large piece of Trent's 50th anniversary story to be celebrated over the coming year and beyond.

Although my term as president comes to a close in June, I look forward to seeing this important milestone occasion appropriately marked, and to sharing in the celebrations with the entire Trent community.

I also invite you to join in the celebrations. Keep up-to-date on all of Trent's anniversary activities at [trentu.ca](http://trentu.ca) and be sure to join the conversation and share your own Trent memories on Facebook and Twitter #trentu50.

Finally, I would like to officially congratulate Trent's newest president and vice-chancellor, Dr. Leo Groarke, on his recent appointment. Dr. Groarke's combination of administrative and scholarly achievements in the university sector provide a balanced perspective essential to the role. It is clear that his skills and experience will set the stage for Trent's success in

its 50th year and beyond. I wish Dr. Groarke well as he begins his post as the University's eighth president and vice-chancellor in July 2014. ♦

Steven E. Franklin, Ph.D.  
President and Vice-Chancellor  
[sfranklin@trentu.ca](mailto:sfranklin@trentu.ca)

# What's New at Trent

## Trent Board Appoints Dr. Leo Groarke Eighth President and Vice-Chancellor



At a special meeting of the Board of Governors on February 21, Dr. Leo Groarke was appointed as the University's eighth president and vice-chancellor. Dr. Groarke will begin his term in July 2014.

Dr. Groarke has extensive executive experience acquired at two major post-secondary institutions: Wilfrid Laurier University and University of Windsor, where he currently serves as vice president, academic and provost. Dr. Groarke has valuable experience in virtually all aspects of university operations, including government and community relations, fundraising, and residence operations. At Laurier, he spearheaded the development of a new and highly successful downtown campus in Brantford, Ontario, as documented in his book *Reinventing Brantford, A University Comes Downtown*.

"I'm excited to be assuming this role at an outstanding university which is widely known for innovative thinking, for the quality of its teaching and research, and for its commitment to the Peterborough and Oshawa/Durham communities," said Dr. Groarke. "Trent's size and structure has allowed it to make a unique commitment to individual student experience. I am flattered to assume the presidency at the onset of Trent's 50th anniversary, which will be a time to celebrate what Trent has accomplished."

Dr. Groarke has led wide-ranging organizational transformation. At Brantford, he oversaw growth in student enrolment from an original cohort of 40 students to over 2,000. At Windsor, he oversaw a Strategic Priority Fund designed to promote new program development and innovative strategic initiatives; the restructuring of recruitment and

domestic and international admissions to promote enrolment growth; and many initiatives in teaching and learning including: an Office of Open Learning; Teaching Leadership Chairs; a Provost's Committee on Teaching and Learning; a new partnership between Windsor's Centre for Teaching and Learning and Faculty of Education; and a major international forum on the future of university teaching. In 2014, the Organization of Part-time University Students at the University of Windsor awarded Dr. Groarke the "OPUS Friend of Students Award."

A more comprehensive listing of Dr. Groarke's accomplishments is available at [trentu.ca/president2014](http://trentu.ca/president2014). ❖



## Provincial Teaching Award for Trent Prof

At a time when math teaching is under fire in the media, Dr. Cathy Bruce is so widely recognized for her innovative methods, she was recently named one of Ontario's most outstanding university teachers by the Ontario Confederation of University Faculty Associations (OCUFA). A professor in the School of Education & Professional Learning at Trent

since 2003, Prof. Bruce coordinates and instructs the mathematics program, helping teacher candidates better understand the subject and curriculum. Not only does she prepare them to teach the subject, but also to really enjoy it. As part of her research and teaching at Trent, Prof. Bruce also leads the Trent Math Education Research Collaborative (TMERC), a team comprising research assistants, teachers and consultants from both Public and Catholic school boards from across Ontario. Visit Prof. Bruce's website at [tmerc.ca](http://tmerc.ca) or follow her on Twitter @drcathybruce. ❖

## Trent University #1 in Ontario

Trent University led the province overall in the primarily undergraduate category of the 2013 *Maclean's University Rankings*, coming in first overall in Ontario and sixth in Canada. Trent also ranked number one in the primarily undergraduate category in the key categories of Scholarships and Bursaries, Awards per Full-Time Faculty, and Medical and Science Grants. ❖



## Trent Raises \$74,582 for United Way

Through the generosity of faculty, staff, and retirees, Trent raised an impressive \$74,582 for the 2013 United Way Campaign—surpassing the goal of \$68,000 and making this the University's most successful campaign to date in support of the charitable organization. ❖

## Undergraduate Student and his Professor Establish Patent

The development of an innovative environmentally-friendly anti-corrosive coating for metals has earned Trent Chemistry professor Dr. Andrew Vreugdenhil and his former undergraduate student Tom Singleton a new US patent. Professor Vreugdenhil and Mr. Singleton's new coating technique, which uses a sol-gel process to lay down a silica-based coating on metals, is an ideal replacement for chromate-based coating technology which is used in the automotive, aerospace, and ship-building industries. Chromates are known carcinogens. The unique and significant research opportunities available to undergraduate students at Trent made it possible for Mr. Singleton to be a co-inventor on the patent. ❖

## Canada's First University to Introduce MV-1 Accessibility Vehicle

A new, fully accessible vehicle introduced in the fall at Trent is a Canadian first, providing full access to campus facilities for students with disabilities, and affirming the University's position as a leader in accessibility and student wellness. The world's first factory-built wheelchair-accessible vehicle that meets the unique physical needs of those with mobility and other disability issues, Trent's MV-1 is used to transport those in the Trent community with disabilities from the east to west bank of the Symons Campus and downtown to Traill College. Visit [trentu.ca/mv1](http://trentu.ca/mv1) for more information. ❖



## Challenge the Way You Think Trent's New Positioning & Ad Campaign

The University has unveiled a series of new advertisements developed to raise the profile and reputation of our institution—as well as to differentiate ourselves from other universities.

Anchored in the outcome of the institutional positioning work completed in 2013 (see [trentu.ca/collaborative](http://trentu.ca/collaborative)), the tagline “Challenge the Way You Think” gets to the heart of the Trent difference. That difference is brought to life through provocative headlines and original illustrations that stand in stark contrast to other advertising in the sector. See the first ad on page 7.

For more on the ad campaign, visit [trentu.ca/challenge](http://trentu.ca/challenge). ❖

## Chancellor Named One of Top 5 Business Thinkers in the World



Recognized as a leading world authority on innovation, media, and the economic and social impact of technology, Trent University alumnus and chancellor, **Don Tapscott '66**, was named one of the top five business thinkers in the world by Thinkers50. Thinkers50 also presented Dr. Tapscott with the prestigious Global

Solutions Award recognizing him as conducting the most significant work in the world about how to solve global problems.

*In Peterborough November 2013 and Oshawa February 2014, Dr. Tapscott delivered the first two lectures in the Chancellor Lecture Series entitled “New Ideas for a Connected Planet.” The third and final lecture in the series will take place in Toronto on March 5, 2014. [trentu.ca/connectedplanet](http://trentu.ca/connectedplanet). ❖*

## Ph.D. Student Honoured with Prestigious Vanier Scholarship

Trent University Materials Science Ph.D. student **Theresa Stotesbury '07** received a \$150,000 scholarship over three years, as a recipient of Canada's most prestigious scholarship for doctoral students—the Vanier Canada Graduate Scholarship. An emerging scientist in bloodstain pattern analysis, Ms. Stotesbury will focus her research on the creation of a synthetic blood substitute that will be very useful for research, training, and education purposes. ❖

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# Hip and (Not) Trivial

DONALD FRASER '91

When told of the headline of this piece, **Robert Wright '79** chuckled.

"Wait until I tell my kids," the Trent alumnus and professor smiled. "They'll wonder who it is really about. Hip doesn't really enter the equation around these parts."

But even if Wright, a historian, bestselling author, and screenwriter, doesn't see himself as cool, he'd be hard pressed to deny that the way he presents modern Canada sure is.

Best known for his works *Our Man in Tehran* and *Three Nights in Havana*, Wright takes flashpoint moments of Canadian history and turns them into fascinating and compelling pieces of literature. Focusing on such notable figures as Iran hostage-crisis hero Ken Taylor, and a suave 70s-era Pierre Trudeau, he proves that Canadian policy makers and politicians were major players on the world stage—and not merely for their roles in government. Through his lens, Canada takes on a pretty considerable hip factor.

"Much of this boils down to approach," he admits. "Over the past three books, I've made a conscious effort to make history more accessible, more readable, maybe even a bit more fun. The end results are stories that perhaps ring a little louder than straight historical analysis."

This is definitely the case with the bestselling *Our Man in Tehran*.

Working closely with Taylor, one of the few Canadian diplomats to ever gain global celebrity status, Wright had access to long-buried documents and communication cables—as well as the first-hand memories and stories of significant events—relating to the rescue of six American Embassy workers during the Iran Hostage Crisis. Making use of this privileged information, he spun a cloak-and-dagger tale that reads like an espionage novel.

"A story like that writes itself," suggests Wright modestly. "I was just lucky enough to be the guy in the right place and time to get the opportunity."

But, of course, stories don't merely write themselves, no matter how juicy the material provided. It was, in fact, his accessible and lively prose that earned him the opportunity to work with Taylor in the first place.

"Ken has been approached by many, many people to collaborate on the Iran story," admits Wright. "I couldn't guess how many, but this is a story that has been crying out to be told. I was fortunate in that he had read *Three Nights in Havana* and saw a good fit. My reputation in that small tent of history and writing preceded me."

The resulting partnership was even better than expected.

"It has been one of the highlights of my career. I was thrilled, not just to be welcomed by him or to be invited to be part of the project, but also to collaborate with him—to work closely with someone of his remarkable stature, talents, and presence. I'm also pleased that this collaboration has evolved into a friendship."

Taylor, in fact, acted as an external reader and a source of advice for Wright's forthcoming book, *The Night That Canada Stood Still*.

"Between our work on the manuscript and on the movie script for Tehran, we ended up talking several times a week. I'd be going through these classified cables and come across the most remarkable bits of the story. I'd call him up and he'd be excited to remember what had been happening at the time. It made for lively conversation."

"Actually," he adds, "even with the work behind us, the conversation remains lively."



*“Over the past three books, I’ve made a conscious effort to make history more accessible, more readable, maybe even a bit more fun.”*



For many, Taylor remains as elemental a Canadian as Terry Fox—and during the early 80s celebrated similar levels of fame.

“It’s richly deserved,” notes Wright. “Ken Taylor brings an energy and passion to everything he does. This is a guy who has risen to the top of whatever field he has worked in, from being the Consul-General in New York, to his business interests, to his work consulting with Boards of Directors. Even now, when you spend any amount of time with him, you realize that he can outwork, out-socialize, and stay up later than people half his age. It’s all that training as a diplomat. He used to have two drivers. It was the only way they could keep up with him.”

According to Wright, Taylor still remains a diplomat to the core. This has been particularly notable after the 2012 release of *Argo*, the Hollywood blockbuster that casts the CIA as the true heroes of the Iran rescue mission. That movie originally went so far as to label Taylor an imposter.

While criticism of the slight was immediate and far-reaching—and eventually led to a formal apology—Wright was definitely not the one leading the charge.

“I think he has been tactful in his response to the film,” suggests Wright. “At the same time, he has been firm in making sure that history reflects the true events. And this is not a point of self-interest. Ken has always insisted that

what happened in Iran was a Canadian effort—a group effort. He may be the one with the Congressional Gold Medal, but you’re never going to see him lining up to accept personal accolades.”

This desire to set the record straight was definitely shared by both men.

“There is a reason that he wanted an academic historian as a collaborator,” notes Wright. “Someone who would bring the required level of research to the project.”

It is this careful balance of research and storytelling that sets Wright apart as a writer. But it is also one that sets him apart as a professional historian—for good or for ill.

“I won’t deny that my work is looked at differently in academic circles,” he admits. “What I am producing is not deconstruction or analysis. It’s not the stuff of textbooks. I’ve had to defend that. But my work does follow the same academic rigours. Just as much research goes into a book like *Our Man in Tehran* or *Three Nights in Havana* as in academic works. My first three books (*Our Place in the Sun*, *Virtual Sovereignty*, and *Hip and Trivial*) were all through university presses. I’m no stranger to academic publishing.”

At the same time, it’s refreshing to know that his newer works are being read by a much wider audience.

“I’m thrilled to know that my books are being read by educated Canadians,” he says. “As both a writer and a historian, that is exactly what you strive for.”

His involvement with film has brought this connection to even greater heights.

*Continued on the next page.*



"I know that more people will see the movie of *Our Man in Tehran* in a month than will read all of my books in my lifetime. The immediacy of that is both astonishing and hugely rewarding."

Already comfortable in the role of historian and filmmaker, Wright is becoming equally at ease as a screenwriter.

