

# TRENT

COMMUNITY BUILDERS

FALL 2015 46.3

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COMES FULL CIRCLE

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TRENT UNIVERSITY 



This year's Head of the Trent Regatta and Homecoming Weekend attracted athletes and alumni from across Canada and around the world for a celebration of athletics and university spirit. Thousands of

people braved the cold, huddling along the Otonabee to cheer their teams and crews on. Here, the women's soccer team prepares to take the field against the University of Toronto Varsity Blues.

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Stephen Stohn '66 and Deglassi cast members at the Emmys. Photo courtesy of Epitome Pictures



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**ON THE COVER: Stephen Stohn '66**  
The Canadian Music & Broadcast Industry Hall of Fame inductee looks back to the place where it all started. The co-founder of *Arthur* and Trent Radio reminisces about his student years.  
Photo: **Micheal Cullen '82**

# TRUSTING YOUR GUT

## *Learning Your Way to Success*

DONALD FRASER '91

Not knowing how to do something shouldn't get in the way of trying. OK, there are probably some exceptions to this rule—such as bomb disposal. Or brain surgery. In those cases, practice definitely makes perfect.

But when it comes to pioneering new projects, we should be encouraged to follow our intuition and gut. The skills needed for the task will either be learned or provided by partners, colleagues, or fellow stakeholders.



Take media creation as an example. In the late 1960s, when alumnus **Stephen Stohn '66** teamed up with some fellow students to create a new radio station, they did not allow their lack of technical knowledge to get in the way.

"We had absolutely no idea of what a real station was or how we were supposed to do things," he recalls. "We didn't know how to be announcers and we had no clue how to use the equipment. But we went for it anyways."

This new project soon became Trent Radio, which is still operating to this day. Stephen went on to become the executive producer for projects that include *Degrassi* and *The Juno Awards*. He's become a giant in both entertainment production and entertainment law. Not bad for a guy who had never seen a studio before.

There are times working with Alumni Affairs when I feel a little like Stephen Stohn in those early Trent days. Here at Alumni House, we've been creating podcasts, building new social media streams, and slowly dragging our communications into the 21st century. We're doing things that have never been done before at Trent—and sometimes breaking new ground for alumni organizations in Canada.

"Do you actually know how to produce a podcast?" I was asked during the communications planning process.

"Sure!" I replied. The "in theory" part was left silent.

One season later, I can comfortably say that we now know how to produce professional sounding broadcasts—and that most people probably didn't know that we were making things up as we went. Special thanks to my student assistants, Katrina Gormley and Jenna Pilgrim for all of their help in the process. I invite you all to check out the shows at [trenttalks.podbean.com](http://trenttalks.podbean.com)

The reason we launched our podcast—two podcasts, really, the *Trent Talks* and *Trent Voices*—was to showcase alumni who were leaders in creating positive change in their communities. Coincidentally, that is the theme of this issue: Community Builders.

Within these pages, we've shone the light on "Community Builders" who are helping to shape our world in their own unique ways. We've featured political leaders, religious leaders, financial leaders, and social innovators—as well as alumni named to Trent's Board of Governors. We've also featured Stephen, who is a leader in so many ways to the Trent Community.

All of these esteemed alumni have one thing in common. At some point or another, they've all done things that they didn't know how to do beforehand, like being a city councillor, chief economist, or becoming an Aboriginal diplomat. And they have all succeeded as a result.

Leadership, it seems, is all about stretching your comfort zone.

As for those brain surgeons and bomb disposal experts, they can stay exactly where they are, starting off as comfortably as humanly possible.

Enjoy your autumn edition of *TRENT Magazine*.



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



# A SEASON OF RENEWAL:

## Where Professional Programs Meet the Humanities

Trent's Symons Campus is stunning in the summer. In July it is a memorable Canadian landscape, melding together the river, the cedars in the forest, and our famous architecture.

In August the mood changes as we anticipate the start of the fall term. Before one knows it, September arrives and ushers in the energy of a new academic year.

Fall is a harbinger of renewal. Over a few short years, Trent is introducing \$100,000,000 of capital improvements in Peterborough: four new residences; a new Student Centre; and, in partnership with the City of Peterborough, a state-of-the-art baseball diamond and sports field, and a twin pad ice arena.

These changes will transform student life on the campus while providing sports facilities that will make us a recreational hub for all of Peterborough.

In the longer term, we hope to make our partnership with the City of Peterborough a basis for other transformative developments—notably, a research and innovation park, and, in the longer term, a possible "Sustainable Village" which would comprise a residential community.

At Trent's Durham campus, this promises to be a year of forward-looking planning. The jump in Durham applications and enrolment, the introduction of new programs, and the growth of the GTA East make this a time to consider the possible expansion of our presence in Durham.

Other developments that challenge the way we think are tied to trends in post-secondary education. One of the most fundamental is the migration of students away from traditional disciplines and towards programs associated with particular careers.

In some cases moves in this direction have been extreme. In Japan last month, the education minister asked all of Japan's national universities to take active steps to abolish their social science and humanities programs. Close to half have decided to comply.

In Ontario, government moves have not been so drastic, but every year we witness a further decline in the numbers of students enrolling in programs that are not tied to specific careers.

What does this mean for Trent? We are a university that boasts impressive professional programs that prepare our students for careers: most obviously, in Social Work, Nursing, Business, Forensics and Education. We are, at the same time, an institution with a proud tradition that is founded on programs in the traditional disciplines associated with the humanities, social sciences and sciences.

We will not, in the midst of the changing preferences of students and their parents, driven by real concerns about youth unemployment and economic uncertainty, be able to stop a migration toward career focused programming that has been going on for a decade or more. But there are ways that we can adapt to it.

When I lived in Finland, I was fascinated by the lives of the Sami, an Indigenous people who lived by moving with the caribou as they made their annual migrations. They did not attempt to stop a migration which

was far beyond their control, but they flourished by adapting to it.

At Trent, there are many ways to manage the current trends in higher education. If we manage our development carefully, I believe that they will allow us to maintain core programming in the humanities and social sciences at the same time that we emphasize interdisciplinary professional programs that are fully integrated with the arts, and the development of new programming that combines all our disciplines in ways that are clearly relevant to the issues of today.

Even if one focuses on career success (only one element of a good education), education in all the disciplines we teach is highly valuable and worthwhile. In the case of the traditional disciplines in the liberal arts and sciences, they are not preparation for success in a career, but preparation for success in a career.

One can