"When it comes to my work in film, I will say it again:

I'm the beneficiary of dumb luck.

*Argo* whetted the public appetite for the real story of Ken Taylor and the

Canadians in Iraq. Ken and I had already produced the book. It wasn't a huge leap to bring it to life as a documentary."

Luck, however, doesn't produce films of such caliber. Nor does it help produce follow-up pieces. When pushed, Wright is willing to reveal that his screenwriting project with *Tehran* was not a one-off.

"While I'm not going to tip my hand, I can tell you that I finished my first screenplay last year," he says. "It's full of adventure, characters that have that Rat-Pack sense of cool, and, of course, some great historical intrigue. Without going into details, I can tell you that I am

happy with the discussions that I've been having about next steps."

His involvement in *Tehran* has opened more than a few doors.

"The process—and the success—has introduced me to an elite level and an elite crowd of filmmakers. It has also introduced me to a medium that I love working in. It's been a very pleasant surprise in a career full of surprises."

***"I know that more people will see the movie of *Our Man in Tehran* in a month than will read all of my books in my lifetime. The immediacy of that is both astonishing and hugely rewarding."***

And while all of this transpires, he still finds time for his first calling—as a professor of history at Trent's Oshawa campus—where he brings his unique passion for historical narrative into the classroom.

"I suppose you could say that I'm a bit of an old-fashioned educator," he smiles. "While academics are moving more and more towards a skill-based educational process, I still see value in the traditions of a general arts-based grounding. I see University as an opportunity for unhurried reflection in a fast-paced world. In my classroom we leave the notions of worldly possessions and day-to-day stresses behind. We

forget about the rat-race and learn for the sake of learning."

He also sees his classes as an opportunity for personal growth.

"I try to put my students at ease. But at the same time, I implore them to take risks, to think outside the box, to really explore who they are. They need to learn to love learning."

And, of course, he expects them to attain confidence in their writing.

"I want them all to be good writers," he notes.

"I want them to gain the chops needed to survive law school. Or grad

school. Or whatever the future holds. Because of that, I can be a tough marker. Or so I've heard."

Once again, it boils down to a combination of passion and discipline—the two elements most needed in producing page-turning historical literature and film. And also the two elements that have made Robert Wright's work so familiar to so many Canadians.

Despite his love of history and of words—of cloak and dagger—Wright's greatest achievement may actually be a success story. His has had more twists and turns than most spy thrillers.

And it is one that is far from over. ❖

# GREETINGS

from Trent University Men's Rugby Booster Club

The Trent University Men's Rugby Booster Club was conceived and formed by a group of Trent rugby alumni this past summer and is working with the Alumni Association and the Athletic Department. The purpose of the booster club is three- fold:

- 1 To keep Trent Men's Rugby alumni, supporters and family updated about the current team and to connect together as a community.
- 2 To include alumni, family and supporters in events that celebrates the current team as well as the history of the Trent Rugby program.
- 3 To raise money to defer the cost that is shouldered by the current players. As of the fall of 2013, Trent Men's Rugby players must pay close to \$500 in order to play rugby at Trent. Also, the booster club will raise money for bursaries, equipment and tours.

Thank you for taking the time to read this notice. If you would like to join the Trent University Men's Booster Club, or would like more information, please contact Caleb Smith at [caleb\\_s51@hotmail.com](mailto:caleb_s51@hotmail.com) or 905-357-9233.

We look forward to formalizing our alumni network in preparations for Trent's 50th Anniversary celebrations in 2014, and the 50th year of Trent Rugby in 2015. ♦

David McCully, Head Coach  
Trent University Men's Rugby

# TRENT UNIVERSITY

## CELEBRATING 50 YEARS OF EXCELLENCE

1964 – 2014

Trent is about to get its very own history book for its 50th Anniversary, "a coffee table book with a substantive text and a good read," according to the book's author, D'Arcy Jenish. D'Arcy is quite familiar with overarching historical narratives of Canadian institutions. As author of books on the National Hockey League, the Montreal Canadiens, the St. Lawrence Seaway, Canadian cartographer and explorer David Thompson, and even the Canadian Pharmaceutical Society, D'Arcy is well equipped to deal with the plurality of narratives that comes with the territory of compiling a written history of well-cherished figures. One of his first books, his history of the Canadian Pharmaceutical Society, came about through a Trent connection, alumnus **Jim Keon '72**.

Unlike other projects, though, this is one that particularly resonates with him and has given him great personal joy because of his connection to Trent. He grew up in Peterborough, and his formative years were during Trent's formative years, so he was able to see first hand Trent's symbiotic relationship with the community. He was able to use the library at Rubidge Hall and later Bata Library to complete high-school history projects. As he explains, "I have a degree from Western but my spiritual home is Trent." Trent is where he developed a love for reading and writing. Trent is a place where he and his chums would go on a Friday night, a place where he would go swimming, a place where he could see solemn scholars who were not "brownners" but passionate students who took lessons to heart.

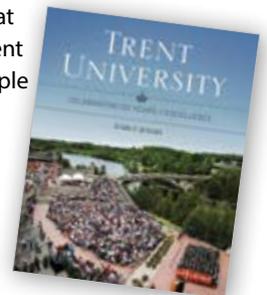
The book hopes to stir what D'Arcy refers to as the "enduring bonds of Trent." He continues: "Trent is one of those places that for whatever reason

generates strong emotions." The outpouring of positive stories that he received from faculty, staff, alumni, and students, past and present, combined with all of the details combed from past digitized issues of *Arthur* to "help bring the whole thing alive." "The contemporary students are just as enamoured as the students from the 60s," he recounts, noting that this enduring quality is not found in larger institutions.

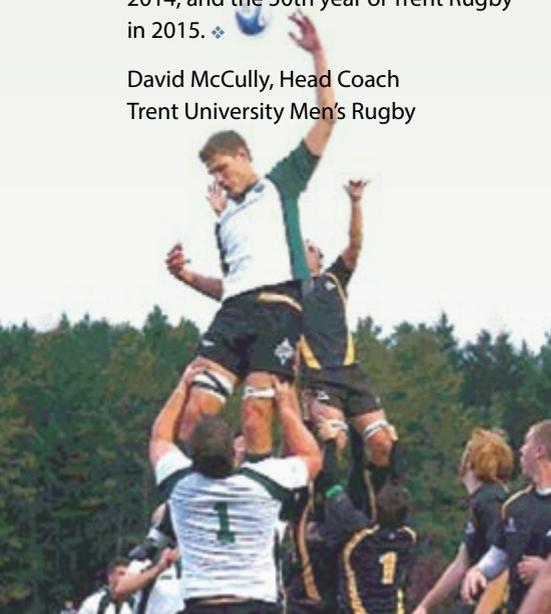
As a writer, he has been very pleased with the story of Trent, with all of its triumphs and upsets. From the origins of the university, helped out by the community and various trade unions, to the many occupations of the president's office, "there aren't too many dull moments." At points, the campus has been "ablaze with protest," because students love Trent, "have their ideas of what Trent is and what Trent should be, and are ready to go to the ramparts for it!"

If D'Arcy has any regrets, it's that he "couldn't do the definitive history of everything," due to the sheer volume of institutional memory that comes from all of the individuals who have been associated with Trent. But there are many common threads that sew us all into the green and white banner of Trent University that D'Arcy is weaving.

The book is one of many 50th Anniversary celebrations, and D'Arcy encourages all alumni to return to campus for the 50th if they are able. He is certain that there are many others who "left Trent just as inspired and ready to go hard at life as [he] did. Trent takes hold of people and people take hold of Trent." ♦



For more information, visit [www.trentu.ca/fifty/events\\_book.php](http://www.trentu.ca/fifty/events_book.php)  
See inside front cover for more details.





**Lee Hays '91**  
**Director, Alumni Affairs**  
leehays@trentu.ca  
705-748-1599

# Alumni Connections

## Lee's Top 10 Alumni Highlights



*The TUAA Hong Kong Chapter dined at the Bankers Club in January.*

10

Hong Kong alumnus **Justin Chiu '76** hosted 20 alumni for a regional dinner on the occasion of Julie Davis' (Trent's VP External Relations & Advancement) visit to the city. Special thanks to **Patrick Lam Kam Ho '86** and **Louise Leung '99** for their assistance.

9

**Don Tapscott '66** didn't hesitate to get to work as the first alumnus chancellor, hosting a free alumni webinar and the first Chancellor's Salon for several alumni at his home. Perhaps you've been lucky enough to catch one of his free public lectures in Peterborough, Oshawa or Toronto. Stay updated at [trentu.ca/chancellor](http://trentu.ca/chancellor)



8

Homecoming & HOTT 2013 lived up to its reputation as the largest, longest, and loudest alumni event of the year, with more than 1000 grads returning to campus. Features included children's activities, BBQ, an alumni party at The Ceilie with live music (Josh and **Dan Fewings '82**), rowing and other sporting events! See the photos at [trentu.ca/hott/gallery\\_2013.php](http://trentu.ca/hott/gallery_2013.php)

7

Oshawa Campus alumni had a chance to participate in a survey led by alumna **Holly Daniels '08**. Trent has been offering courses in Oshawa for the past 40 years and has graduated more than 1,600 students! Check out the new Oshawa Campus website at [trentu.ca/oshawa](http://trentu.ca/oshawa)



*Left to right: Prof. Gordon Johnston, **Avril Rustage-Johnston '72**, **Linwood Barclay '73**, **Neetha Sands-Barclay '72**.*

6

Best-selling thriller author **Linwood Barclay '77** was alumni writer-in-residence at Lady Eaton College for 10 days. Barclay stayed in residence and generously hosted workshops for current students, helped welcome new students at the November Open House, and gave a talk at Showplace which included an on-stage interview with Professor Emeritus Gordon Johnston.

### Do you want to know about future activities?

Be sure your email is registered in the Online Directory ([www.trentu.ca/alumni/onlinedirectory.php](http://www.trentu.ca/alumni/onlinedirectory.php)) or email us [alumni@trentu.ca](mailto:alumni@trentu.ca), follow Twitter [@TrentAlumni](https://twitter.com/TrentAlumni) and like us on Facebook [trentuniversityalumniassociation](https://www.facebook.com/trentuniversityalumniassociation)



5

Mentoring & Career Opportunities: Alumni and students have been connecting this winter and spring, including one-to-one career discussions, networking nights, the Life After Trent Event at Gzowski College, the Alumni House Student Art Show, and Alumni Discovery Sessions. The Career Centre offers many services to alumni—find out more at [trentu.ca/careers](http://trentu.ca/careers)

4

Regional alumni events took place in Niagara-on-the-Lake (**Caleb Smith '93**), the British Isles (**Gordon Copp '76**), Vancouver (**Lorraine Bennett '72**, **Cynthia Loveman '77**, **James Currier '05**), Malaysia (**Jessica Lee, '08**), and Halifax (**David Wallbridge '96**). The Indigenous Studies chapter also hosted a special event during the annual Elders' Gathering. Future events are

being planned for Ottawa, Montreal, Toronto, and Oshawa.

3

Registration for the 2014 50th Anniversary celebrations: Be sure to visit [trentu.ca/fifty](http://trentu.ca/fifty) to learn more about the celebrations and plan to come back to campus in August for the alumni reunion and 50th kickoff! More details are listed on page 30.

2

PSB Wilson Fund for Athletics & Recreation: Thanks to donors, close to \$100,000 has been invested over the past 10 years to maintain and improve Trent's high standards for athletics. Recent investments include squash racquets, a volleyball serving machine, strength and conditioning equipment, dodge balls, table tennis equipment, and sponsorship of the "50 Years of Sport at Trent" reunion taking place August 9th.



**Bob Lightbody '64** the *Tony Storey Volunteer Award* winner, with **Margie Lightbody '64**.

1

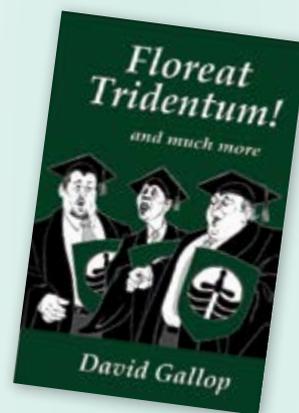
Celebrating the 2013 Alumni Award winners: It was wonderful to see many previous award winners at this year's awards event, held on November 9, "Local to Global Communities: Trent Alumni Lighting the Way."

The 2013 honorees were: Tony Storey Volunteer Leader Award—**Bob Lightbody '64**; Distinguished Alumni—**Cathy Fooks '79**; Spirit of Trent—**Brian '90 and LeeAnne Lavender '90**; Robert W.F. Stephenson Award for Student Leadership—**Amber Vance**, and Young Leader—**Maryam Monsef '03**.

See the full story and photos at [trentu.ca/newsevents/newsreleases\\_131111\\_alumawards.php](http://trentu.ca/newsevents/newsreleases_131111_alumawards.php)

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Vancouver – former Trent University President **John Stubbs** and **Clayton Welwood '99** at the Vancouver Alumni event held at West Vancouver Museum: **Ron Thom** & the Allied Arts Exhibit.

# TRENT Showcase

UNIVERSITY LEADING EDGE TEACHING AND RESEARCH  
KNOWLEDGE MOBILIZATION EDITION



## Unique Trent Research Group Conducts Knowledge Mobilization in its Truest Form

Inspired by the discovery of (sometimes surprising) commonalities between their research projects, the diverse group of students and researchers in the Health Environment and Indigenous Communities (HEIC) research group gain motivation from the interactive atmosphere the group provides.

"The group has facilitated and, to a degree, promoted common themes around research that no single student or researcher in the group could have taken on entirely by themselves," says Dr. Chris Furgal, who leads the HEIC, made up of his graduate students and research assistants.

This pooling of collective experience, together with facilitating an exchange of communication of what they are learning, means students in the HEIC collective are working together to achieve knowledge mobilization in the truest sense of the word.

While some students' projects directly explore issues of knowledge mobilization (for example, evaluating the communication of territorial health survey results to northern communities), knowledge mobilization is also a direct product of the interactions sparked within the HEIC group itself. A prime example of this is a new collective research paper authored by members of

the HEIC group around the importance of relationship in conducting research with and in Aboriginal communities, and how to communicate about this issue to different audiences and in different forms.

"We have learned a lot about the importance of relationship in the research we do and the group wanted to explore ways of sharing our collective learning on this topic with a broader audience," Prof. Furgal says.

Learn more about the HEIC group: [www.heicresearch.com](http://www.heicresearch.com)  
Watch the video at <http://goo.gl/pJolOa>



**Learning with Robots**  
Responsive human-like mannequins to be used by Nursing students in new, hands-on research.

**Localizing Climate Change Impacts**  
Taking what academics understand about climate change and making it real for the local community.

**Rethinking Memory Loss**  
What if Alzheimer's and dementia are not diseases but rather a normal part of aging?

**Feeding our Food**  
Advancing environmental sustainability through manure, compost and other biowaste.

Read the full articles at: [trentu.ca/showcase](http://trentu.ca/showcase)



## Website Provides Global Forum for Technology and Education

For educators, students, creators, and technology users who want to know how to access technology, effectively harness its power, and make it work in the world of academia, a thought-provoking new virtual meeting place called Digital Communitas is a welcome development.

Led by Dr. Sara Humphreys, an assistant professor in the Department of English Literature at Trent University Oshawa, the site hosts scholarly articles and is a place where technological and educational visionaries reveal their expertise through online interviews, and where educators and students post their personal experiences. The information is

accessible and the dialogue inclusive. As the editor and project leader of Digital Communitas, Professor Humphreys quickly saw the site transformed into a clearinghouse of information examining how people use digital tools in research and in the classroom.

Prof. Humphreys believes that knowledge mobility is really about accessibility and taking information learned in the ivory tower and moving it to the street in a way that's accessible and responsible.

"This site is important," she says. "A lot of people are doing these fantastic things in research labs and digital media zones. This is a site where teachers and researchers can go and gather. I'm hoping it empowers users in their use

of media in the classroom and in their research, and inspires them to make research accessible."

Throughout the site, scholars and media luminaries weigh in on the topic of technology and education. Trent chancellor **Don Tapscott '66**, who is recognized as one of the top business thinkers in the world, conducted an interview for the site emphasizing the importance of technology for today's students. To view the video, visit:

<http://digitalcommunitas.wordpress.com/how-to-videos/don-tapscott/>

Learn more about Digital Communitas: <http://digitalcommunitas.org>

## Breaking Barriers: Realizing a New Vision

One Trent student's journey to pursue a degree in the field of study he loves most, despite the restrictions of a personal disability, is helping to change the landscape of learning for future students.

Ryan Cole, who has been legally blind since birth, but has limited vision, came to Trent four years ago to study chemical physics. He chose Trent largely because the contacts he made early at the University assured him they could find ways to assist him in his educational pursuits.

"Like other universities, Trent didn't directly know how to accommodate for my needs, but unlike the other universities, Trent's response was: 'We'll do whatever it takes,'" Mr. Cole says. "It was like a breath of fresh air."

Remarking on the rarity of students with disabilities pursuing degrees in the sciences, Mr. Cole notes there is often a tendency to steer them into the arts and social sciences. A subsequent

survey conducted by Professor Emeritus Dr. Alan Slavin of the Trent Physics Department, Mr. Cole's first-year instructor, also revealed how unique Mr. Cole's situation is. According to the survey, only one other legally blind student has studied university physics in Canada in the last 12 years.

### New Opportunities

That willingness to "do whatever it takes" has led to a world of new opportunity for Mr. Cole at Trent. Support, guidance, and funding from the Student Accessibility Services Office has translated into the discovery, purchase, and application of new technology—a high resolution camera that acts as a powerful electronic magnifier—that has allowed Mr. Cole to take his own notes as well as conduct vital lab work on his own, both for the first time.

Mr. Cole and Professor Slavin are now working to spread the word about what this enabling piece of technology



can do for other potential students in Mr. Cole's situation. This past summer, the pair published a peer-reviewed article in the *Journal of Visual Impairment and Blindness*, focusing on the camera and how it is being used in university context for a student in sciences.

"I get annoyed with the social push for blind people not to pursue study in math and science. It's a real loss," Mr. Cole says. "Most blind students don't know this technology exists. We want to spread the word so others can know about the opportunities available." ❖

Read the full articles and explore the entire Fall 2013 issue at [trentu.ca/showcase](http://trentu.ca/showcase)

# Alumni Profiles

## Making History

### PROF. JOAN SANGSTER '70

Professor Joan Sangster's love of history emerged during her undergraduate years at Trent in the 1970s. "I became very interested in African and colonial history, having had a fabulous professor here—Deryck Schreuder—who encouraged that interest." Following graduation, the Ottawa native spent a year backpacking around Africa, hoping to learn more about the effects of colonialism on that continent. The trip brought about an unexpected realization, however: time away had stirred up curiosity about inequalities on the home front, and yet her knowledge of Canadian history was wanting.

"Frankly, I had taken hardly any Canadian history at Trent, so I decided that was a big hole in my education." Her appetite whetted, she embarked on graduate studies at McMaster University in Hamilton. Sangster discovered an emerging Canadian community of historians that helped nurture specific interests in both women's and labour history in Canada. "I also had a thesis supervisor, Richard Allen, who was an excellent teacher. We had somewhat different political perspectives, but it didn't matter—what mattered to him was helping me to write the very best thesis possible." It was the generosity of fellow labour and feminist academics during this time that also made a lasting impression. "There were people a bit older than me in the historical profession who were incredibly encouraging, who acted as mentors—particularly in the early 80s when there were no jobs. It was



a very bleak time to be looking for work in academic life."

Meaningful encouragement is something Sangster has paid forward in her time as a professor at Trent. Demonstrating exemplary concern for students, she was the 1988-89 recipient of the Symons Award for Excellence in Teaching. "I really like being at a place

that values excellence and innovation in teaching. So that, along with my induction to the Royal Society of Canada are two accomplishments of which I'm very proud."

Pioneering scholarship in areas of women's and labour history have also brought accolades, including a Killiam fellowship and visiting professorships to Princeton and Duke Universities in the U.S. She is currently working on her sixth book, about Canadian cultural perceptions of the Indigenous North during the postwar period.

Though Sangster is presently serving as administrator of the Frost Centre for the 2013-14 year, her time is usually spent teaching courses in both gender and labour history at Trent. "I try to get my students not to think about heroines. Not to think about 'great women.' It's the unsung heroes of history that I want them to think about, who have made an important contribution to society and don't get recognized in the same way."



Focusing on collective accomplishments is an approach she inherited from the vibrant women's movement of the 70s. That, plus experience of the way faculty and students interacted during her undergraduate years, also informs her perspective: "Trent offered an important education in liberal arts through a commitment to small classes, teaching and research, and close collaboration between students and faculty that, I think, is part of its past, that hopefully will be maintained as part of its future." *by Michelle Watson '94*

### MARK COLLINS '81

Mark Collins is an accomplished radio journalist who studied history and English while at Trent. In his final year at Trent, he contributed to historical knowledge about the Peterborough region by doing primary research on female domestic servants in Peterborough at the turn of the twentieth century. He conducted interviews with senior citizens, reviewed documents in the National Archives

of Canada, and talked to architects about how buildings were built and designed to house servants but keep them separate from the people they served. After he graduated from Trent, he completed a Masters degree in journalism from Western University. In many ways, his current role as a producer for CBC Radio is a continuation of those interviewing and research skills—he considers asking questions and listening to be the most important skills for primary historical research, and those skills also come into play when interviewing radio guests.

Collins' background in journalism is far-reaching. As a student, he wrote for *The Arthur* and also had a column in *The Peterborough Examiner*. He eventually moved on to working as a clerk on a national TV news show, but ultimately found a home in radio, which he prefers for its more casual environment.

For the past decade, he has worked on the radio show *Ontario Morning*, which covers weekday morning news for the majority of Ontario outside of the GTA, Ottawa, Windsor and Kitchener regions. In his role as producer of the show, he helps determine which stories to cover, writes scripts, and provides background information on interview guests to the host. He's also responsible for taking both short-term and long-term programming into account, finding columnists, and choosing music to broadcast.

Because of *Ontario Morning's* wide geographical reach, Collins and the rest of the radio staff focus on finding stories that will resonate across a variety of communities—topics often include agriculture, provincial and municipal politics, and health.

However, he also recognizes that the role and impact of journalism is changing as media consumption changes too. His advice for students considering journalism is to pay attention to news from all kinds of media, from the traditional formats to newer ones like podcasts. Outside of his work with CBC Radio, his hobbies include playing video games (he even ran a video arcade at Lady Eaton College!), gardening, and cooking. He lives in eastern Toronto with Linda, his partner of 21 years, and a cat.

by **Christina Vasilevski '03**

## ROB SINCLAIR '79

"I remember the bus ride vividly," says Rob Sinclair, looking back to his first encounter with Trent University. Sinclair still remembers standing on that first Greyhound bus for the entire trip. His first impression of the campus beauty has also remained unchanged. "It's one of the most unique campuses in Canada, if not North America."

Sinclair's career has brought him to the threshold of world sporting events and face to face with iconic sports legends. He fell into his career as a sports journalist naturally, through a passion for the game. As a young adult he dreamed of becoming a professional athlete. Having heard great praise for the university, Sinclair attended Trent as an LEC student. It was during his undergraduate years that he nurtured his creative writing and love of athletics.

While Sinclair's strongest sport was baseball, he often participated in many of the recreational sports on campus with his friends. Recalling his years of winning intramural shirts, Sinclair says, "The wonderful thing about Trent was that you could try anything and everything."

After graduating from Trent with an Honours B.A. in History and winning several prestigious athletics awards, Sinclair decided to pursue his M.A. in History at Queen's University. He completed the program in one year, as opposed to the standard two years that were usually expected. His thesis focused on the social history of baseball during the Second World War and was published in a journal shortly after its completion. This paper was a large factor in Sinclair's realization that sports journalism was a career he envisioned for himself.

After having graduated from the Master's program, Sinclair began broadcasting at CBC under a 13-week



Olympic Masters Games contract. Thirty years later, he is a senior writer and editor of the CBC sports program. He recalls that one of the most rewarding aspects of his career has been travelling to sports venues and broadcasting live at events. As Sinclair says, "Those stories stick with you. You want them to be unforgettable."

The closing of the Montreal Forum is an event that especially stands out in Sinclair's mind. He had been covering the event live and had forgotten his coat inside the venue. Sinclair recalls, "I went back inside to get my coat and the Montreal Canadiens party was going on. They invited me in, and I had a beer with The Rocket."

Although he has recently become more involved in the editorial side of sports journalism and no longer travels to venues as much as he once did, Sinclair explains the value of his regular travel in order to broadcast these events live. Working across the country and internationally, Sinclair notes that living in and visiting different communities has given him an insight into how those communities want their local heroes to be portrayed, and how they should be portrayed. He says, "You have to go where the work is. For me it was always a sense of adventure."

His career is not the only aspect of Sinclair's life that was influenced during his time as a student at Trent University: "One of the great joys of going to Trent is that I discovered the Kawarthas." Sinclair describes the cottage in the Kawarthas that he shares with his wife of 20 years as a "second home. It has a special place in my heart." *Continued on the next page.*

# Alumni Making History

Sinclair also shares his passion for sports with his family, and he spends almost every weekend driving his son to sports events and recreational activities.

Looking back, Sinclair describes the nostalgia of visiting campus and walking through Bata Library and the Lady Eaton College hallway. “Trent is a university respected for its intimacy. Coming back to the campus, it hasn’t lost any of that. The lessons we learn at Trent are lessons that we can take with us as alumni later on.”

Sinclair goes on to explain that many of the lessons that have applied to his long-standing career were first introduced during his intramural sports experiences as a Trent student, and that his approach in both of these pursuits is essentially the same: “I try to be the best I am, and I try to have the most fun doing it. That’s sports—it’s journalism’s play-box.”

by Hannah Ellsworth, student

## TIM COOK '90

Tim Cook is an award-winning writer of non-fiction books about military history, and Acting Director of Research and Exhibitions for the Canadian War Museum. Throughout his career as a historian and writer, his work has always focused on the human side of war: the costs involved, and how both soldiers and civilians coped with great horror and upheaval.

It is with some irony that he looks back on his first few years at Trent: as the son of two people with PhDs in history of their own, studying history was the *last* thing he wanted to do. But as he came in contact with history



professors related to the courses he was taking, he chose to change his major to history in his third year. Memorable courses include those taught by Stuart Robson on the World Wars, by John Syrett on American history, and by John Jennings on Canadian history.

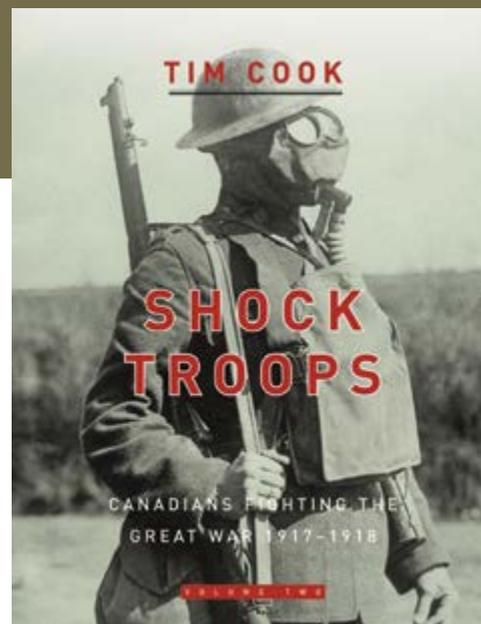
After completing his studies at Trent, he completed a Master’s degree in War Studies at the Royal Military College of Canada (which reserves five spots each year for non-military students) and a PhD from the University of New South Wales. His studies led to a job in the National Archives of Canada, and eventually to his role in supporting the latest incarnation of Canada’s War Museum. The museum receives 500,000 visitors each year—and Cook plays a large part in its success by helping to plan special exhibitions.

The work involved in building an exhibition is varied and intense. In addition to doing primary and secondary research, historians and curators have to comb through

collections to find appropriate artifacts to display, request additional artifacts from other museums, and work with others to make their exhibits truly interactive. It can take up to two years to create a single exhibition that lasts six to nine months. One of Cook’s favourite exhibitions was “Trench Life,” which examined

the ways that soldiers in World War I lived and coped with trench warfare.

Working in a museum also involves a lot of writing and cataloguing on top of preparing exhibitions. Luckily, Cook’s writing has met with continued success. In addition to works meant for academic publication, he has written six books and won several awards, including the 2009 Charles A. Taylor award for *Shock Troops: Canadians Fighting the Great War, 1917-1918*.



Aside from his writing and museum work, Cook contributes to Canadian military scholarship in other ways, including acting as an adjunct research professor with Carleton University, teaching third- and fourth-year classes on various topics. He also supervises students writing their Master’s theses.

Life in Canadian history has been busy and rich for Tim Cook, but it has not been without its setbacks. In 2011, he was diagnosed with Hodgkin’s Lymphoma. He has been on hiatus from both teaching and the War Museum for the past two years to undergo treatment, but he hopes to return to his work in early 2014. He lives with his wife Sarah and his three daughters in the Manor Park neighbourhood of Ottawa. We at the Trent University Alumni Association wish him good health and continued success.

by Christina Vasilevski '03

## LAURA PEERS '81

Dr. Laura Peers is a lecturer at Oxford University’s School of Anthropology and Museum Ethnography, and a curator for the Americas Collections for the Pitt Rivers Museum. After completing her Bachelor’s degree in anthropology and native studies at Trent in 1985, she completed a Master’s degree in Canadian history at the University of Winnipeg, and then a PhD at McMaster. Both advanced degrees focused on

Aboriginal history and representations in Canadian public life, and this focus continues today in her work at Oxford. Indeed, her interest in Aboriginal history and cultural knowledge goes back to the very beginning of her time at Trent: she chose to enroll in the Native Studies program after hearing Fred Wheatley talk during her first week of classes. Since then, her studies have included the impact of the fur trade on the Ojibwa people and how Aboriginal peoples are represented at historical sites. One accomplishment she looks back on with pride is her development of a training program to help Aboriginal staff (often dressed in period-appropriate clothing) deal with racist comments from visitors.

She has also participated in museum exhibitions on Aboriginal history, including the Sacred Encounters exhibit on Father De Smet's western missions, which toured across North America. Since many Aboriginal artifacts in British museums were originally stored in Canadian ones, her role in the Pitt Rivers Museum often involves helping Aboriginal communities access them for research purposes and for greater cultural awareness and healing. This is particularly important considering that the objects stored in British museums are



LAURA PEERS >>>

often much older than those available for study in Canadian ones.

One particular emphasis of Peers' studies is the Red River Settlement from 1780 to 1870. She also has been studying the histories of the Blackfoot and Haida groups. In much of her academic practice, she focuses on women's experiences of history and the ways in which Aboriginal groups have coped with colonization.

Another focus of her studies at Oxford is to help Aboriginal communities reinforce past knowledge. One project involved the loan of Blackfoot clothing to a museum in Alberta so that Blackfoot elders, artists, and teachers could handle them and cement their cultural knowledge about the past. In fact, Peers considers this to be the most valuable thing about knowing history: "Understanding your history orients you in the present; it helps to explain why things are a certain way today; and it provides examples of how people have coped with incredible challenges."

by **Christina Vasilevski '03**

### LAURA SUCHAN '84

Laura Suchan studied anthropology at Trent and completed her Bachelor of Science degree in 1988. Her studies covered a wide variety of disciplines from politics to history to native studies. Soon after she graduated, she joined the Oshawa Community Museum, and she has worked there ever since, first as a curatorial assistant, and then as the museum's executive director—a position she has held for 25 years.

In her role as executive director, she manages the development and operation of the museum and works with her staff to highlight and use local historical resources. She strives to make the museum experience welcoming and



LAURA SUCHAN >>>

intriguing for all visitors, and appreciates the variety of duties that come with managing the museum and working with her coworkers and other volunteers. It's a big job, as the museum houses over 25,000 objects and coordinates the exchange of artifacts with other museums.

The Oshawa Community Museum offers historical re-enactments with people in period-appropriate costumes to showcase what life in the city was like in the 1800s. It also offers special programs to students on archaeological discoveries in the region, such as an old Iroquois settlement. The museum also allows access to the Oshawa Community Archives so that students can learn more about critical thinking and doing primary research.

Suchan is proud of the museum's community outreach efforts and the role the Oshawa Community Museum plays in promoting historical awareness and learning: "History enriches our lives in the present by educating us and providing context." She's proud to play an important role in promoting this awareness in the Durham region of Ontario.

In addition to her work with the museum, Suchan takes part in other activities and organizations: she enjoys travelling to UNESCO world heritage sites, and she is the president of the Oshawa Durham chapter of Trent's alumni association.

by **Christina Vasilevski '03**

*Continued on the next page.*



## Alumni Making History



### JOHN BOYKO '00

John Boyko's self-proclaimed "insatiable curiosity" has made him a busy man.

With five books published and a sixth set for release in 2016, Boyko still manages to balance book tours, television and speaking appearances, and interviews with his position as an administrator at Lakefield College School, playing lead guitar with his band AM Radio, and running marathons.

How does he do it?

"There's compartmentalization that needs to happen," says Boyko. "When I'm writing, that is all I am doing; when I play my music, that's it. Everything else disappears. The only place it all floats together is when I'm running. That's my Zen-like trance."

John's busy schedule and attempt to quench his curiosity began with achieving degrees in English, history, and education from McMaster University and Queen's University. From there, he began teaching, which opened the door to his career as an author.

When he was challenged with teaching a senior-level high-school politics course but couldn't find an appropriate textbook, John began writing short pieces for his students to get them through the curriculum.

Before long, he suddenly realized he was inadvertently writing his own textbook.

"I approached three publishers and asked, 'What do you think? There is an obvious gap here,'" says Boyko.

Oxford University Press picked up his textbook, and it became the leading politics text across Canada.

"When I seriously began writing, I fell in love with the process," says Boyko. "It inspired me to write more. It's fascinating to work like a detective, discovering new things and ideas I had never considered, unlocking the past to better understand the present."

Next, John wrote *Last Steps to Freedom: The Evolution of Canadian Racism*, which was published in 1998.

He followed that with *Into the Hurricane: Attacking Socialism and the CCF* and *Bennett: The Rebel Who Challenged and Changed a Nation*, and, most recently, *Blood and Daring: How Canada Fought the American Civil War and Forged a Nation*.

With his books, Boyko strives to make history accessible and interesting by exploring a common consensus about an event and introducing new ideas, stories, and a fresh light on something that had been previously agreed upon. He creates a new way of looking at Canada's history by taking an established theme and "turning it on its head."

While he agrees that there is a definite value in history publication by scholars for scholars, Boyko also notes that there is a need for popular history books as well.

"Not enough history is taught in our schools and there is not enough history on our screens," he says. "An

understanding of history is essential in what is going on today.

"As more people learn more about our history, they are more able to become engaged with current events."

It was after his second book that Boyko decided to pursue his Master's degree in Canadian Studies at Trent in 2005. He was drawn to the program because of its "tremendous reputation" in the field and because of the way it integrated various areas of study into the degree.

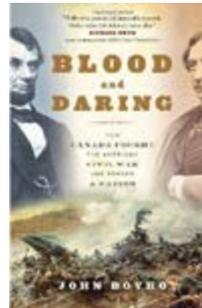
Because Boyko had already researched and written two books by the time he took on his Master's degree, he approached the course in a different way than when he had attended university

in 1979. His life experience allowed more conceptualization, and he looked forward to the intellectual challenge.

"I was looking forward to learning from and experiencing people who I respected," says Boyko. "It was my insatiable curiosity that led me to my books. It led me to teaching in the first place and it led me to the Canadian Studies program at Trent."

Boyko's new book, exploring JFK's role in Canadian history, is scheduled for publication in 2016. In the meantime, he will not vanish. He will continue researching, writing, appearing at speaking engagements, writing opinion pieces, playing music, and running marathons.

by **Carly Snider '03**





## GERRY BARR '66

Gerry Barr has carried his experiences at Trent with him throughout his entire life.

After beginning his post-secondary education at Acadia, Barr began to hear echoes throughout the community of a new school that was establishing itself. Trent was developing a reputation as an institution filled with students who supported the teaching of each other through the tutorial model.

And so Barr transferred to Trent midway through his philosophy degree to see the innovative and student-centred education style for himself.

"I found, personally, it was incredibly satisfying," says Barr of his time at Trent. "You were the researcher. You were the learner. You were finding and sharing the information that others were using for their own learning. It is a very vivid quality."

Barr went on to pursue a career in social justice and community organization, and he credits his education at Trent to his successes.

"Philosophy is not about technical skills, but it is really about ways of thinking and understanding how to approach things generally," says Barr.

"The analytical skills and the discernment you develop as a student at Trent, the ability to put together a problem and review it, you carry it with you everywhere."

Barr is now the Senior Advisor for Public Affairs with the Directors Guild of Canada, after working as the National Executive Director and CEO of the same organization. Speaking with Barr, you can hear the passion he has for his work both past and present.

"The Guild is an organization focusing on the protection and promotion of the rights and creators in the screen-based industry," Barr explains.

"Thousands of people make their living in screen-based production, it's an enormous industry. It's an industry with a future.

"It's all about narrative. It's about creativity and when properly done, you will never run out of a product. Canada can be and is a real force in this field."

In his work, Barr focuses on the public policies that are key to building the industry in Canada and ensures the members of the union are effectively represented. He monitors the decisions and processes made by the CRTC and parliamentary committees regarding film production and broadcasting, representing the members' interests.

Barr's involvement in social justice and collective bargaining stems from a passion to generate resources through citizens' actions.



In the early 1980s, while he was working as a negotiator for steel workers, the Ethiopian crisis in Africa inspired Gerry and his colleagues to take action.

"We were able to propose a labour-based NGO that would be organized through the Steel Workers Union to negotiate a small contribution to humanitarian assistance and solidarity

work," says Barr. "As a result, we ended up with hundreds of local unions with clauses that generated resources for international development and humanitarian work."

Many unions now have a form of a social justice fund and use the original idea that Barr and the Steel Workers' Union initiated as the model to generate resources.

"That's the kind of thing that Canadians do very well: collective initiative," says Barr. "It takes people to propose it and it is very exciting to see it develop."

Throughout his career, Barr has been honoured with several awards, including the Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal in 2013, the World Peace Award from the World Federalist Movement in Canada in 2008, the Order of Canada in 2006, and the Pearson Peace Medal from the United Nations Association of Canada in 1996.

"It's a lot of fun, to tell you the truth, when people notice what you're doing," says Barr of being honoured for his work.

"The truth of it is, all these things involve a lot of people. "It wouldn't be imaginable without the engagement of many," he continues. "All of these initiatives take a lot of collective energy. You find yourself being named or honoured as a result, but of course it's because of what you've done with others always. That's what I remember."

Barr says he will always be interested in social justice and always have ideas.

"We could always do better," he says. "It always seems like it is possible and I think we have a long way to go."

"I've been involved all my life and I still am. It is a tremendously satisfying challenge and it is something that just keeps calling on you." ❖

by **Carly Snider '03**

# Alumni Accomplishments

Photo: Jesse Thomas, Peterborough This Week



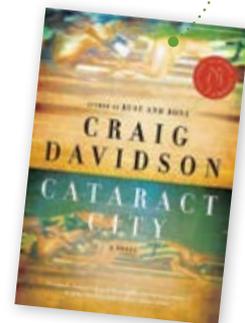
Former varsity athlete **SARA RETTIE '08** unveiled a new statue outside Trent Athletics on September 4, 2013. Named "The Excalibur," it is a modern take on the sword in the stone, symbolizing the past, present, and future of Trent Athletics coming together as one. Rettie started the sculpture as a legacy project while studying at Trent, with the help of fellow business graduate **COLE MARICOTTI '08**, in order to celebrate the growth of athletics on campus.

with retired Trent professor Geoffrey Eathorne—her first professor at Trent—who now resides in Culross, Scotland.

**LAURA BRIGHT '97** is among a team from Canada Health Infoway (Infoway) that was recently named the first Canadian company and first government-funded organization in the world to win the prestigious international Project Management Office of the year award. With more than 700,000 members spread across nearly every country in the world, this is a significant accomplishment for Laura and Infoway's project management team.

**TIM ROLLWAGEN '06**, who teaches in Peterborough, continues to use his passion for storm chasing to educate his students. He also brought well-known storm chasers Mark Robinson and George Kouroupis to visit his students.

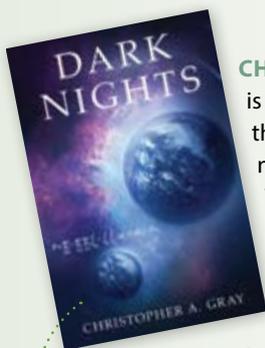
*Cataract City*, the latest novel by **CRAIG DAVIDSON '94** was shortlisted for the Giller Prize in October 2013. The Giller Prize aims to highlight the best Canadian fiction writers with an annual prize of \$50,000 for the best Canadian novel or short-story collection. One of his earlier works, *Rust and Bone*, was adapted into a film starring Marion Cotillard.



**MIKE RODIN '10** was scouted by Strutt Central Models and signed with the Ford Modeling agency a year and a half ago. Since then he has worked for companies such as H&M and walked in the MasterCard Fashion week for companies such as Holt Renfrew. Rodin, 24, left for Shanghai in October 2013 for a three-month modelling contract with ESEE Model Management.

**CHRISTOPHER GRAY '85** is pleased to announce the publication of his new novel, *Dark Nights*. The novel is set in the present day and focuses on the future of citizen surveillance by the National Security

Agency. The NSA funded the development of a revolutionary new supercomputer, but did not foresee the powerful new QC becoming self-aware, evolving into a true machine. As the computer grows more intelligent and powerful, its goals conflict with those of its human creators, eventually putting the world into the greatest peril it has ever faced.



**HON. JUSTICE AND GRAND CHIEF WABISKA MUKWA (ZANE A.A. BELL) '74** has been recognized for his lifelong efforts and dedication to the welfare of all peoples Indigenous and Naturalized of the Lands known as Turtle Island, both as a Grand Chief and as an environmental biologist. Chief Mukwa graduated from Trent with his B.Sc. in Biology.

On May 10, 2013, Trent alumna **ALEXIA HANNIS '91** (B.A. Hons, English Literature) successfully defended her Ph.D. thesis, "Joseph Conrad and The Aristotelian Turn," at The European Graduate School in Switzerland under the direction of Christopher Fynsk. After defending her thesis, Alexia reunited



# & Pursuits



Peterborough photographer **MICHAEL CULLEN '82** was inducted into the Peterborough Pathway of Fame in September 2013 for his work in visual arts. The Pathway honours individuals and groups who have contributed to Peterborough's reputation as a supporter of artists, writers, and musicians. Cullen has been a tireless supporter of Trent University and other community groups.

**ADAM LOWE '95** took on a senior sales executive position at Neo-Traffic last September. Neo-Traffic is located in Toronto and specializes in creating speciality media products nationally.

**PROFESSOR CHET SINGH '80** of Centennial College in Toronto reunited with his band "One Mind" last August in Peterborough at the Hunter Street Caribbean Festival. The band reunited at the annual festival to raise money for Jamaica Self Help.

**KATHY MCINNIS '80**, a homeopath who studied psychology at Trent, is the new Director of Clinic Operations at Adaptive Health Care Solutions, which opened in June 2013 in Peterborough. The clinic offers family medicine, respite care, physiotherapy, homeopathy, massage therapy, rehabilitation and prevention, and home health care.

Photo: Catherine Whitnall, Kawartha Lakes This Week

**VIOLETTE UWAMUTARA '94** is the recipient of the 2013 Anita Borg Institute Change Award for her transformative work in supporting women in Information Communication Technology in Rwanda. She is the Country Director of Digital Opportunity Trust (DOT) in Rwanda and is passionate about developing economic opportunities for youth and women in Rwanda.

**DAVE WESLEY '70** was named manager of operations and fundraising of the project to convert the former Lindsay Jail into a museum celebrating Kawartha Lakes history. The announcement took place November 2013 and was courtesy of a \$144,000 grant from the Ontario Trillium Foundation.



**ALBERT BOLTER '83** released his new groundbreaking self-help book *The C.A.T. Principle: Change, Action, Trust – Words to Live By*. From Bolter's wide range of experiences, including training to be an air force pilot, brokering real estate in a reunited Berlin, and working in Miami during the Great Recession, he offers his suggestions for tackling life's most important traits: namely, change, action, and trust.

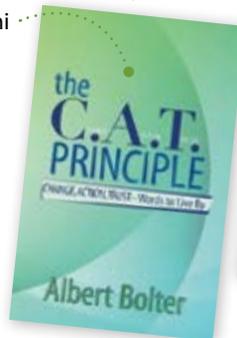
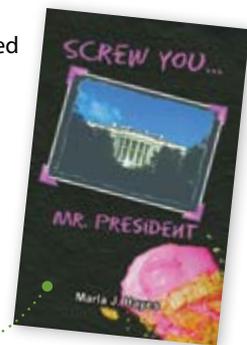


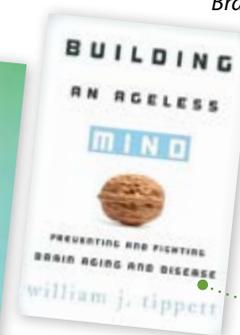
Photo: Daniel Campbell, Northern News Services

**SARAH ARNGNA'NAAQ '05** was announced in the House of Commons on October 29, 2013, as a recipient of the annual Inspire Awards. The award recognizes the outstanding efforts of inspirational Indigenous individuals in their communities who are leaders in their respective fields. Arngna'naaq completed her joint Honours B.A. in international development and business administration at Trent. After completing her J.D. in Victoria in 2013, she was called to the Bar in September 2013. Arngna'naaq currently works for the Department of Justice Canada in Yellowknife.

**MARLA HAYES '72** released her second book last fall for young adult audiences. Entitled *Screw you, Mr. President*, the book "points out the pitfalls a political life can have on family life, especially when the President's teenaged daughter has had enough!"



**WILLIAM TIPPETT**, an instructor in the Psychology Department at Trent, released his new book, *Building an Ageless Mind: Preventing and Fighting Brain Aging and Disease*, last October. The book has been described as "unique," "brilliantly written," and "multifaceted." ❖





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# TRENT SLO-PITCH LEAGUE: A HIDDEN GEM

BY JACK ROE '73

It's probably one of Trent's best-kept secrets: the softball diamond located on Pioneer Road, an outfielder's throw from the entrance to Peter Gzowski College. It's home to the Trent Alumni and Staff Slo-Pitch League. It has been there, nestled up against the Wildlife Sanctuary, for 40 years or so, not long after Champlain College first opened its doors to undergrads. If you were to close your eyes and think of a sandlot where kids gather on a summer's night to play workups until the sun drops below the trees, you'd have a pretty good image of what our beloved little home-away-from-home looks like—more importantly, what it feels like.

The backstop is a wooden-framed structure. Until a couple of years ago when a major summer storm broke its decades-old back, the entire edifice was covered in ivy. What did survive that mid-summer blast was the root of the ivy plant itself. Last summer, a volunteer crew made up of members from various teams spent a weekend building a new wooden backstop in keeping with our dearly-departed old friend. This summer the ivy boldly crept up the first-base side of the backstop, as if to announce to the world it had, indeed, weathered the storm.

Each summer from mid-May until late in August, more than 150 alumni, staff, and faculty show up on a weekly basis in their brightly coloured, and sometimes cleverly silk-screened, team jerseys. The eight squads have some wonderful, whimsical names: The Misfits, The Bio-Hazards, The Ground Zeros ... and everybody's favourite, The Black

Plague. I happen to play for the Alumni Classics. I know, it's not a very creative handle, but we, too, have an illustrious past (and present). But I'm getting ahead of myself.

There are some age-old rivalries, perhaps the most entrenched of which is the Plague vs. the Classics. Members of both teams look forward to the twice-yearly encounters, much like you would a class reunion: you're happy to see old friends, but you secretly hope you'll come out on top once the party's over.

That brings me to the crux of this story ... **Ron Wilson '64**, a retired elementary school teacher. Mr. Wilson, as he is respectfully known by friend and foe alike, just celebrated his 75th birthday last season, though to look at him and to watch him play (he's still one of the most revered batters in the league—and a damn fine pitcher to boot), you'd never guess his age. Over the 40 years Mr. Wilson has played for the Classics, he has broken several bones and shed not a small amount of blood on the field of battle. He once separated his collarbone in a diving catch in the outfield, but refused to sit on the bench, choosing instead to finish the game, much to his wife's chagrin.

In mid-July last year, as we were preparing for our second tilt of the season with our arch enemies (read: favourite foes) The Black Plague, I got a call from their majordomo, **Leigh "Moose" Mellow '80**, wanting to ensure that when we met the following week, Mr. Wilson was going to be present on the diamond. The Plague had a special presentation to make, he said.

And so, in the heat of a glorious mid-summer's Tuesday evening ahead of the contest to come, The Black Plague and The Classics gathered on the mound where a light-hearted, but heart-felt ceremony was held, and a hand-hewn trophy was presented to Ron Wilson for his 40 years of continuous, gentlemanly play in the league we have all come to love.

As with most leagues, ours reaches an autumnal climax: Tournament Day—the Saturday before Labour Day weekend. Chalked lines to define the foul lines and out-of-play territory plus an official slow-pitch umpire magically appear. It's a festive atmosphere where teams, their families, and fans claim territory around the field, setting up tents, banners, barbeques, and lawn chairs.

Game on! Each team has two chances that day to make the semi-finals and the eventual championship game. And as quickly as it begins, it's over, and one lucky squad leaves that evening with the coveted trophy, and the right to boast of their achievement until the following May.

I was always taught to win with grace and lose with dignity. Somehow, this summer sanctuary embodies that sentiment, where balls and strikes are forgotten amidst the laughter of decades-old jokes shared amongst friends and friendly rivals. How lucky we are to be part of these glorious, comfortable gatherings on our diamond every summer. Pass the Advil, Mr. Wilson! Another storied season is just around the corner. ❖

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since  
2005

**Caring for those who need it most: Nursing scholarship for students who care for dementia patients**

*Estate of Vena Bews*  
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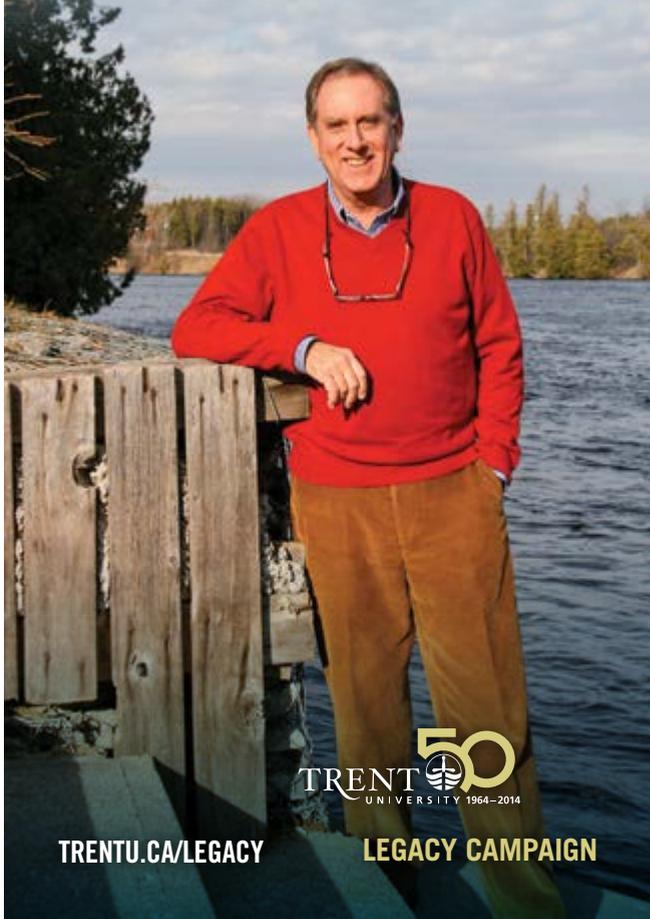
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**MICHAEL NOLAN '69**

- MEMBER OF TRENT'S FIRST ROWING TEAM
- BUILDER OF SCHOOL COMMUNITIES
- AVID TRENT VOLUNTEER
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- ISLAND COTTAGER

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**LEGACY CAMPAIGN**

BY LEC PRINCIPAL  
DR. MICHAEL EAMON



## *History and Lady Eaton College*

Lady Eaton College stands like a sentinel on the western edge of Trent University. Its design is a marvel of mid-twentieth-century modern architecture, an unabashedly brutalist structure with low-rising ceilings, sharp corners, and multiple concrete levels that accommodate both study and relaxation. Yet an inherent love of the past, of history and its humanizing influence, also inspired the college's forward-thinking design and continues to resonate to this day.

The college, crafted under Trent's Master Planning Architect Ron Thom, is a modern take on tradition. From the quad and its cloistered walkways to the residence blocks, cues from both natural and human history were followed. Structures emulate glacial moraines while at the same time echoing the medieval university. Thom valued interior design as much as outward appearance; every type of room was thoughtfully planned and

fastidiously furnished. This blending of modern function and minimalist design with an appreciation of scholarly tradition is witnessed everywhere, from the dons' apartments and student rooms to the faculty offices and recreational precincts.

It is also a college that seamlessly combines private and public space. Students can always find a quiet spot, but they are never far from their peers or professors. These features transcend design and inform the current approach to education at the college. Students are encouraged to find their niche and be independent, while knowing that peer and faculty support is literally just around a concrete corner. Providing safe, reflective, inspirational, and celebrative spaces for both students and faculty is at the heart of the college ideal. At the college there are several places for both structured and unstructured activities including the Dining Hall, the Pit, and the Junior

Common Room (with the longstanding student-run *Crawpaddies* and the *Maggie*).

The college is also home to the last functioning Senior Common Room (SCR) on the Symons Campus. The SCR offers a 1960s-styled oasis for fellows, faculty, and staff, replete with original fixtures and furniture from such designers as Arne Jacobson, Kaare Klint, Hans Wegner, Klaus Nienkämper, and the associates of Ron Thom. Every month Trent's Design Legacy Committee meets in the SCR. A group with student and staff representatives from across the university is looking at ways to inventory and preserve the university's rich design legacy for future generations.

Named after Flora McCrea Eaton, the college may appear to take on a somewhat regal air. Yet, like Lady Eaton herself, who had humble, local roots, the college prides itself on being inclusive and down-to-earth, never

# Sapientia et Humanitas

exclusive. McCrea trained as a nurse, and her future husband John Craig Eaton, was one of her patients. Later, she would blend the worlds of retail with dining, pioneering a series of high-end restaurants within the growing chain of Eaton stores. Coincidentally, dining has become a central part of the college that bears her name. A portrait of Lady Eaton, adorned in all her 1920s finery, hangs in the dining hall, where she is toasted at college dinners. In the portrait, she once bore a large lit cigarette in a holder. Given the fear of the negative influence that such an image might have, it was decided to have the offending item removed, and her pearl necklace was painted over top of the extended fingers. Not only is the college amenable to history and its lessons, but it also can be a place where history is rewritten!

The Toad, the mascot of the college, is also toasted at dinners and continues to be ritually hunted at the end of the winter term, when the mud is especially abundant. The origins of the Toad can be traced to the official opening of the college in January 1969 where dons (who had been living in college since September) signed their address in the guest book as "Toad Hall." Of course, this tongue-in-cheek reference is to the stately manor, and its resident curmudgeon, of Kenneth Grahame's *The Wind in the Willows*. Over the years, the college has been framed by many literary experiences. Most recently, students observe how the college reminds them of life in *Harry Potter's* Hogwarts. On more than one occasion, first-year students have noted that the college itself is like the sorting hat that chooses house affiliation: they feel that the college called to them, instead of them picking the college.

After a student-led initiative in 1989, Lady Eaton College was granted an

official coat-of-arms with letters patent from the Chief Herald of Canada. It was one of the first issued by that office, and the college remains only one of a few dozen educational institutions in Canada to have received this honour. The motto emblazoned on the coat-of-arms is *Sapientia et Humanitas* (wisdom and the use of knowledge for the betterment of all). It is embraced by students who see it as a clarion call to be engaged both academically and in terms of social justice.

The continuing appreciation of the past and the importance of history is perhaps not a coincidence. No less than six of the college's thirteen principals have been historians. In 2000, history officially became part of the college's fabric when the History Department was moved from Peter Robinson (and the Principal's Lodge was converted to office space). Today, in addition to being the home of History, the college hosts the Philosophy, Women's and Gender Studies, and Modern Languages and Literatures



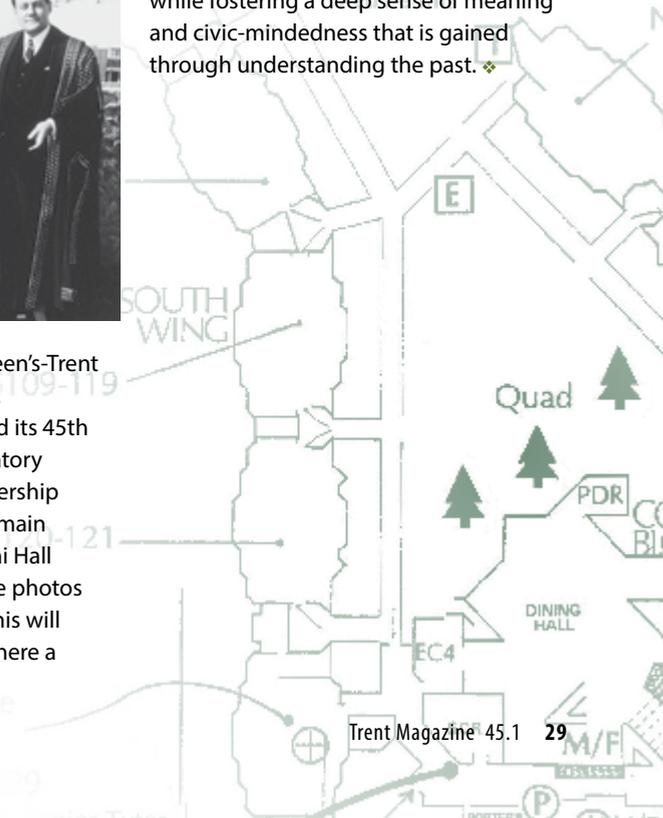
departments, as well as the Queen's-Trent Concurrent Education program.

In 2013, the college marked its 45th anniversary, and several celebratory projects are underway. In partnership with Alumni Affairs, part of the main corridor will be renamed Alumni Hall and a set of composite graduate photos is being hung. When finished, this will be the only place on campus where a



complete set of photos (regardless of college affiliation) will be displayed. A new gallery space at the entrance of the dining hall has also been created where students will be able to exhibit their art, or curate innovative exhibitions on history or current social issues. Finally, a music lending library (for use in the college's practice rooms or baby grand piano) will be opened for the use of all Trent students this spring.

The unique design of Lady Eaton College continues to inspire. Like its architecture, the philosophy of the college encourages students to embrace the future and its unlimited possibilities while fostering a deep sense of meaning and civic-mindedness that is gained through understanding the past. ♦



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AUGUST 7	Opening Reception & 50th Anniversary Celebration Book Launch	\$20
AUGUST 7–10	Ron Thom and the Allied Arts National Exhibit	\$10
AUGUST 8	BBQ and Beer Garden	\$20
AUGUST 8	Blue Rodeo Concert. Purchase tickets at <a href="http://www.memorialcentre.ca">www.memorialcentre.ca</a>	\$56.50
<b>AUGUST 8 &amp; 9</b>	<b>IDEAS THAT CHANGE THE WORLD SYMPOSIUM</b>	\$110
AUGUST 9	Diversity at Trent: Reflections & experiences of diversity at Trent over the last half-century	FREE
AUGUST 9	50 Years of Sport at Trent Exhibit and Tour	FREE
AUGUST 9	Peter Robinson College Reunion: Celebrate in PR style. An afternoon and evening of music and reunion	TBD
AUGUST 9	50 Years of Sport at Trent BBQ and Beer Garden	\$20
AUGUST 9	Trent International Program Celebration	FREE
AUGUST 9	Trent International Program Dinner	\$25
AUGUST 9	Campus Open House	FREE
AUGUST 9	Decade Pub Reunions	Small cover charge may apply
AUGUST 10	Wrap-up Brunch	\$20



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Discussions of the family, poverty & inequality and aging featuring experts: Executive Director of The Equality Effect **Fiona Sampson '87**, former Executive Director Vanier Institute of the Family **Bob Glossop '67**, Trent **Prof. Sally Chivers**, former MP **Gerrard Kennedy '77**, Trent Chair **Dr. Kathryn Norlock**.

### CRITICAL CULTURAL INQUIRY

Topics include Canada's role in the world; performing, visual and media arts; and public discourse. Speakers include Executive Producer *Degrassi: Next Generation*, **Stephen Stohn '66**; musician **Ian Tamblyn '67**; Executive Director We Day Global **Dalal Al-Waheidi '98**; CIGI Chair in Global Health, **Dr. James Orbinski '80** and many more.

For full details and to purchase tickets for any reunion weekend events visit

[trentu.ca/fifty](http://trentu.ca/fifty)

Symposium ticket price is \$110 per person: Includes 3 panel discussions (hear up to 15 speakers), refreshment breaks, and lunch both days.

Visit [trentu.ca/fifty/symposium.php](http://trentu.ca/fifty/symposium.php) for full speaker list and bios .

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# Land Over Landings: A Tale of Trent Activism

BY MARY DELANEY '72, CHAIR, LAND OVER LANDINGS

In 1972, green was just a colour, David Suzuki was studying fruit flies, and I had just been accepted to Trent. I was about to learn what “left” meant and also about to don my Trent uniform—not the Oxford-style gown worn by my elder siblings, but Levis and Grebs. I would be taught by the likes of Walter Pittman, Robert Paehlke and John Wadland. It was like a finishing school for environmental activists.

Meanwhile, not far away, a massive battle had begun. The governments of the day had expropriated 30 square miles of the best farmland in Canada for an airport that would never be built—and an even bigger parcel for a community to be built to support it.

*People or Planes* rose to fight it—and won.

In 1980, we moved into an abandoned, vandalized farmhouse on the federal lands of North Pickering, thinking we might stay a few years. As we came to know our Transport Canada (TC) landlord, we also learned why the house was derelict. TC was the worst landlord in Canada, and the “care” of the 750 properties on the Lands was deplorable. Whether you called it “bulldozing by stealth” or “malignant neglect,” the outcome was the same: a demolition project now into its 42 year—with the goal of clearing the Lands of people (aka “opposition”).

On June 11, 2013, Jim Flaherty announced that the ill-advised airport was again on the front burner, and that the land would be developed.

We’ve ridden the waves of changing governments and visions for these lands while continuing to plant trees as a gesture to the future. We’ve watched the world change around us. The Milky Way disappeared. Super highways cut through farmland, and walls of subdivisions and big-box stores dwarfed the few remaining homes and farm buildings. It became a land that time forgot. And yet, the land—the rich fertile land—remained.

The story of *People or Planes* and the birth of *Land Over Landings* is well documented on our website—as well as in the documentary *Last Stand*. I’m proud to count many of the original crusaders as my friends: Mike “the Kite” Robertson, who flew a hang-glider around the Peace Tower in 1973; and Bill “Father Goose” Lishman (now well into his 70s), who flew an ultra-light from his underground home near Blackstock to this summer’s *Food and Water First Festival* in Orangeville. For 40 years the message has stayed the same: stop paving the land that feeds us!

*“We owe it to the future. No farms, no food.”  
No food, no us.”*



**Mary Delaney '72** is sister to **Paul Delaney '64** and **Anne Delaney Wilkes '67**; aunt to **Jessie Wilkes '96** and mother to **Alison Bezubiak '05**, all Trent grads.

It seems natural that Trent would lead me to the cause of vanishing farmland. It seems equally natural that two supportive teachers who invited us into their classrooms should be Trent grads—**Alison Ellwood '01** and **Kenny Simmons '97**. The next generation is taking up the cause and, in turn, educating the generation after them.

The world has indeed changed since 1972, as reflected in the fact that Trent now has a program in Sustainable Agriculture and Food Systems. “Professors, tell your students that we’ve got the land—Class 1, the best there is! But we need help convincing the government that now, more than ever, we need food and water, not airports and sprawl.

We owe it to the future. No farms, no food.

No food, no us. ❖

For more on Land Over Landings, please visit [www.landoverlandings.com](http://www.landoverlandings.com). Like us on Facebook and follow us on Twitter.

# sunshine sketches



1976

In September 2013, The Trent University Alumni Association British Isles Chapter held another small but enthusiastic meeting, organized by Trent alumnus **Gordon Copp '76**. In attendance (pictured from right to left) are **Gordon Copp '76**, **Jane Robb '76**, **Simon Whittle '75**, and **Doreen Healy '70**. The gathering took place at the Phoenix Pub near "The City" in London. Discussion touched on Jane's post-retirement activities, Simon's fine-arts initiatives, and Gordon's renovations of a Victorian station-master's house.

1986

**Brigitte Daniels '86** is thrilled to announce that Lorelei (Song Ying Ze) joined the family on January 19, 2013, in Guangdong, China. Lorelei is getting along well with the menagerie of animals (3 shelties, a cat, and a rabbit) that are also part of the craziness. Brigitte returned to work, teaching in Chilliwack, in September 2013.



1990

**Ray Bourcier '09** would like to announce the birth of his daughter, Arya Boucier, born in Peterborough on August 28, 2013 at 3:10 pm.



1991

James Thomas Gotthardt Hannis was born to parents **Alexis Hannis '91** and Michael Gotthardt on May 5, 2012.



1993

The Trent University Alumni Association Niagara Chapter hosted a gathering at the Silversmith Brewery on September 27, 2013. It was organized by Trent alumnus **Caleb Smith '93**, and a great time was had by all. In attendance were Danielle Smith, **Amy Brunning '90**, special guest PSB Wilson, **Caleb Smith '93**, **Baron Bedesky '80**, **Kelly Davis '86**, **Heather Davis '97**, and Greg Ballinger (pictured from left to right). **Jamie Fleming '76** also attended.

**Sunshine Sketches** are written by alumni for alumni. We'd love to hear your story or the story of an alumnus close to you. Email submissions to [trentmagazine@trentu.ca](mailto:trentmagazine@trentu.ca).

1999

**Wei Lynn Eng '99** and Armand D'Souza would like to introduce their second son August Jiat Kuan D'Souza. He was born on August 21, 2012. He joins big brother Oliver, who loves him very much. He keeps us busy, as is evidenced by the late announcement, but we are enjoying every moment of it.



2005

James Bradburn Currier IV, or just "Bradburn," was born to parents **James '05** and **Heidi Currier '03** at 11:15 PST on August 23, 2013, weighing 7 lbs, 7 oz. Mom and baby are both very happy and healthy.





# Dear Alumni: A Student Perspective

BY SANDY ROBINSON

Hello, my name is Sandy Robinson. I'm the newest student writer for Alumni Affairs and a student of English Literature. I absolutely love Trent and I feel lucky and privileged to be here.

As a Gzowski College student, I am a fan of the college system, particularly participation in extracurricular activities with my friends and classmates.

Oh, and I *almost* don't mind the frigid winter walk across the Faryon Bridge!

I often hear about the foundations of Trent—the college-based “Ox-Bridge on the Otonabee” and the “good old days” of the University. Back then, people met in small groups with their professors, wore gowns to class, and had fireplaces in offices.

Fifty years later, students don't wear academic dress to class anymore. And though the fireplaces remain, they aren't lit. We do still meet in small groups with professors, however, and I think that founding spirit of the university—that small group engagement—hasn't been lost.

Like many students before me, I have found a second home within the English Department. The faculty there have been—and continue to be—a great source of inspiration. They are also accessible to students. I think that an important part of Trent's intimacy is that, because professors and classmates actually get to know you, you feel empowered as a person. It is why I believe that a spirit of social consciousness continues to exist—both with the University and its students—almost 50 years later.

I recently learned about a Trent fundraising event called “Hike for Hundreds.” The event took place in

January, 1968 and was spearheaded by a student committee (along with founding President, Professor Tom Symons).

A group of 206, including 75 faculty members, walked the 18 km from Curve Lake to Trent, raising almost \$4000 for Curve Lake First Nations and UNESCO.

The photo below captures the jubility of the moment, as President Symons and the students sprint across the finish line.

Thinking of all the students who came before me—and who were concerned about the world, both near and far—makes me proud to be a part of this community.

I believe that Trent students and alumni should still be proud of the Trent of today. In my first two years here, I had the chance to be the volunteer coordinator of Gzowski College's *Ten Thousand Villages Festival*. This annual event, which

takes place each November, was started by late Gzowski principal, Ellen Benzen, in 2009. The Festival works in partnership with the much larger *Ten Thousand Villages* movement—which, founded in 1946, is the oldest and largest Fair

Trade organization in North America. *Ten Thousand Villages* creates opportunities for artisans in developing countries to earn income by bringing their products and stories to our markets through long-term, fair trading relationships. The Festival also features educational displays about fair trade, ethical trade, and *Ten Thousand Villages* partner communities.

Trent's Festival has been hugely successful and popular, with the last three years bringing in just under \$25,000 for the organization. Since Principal Benzen's passing, 10% of the proceeds from the Festival have been given to the Benzen Scholarship fund—almost \$2,500!

Being a part of the Festival has meant a lot to me. I love that the Festival promotes the idea that everyone can make an impact by making ethical choices about consumption—and that one person can actually impact the life of another for the better.

I firmly believe that the Festival and Trent are a great match. Trent continues to empower students to make lasting change—both here and abroad. And 50 years after it first began its mission, that still very much matters. ❖



*Kalista Clement, festival organizer, holds a basket made in Viet Nam from recycled materials.*



*The finish line of the Hike for Hundreds. From left to right: Stephen Stohn '66, Maggie Edmison '67 (Margaret Gwendolyn Glossop), and Professor Tom Symons, are among the participants.*

Photo: Maggie Edmison (Margaret Gwendolyn Glossop), Trent University Archives.

# IN MEMORIAM

**Matt Shaughnessy '77** (December 3, 1952 – November 26, 2013) passed away peacefully, in the loving care of family, on November 26, 2013 in El Cerrito, California, in his 61st year. Born in Peterborough on December 3, 1952. Beloved son of Rita (Sullivan) and the late John Francis Shaughnessy. Loving brother to Daniel (Barb), Janice (late Gale Benson), Timothy (Hannah), Patrick (Mary Ellen), Louise (Yves), John (Rosemary), Andrew (Kathy). Affectionately known as “Uncle Buck” to Tim, Sheila, Connie, Kelly, Tara, Ted, Casey, Patti, T.J., Aaron, Norah, Brendan, Maude, Samuel, Aedan, Ciara, Liam, Meghan, Loretta, and fifteen great-nieces and nephews.

The popular Douro resident was well known for his energy, spirit, and upbeat approach to life. Affectionately known to his many friends and confidants as “Shiny,” Matt had a zest for life, always living it to the fullest. A great friend of Matt’s, Ed Arnold, wrote a very touching tribute to his buddy, commenting that “if Matt Shaughnessy knew you, he never forgot you. If he liked you, you were a buddy for life.” That is just what Matt and Ed are—buddies for life. Ed, along with all of Matt’s family and friends, remember Matt for his warm and enthusiastic greetings; “as he approached you, inevitably you knew he would greet you with the enthusiasm only he could bring to a greeting. He was genuinely so glad to see you, with his reddish hair that moved with him, usually under his cap or toque of the day, and under his unkempt eyebrows his eyes sparked,” said Ed. As a dedicated member of the Liberal party, Matt enjoyed expressing and sharing his views whenever he could. Nothing pleased him more than grabbing a bite to eat and discussing Canadian concerns, politics, history and the way the world was, or wasn’t, and especially asking

about your life. “The Senator,” as his friends liked to call him, lived a lifestyle that many would shake their head at, but they ultimately envied his carefree ways. He put everything he had into living and was in constant search of companionship and communications to feed his inquisitive mind.

Matt lived simply, and the door to his quaint little cabin in Douro was always open. He didn’t lock his door, and at times, as Ed fondly remembers, Matt didn’t even have windows. There was no heat, so he abandoned his place most winters in favour of “vacationing” or helping the poor in Guatemala (he was the unassuming champion of the Guatemalan Stove Project) or hitchhiking all over North America, Mexico, or Europe. Matt choose to live this way for decades—“his furniture was sparse, his possessions few, but his friends were many,” said Ed. Born and raised in Peterborough, he had graduated from Trent University with an environmental science degree and continued to be an integral part of the Trent community throughout his life. While at Trent, he was the President of the Trent Students Union, where he protested via a strike against the Trent administration, leading the strike and a sit-in that attracted national attention. The issue was resolved at a meeting of Trent’s Board of Governors, of which Erica Cherney (Hon.) was the Chair at the time. Twenty years later, Matt and Erica are still buddies and met only a week before his passing at a local pub. Erica fondly remembers the morning that she and Matt first met when the two arrived at the same time outside Bata Library.

“In his BIG smiling enthusiastic style, he swooped me up in his arms, carried me up the many stairs of the building, right into the meeting room! There we arrived, big Matt and little me



to lead the face off,” says Erica as she continues, “the issue resolved, Matt and I became buddies. I’m thinking about him now, gone but never forgotten ...”

This is the recurring theme about Matt: he may be gone, but he will never, ever be forgotten. Matt was a special human being; he truly cared about people, and it was his many relationships that brought him life. Some people collect things, titles, or wealth, but Matt, he collected friendships, life experiences, and great memories. The 60-year-old was a friend to all—local artists, authors and writers, and musicians—all trades that he had tried himself. He was a friend to books and a friend of cooking, often inviting people to his home in the country for some “porcupine stew,” which Ed remarks that only those who knew him thought he was kidding about.

“We’ll miss his laugh, his ability to make us laugh, and his incredible conversations but most of all we will miss his genuine caring about your life,” says Ed. “To have known Matt Shaughnessy was to have known a very special guy. Different, yes, but who the hell isn’t.” Matt was indeed one of a kind: a truly wonderful person. In memory of Matt, donations to the Alzheimer Society – Peterborough Branch or the Guatemala Stove Project would be appreciated by the family.

• • •

## Kenneth (Ken) Brandon

**McLeod '66** (March 21, 1922 – October 5, 2013) died very peacefully after the long goodbye of living with Lewy Body Dementia on October 5, 2013. He is survived by four children: John (Shannon), Karen, Janet (Steve Roedde) and Heather (Dev Minty). He is also survived by eight grandchildren (Erin and Scott, Jenni and Christy, Zak and Nigel, Robin and Kendra) and well as eight great grandchildren. He is predeceased by his wife and the love of his life, Grace, as well as by his parents, John and Eliza McLeod (originally from Cloudslee), and his brothers John (Elta) and Gordon McLeod.

Ken could be called a Renaissance Man. He built well-constructed homes, put together a delicious stew, held public office, worked as a manager and road construction, grew a perfect tomato, and could deliver an informative and thoughtful treatise on the Roman Empire. He was guided by a sturdy moral compass and a very strong sense of justice. He was honest and hardworking, principled, domineering and decisive, curious, and, at times, very fun loving. He was very well read and interested in a broad range of intellectual topics, especially history and politics, and was an alderman in his twenties, acting on his passion for politics and civic duty. He also served as a member of the R.C.A.F., working as a ground-crew technician at the base in York from 1942–45. He returned to the Sault and was employed by Algoma Steel as a stationary engineer. He then worked as the Division Court Bailiff for several years until he was able to realize his lifelong dream of going back to school. He became Trent University's oldest full-time student at the age of 45, graduating with an Honours B.A. in History and Political Science. His broad range of skills and his ability to problem solve made

him an ideal candidate for a job with American Can in the town of Marathon. His portfolio included acting as the Town Properties' Manager, performing as a liaison with the government on environmental issues, and assisting in turning the town from a "company town" to a modern mainstream corporation. He retired at the age of 60, originally making his way back to the Sault. The Davey Home staff became his family in the last few years. He was often asked "who he was prior to his dementia," because he still liked to hold meetings, to be the centre of attention, to make people laugh, and to charm the women. Ken's family is grateful to all the staff on the second floor of Birch and Cedar. Their respect, compassion, professionalism, and gentleness throughout his residency and death provided great comfort to Ken and his family.

Memorial contributions to the Sault Ste. Marie Soup Kitchen or the charity of your choice would be appreciated, or please do something special with your family.

• • •

## John David Stenabaugh

**'66** (February 18, 1944 – September 4, 2013) passed away peacefully at age 69 on September 4, 2013, at Union Villa, Unionville. He is survived by his devoted wife of 44 years, Katherine Lynn Stenabaugh (nee Allison). John was the loving father of Allison Iderstrump (Chris) and Darryl Stenabaugh (Elizabeth Joanna) and grandfather to new baby granddaughter Emilie Iderstrump, and brother to Larry Stenabaugh (Marion). He will also be fondly remembered by his sisters-in-law, brothers-in-law, nieces, and nephews.

John was born in Kingston on February 18, 1944. He lived with his parents and brother Larry on Sackville Street in Toronto and then in two

different locations in Scarborough. As a child, his happiest times were when he stayed on a farm in Belleville, where his grandfather worked. John received his early education in Scarborough, attended Ryerson (Electronics) and then, following a few months employment at Atomic Energy of Canada in Chalk River, he attended Trent University to study physics and mathematics. John married Lynn Allison in June 1969. He and Lynn lived briefly in Guildwood Village before moving to Oakville, where their daughter Allison was born. They bought a home in Burlington, where their son Darryl was born, and then moved to Aurora in 1980. Most of John's employment involved data processing/ information systems and health. His main employer was the Ontario Government, mainly the Ministry of Health. He worked for the Smart Systems for Health Agency, the predecessor to E-Health. He retired at age 60 to spend more time travelling and enjoying life with his family. This was a wise decision, because by the time John reached age 65 he was diagnosed with Parkinson's disease. A faithful member of the Presbyterian Church, John served on the building committee for Brant Hills Presbyterian Church in Burlington, and then in various capacities in his home church, St. Andrew's, Aurora. In recent years, John and Lynn became very interested in interfaith studies.

In memory of John, donations to the Parkinson's Society would be appreciated.

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*Continued on the following page.*

# IN MEMORIAM

## Norman Bruce Grandfield '70

(June 12, 1951 – October 25, 2013) died suddenly in Cobourg on October 25, 2013. Norman was husband of Joanne Veronica Farquharson; Stepfather of Erin, her husband Kyle, and their son, Stellan, Julia, Rachel Anne, and Elliott. Son of Diana and the late Norman Grandfield. Survived by his brother Clive Galbraith and his wife, Andrea Richardson, their children, Charles and Julia; and his sister, Daphne Wilmot and her husband Michael Wallace. Born on June 12, 1951, Norman attended Trinity College School in Port Hope from 1964 to 1970. He returned to the school in 1977 to join the faculty in the English department. During his more than 36 years at the school, he was recognized as a devoted teacher. He was also active in organizing the inter-house debate program. Prior to joining the Trinity College faculty, Grandfield attained his B.A. from Trent University (1973) and his M.A. from the University of Oxford (1975).

Since receiving the news of his untimely death, the students and staff of the Trinity College have found many ways to remember and honour Grandfield's memory. Candles were lit in his honour in the chapel over the weekend and on Saturday, October 26, the football players played and won a hard-fought match while proudly displaying Grandfield's initials, NBG, on their helmets. "The world has lost a generous, humorous and intelligent soul as well as an inspirational educator," Trinity College School headmaster Stuart Grainger said. Memorial donations to The Trinity College School Foundation would be appreciated.

• • •

## Jane Megan Salmon (née Gregory) '70

died of cancer on Monday, August 12, 2013 at her home in West Vancouver, British Columbia. Born in 1951 and raised in London, Ontario. After attending Trent University she

worked in Edmonton, Toronto, and North Vancouver where she met the love of her life, Gary Mac Salmon, who predeceased her in 2007. Missed by her parents, Adele (Addie) and William (Bill) Gregory, and her sister Barbara Gregory. At her memorial a chamber group played to honour Jane's love of classical music.

• • •

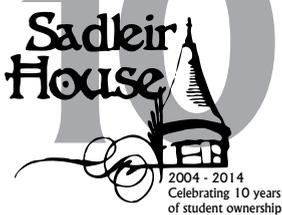
## Wenda Woodman '72

(May 11, 1954 – October 10, 2013) died suddenly at her home in Toronto, resulting from a brief illness. Her death has shocked and deeply saddened her friends and family, including her nieces and nephew. She will be lovingly remembered for her sharp wit, loyalty, and elegance. She is survived by her mother, Doris, and her brother Neil. A memorial was held in Wenda's honour on October 25, 2013, at the yoga studio where she practised. ❖

**February 27th, 2014 marks the tenth anniversary of the student repurchase of Sadleir House.**

**Visit our website to learn more about our 10th Anniversary Celebrations and about what's new at Sadleir House.**

[www.sadleirhouse.ca/celebrating10](http://www.sadleirhouse.ca/celebrating10)



Trent students and alumni participated at the Inaugural PSB Wilson Squash Classic held at the Peterborough Squash Club November 22 & 23 2013. Pictured are **Peter Shennett '74**, **Tyson Shennett '04**, **Fraser Bleasdale**, **Kurt Austin '89**, **PSB Wilson**, **Peter Pula '87**, **Sherry Pula '89** and **Peter Devlin '70**. Photo shy: **Adrian Pond**, **Mary Jane Pilgrim**, **Andrew Galvin '82**.

# upcoming events

For full events listing and information visit [www.trentu.ca/events](http://www.trentu.ca/events)

**MARCH 5** **Chancellor's Lecture: Government and Democracy in the Networked World.** Chancellor **Don Tapscott, '66**, 6:30 p.m., Toronto Reference Library, 789 Yonge Street, Toronto, Ontario. To register: <http://govtdemocracy.eventbrite.ca>

**MARCH 8** **Saskatoon Chapter Event.** At the Woods Alehouse, 148 Avenue North, Saskatoon, 1–5 p.m. For details and to RSVP please contact **Steve Cavan '77** at [steve@woodsalehouse.com](mailto:steve@woodsalehouse.com)

**MARCH 8** **Peterborough March Preview Open House** [trentu.ca/undergraduate/schoolvisits.php](http://trentu.ca/undergraduate/schoolvisits.php)

**MARCH 11** **Alumni-Student Networking Evening** "Life after Trent," 4–6 p.m. at Gzowski College Dining Hall. For more details and to RSVP: [brittneyblake@trentu.ca](mailto:brittneyblake@trentu.ca)

**MARCH 13** **Talk and Film Screening** featuring Filmmaker Alanis Obomsawin, "Reflecting Canadian Cultural Production in the 21st Century: A Speakers Series Honouring 40 Years of Canadian Studies at Trent," 5–8 p.m., Bata Library, BL103. For details, [canadianstudies@trentu.ca](mailto:canadianstudies@trentu.ca)

**MARCH 15** **Oshawa March Preview Open House** at our Thornton Road Campus. For details visit [trentu.ca/undergraduate/schoolvisits.php](http://trentu.ca/undergraduate/schoolvisits.php)

**MARCH 16-18** **Ryle Lecture in Philosophy.** Prof Harry Brighouse, 3 lectures, 4 p.m., Bata Library, BL 103. For details, [byronstoyles@trentu.ca](mailto:byronstoyles@trentu.ca)

**MARCH 27** **The David Schindler Professorship in Aquatic Science Lecture.** Featuring Dr. John Smol, 7–9 p.m., Great Hall, Champlain College

**MAY 3** **Peterborough Spring Thaw Open House** [trentu.ca/undergraduate/schoolvisits.php](http://trentu.ca/undergraduate/schoolvisits.php)

**MAY 17** **Oshawa Spring Thaw Open House** at our Thornton Road Campus. For details, [trentu.ca/undergraduate/schoolvisits.php](http://trentu.ca/undergraduate/schoolvisits.php)

**AUGUST 7-10** **THE KICK-OFF TO TRENT'S 50TH ANNIVERSARY**  
To register for events: [trentu.ca/fifty](http://trentu.ca/fifty)

**OCTOBER 3 – 6** **Head of the Trent Rowing Regatta & Alumni Homecoming Weekend**  
For details, [www.trentu.ca/hott](http://www.trentu.ca/hott)

## HOLD THE DATE

**OCTOBER 17** **Chancellor's Anniversary Gala**  
Athletic Centre, Trent University  
Tickets on sale in April

**OCTOBER 18** **Community Parade and Celebration**  
Retrace the original opening parade and ceremonies

**Trent @ 50: In Story and Song**  
Written by Beth McMaster and directed by Gillian Wilson, Showplace Peterborough

Watch the 50th website, Twitter and Facebook for information on ticket sale dates

[trentu.ca/fifty](http://trentu.ca/fifty)

 [/trentuniversityalumniassociation](https://www.facebook.com/trentuniversityalumniassociation)

 [@twitter.com/TrentAlumni](https://twitter.com/TrentAlumni)

## SAVE THE DATE

### for the First Two Years Celebration

Organized by alumni of '64 and '65.

**October 17–19, 2014**

Members of Trent's first two classes are encouraged to partake in all of the University celebration events being organized for October 17–19, the official anniversary date of Trent University.

In addition, the first two classes are invited to get together for a reunion dinner and brunch as well as a campus tour.

More details will be shared in the coming months. To ensure you receive the updates please register your email with [alumni@trentu.ca](mailto:alumni@trentu.ca).



Illustration: David Lasenby '64

LOOKING BACK



Professor Dale Standen leads a History tutorial during the first days of Lady Eaton College.  
LEC has been home to the department for the past 45 years.  
Congratulations and happy anniversary!

Photo: Trent University Archives

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## STORIES OF DIVERSITY AT TRENT

### A project for the Trent 50 Reunion Weekend

Trent University prides itself on being a unique place where students and faculty experience an intense educational engagement. University life is not just about classes, however, and we equally value the life experience of being in an environment where we are exposed to different identities and cultures. As part of Trent's 50th anniversary program, this project seeks to collect reflections on experiences of diversity at Trent over the past half-century.

Trent has a reputation as a queer friendly university. We hope to hear from those of you who are queer identified about how you experienced the acceptance of sexual diversity in your time here.

Trent is increasingly multi-ethnic, reflecting overall changes in Canadian society. We also want to hear about your experiences as an ethnic minority at Trent and in the local community.

The recognition of disabilities is also a relatively recent but important part of public culture in Ontario. We would appreciate hearing about experiences living with disabilities within the Trent community.

Even if you do not identify with any diverse or minority community, Trent may be a place where you encountered diversity for the first time and your experiences of this are also part of the Trent story.

Since 2007, this project has been run by Momin Rahman, Sociology Faculty, [mominrahman@trentu.ca](mailto:mominrahman@trentu.ca) and is sponsored by: Office of the Provost and Vice-President Academic • Department of Sociology • Dean of Arts and Science – Social Sciences • Trent University Faculty Association • Associate Vice-President for Student Affairs



#### WHAT YOU CAN DO:

1. Take the survey to give us your reflections at [https://trentu.qualtrics.com/SE/?SID=SV\\_1RGhHYuIS3r0Bw1](https://trentu.qualtrics.com/SE/?SID=SV_1RGhHYuIS3r0Bw1)
2. Come join a discussion of diversity at the Trent50 reunion weekend, where we will present some of these stories. **SATURDAY, AUGUST 9, 1:30 P.M.**, lecture room to be announced.

THE TRENT UNIVERSITY ALUMNI ASSOCIATION PRESENTS

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\*No purchase is required. There is one (1) prize to be won. The winner may choose between an amount of \$60,000 CAD to build a dream kitchen of his/her choosing or \$60,000 CAD cash. The winner will be responsible for choosing a supplier and for coordinating all of the required work. The contest is organized by Security National Insurance Company and Primum Insurance Company and is open to members, employees and other eligible persons who reside in Canada and belong to an employer, professional or alumni group which has entered into an agreement with the organizers and is entitled to receive group rates from the organizers. The contest ends on October 31, 2014. The draw will be held on November 21, 2014. A skill-testing question is required. Odds of winning depend on the number of eligible entries received. The complete contest rules are available at [melochemonnex.com/contest](http://melochemonnex.com/contest).

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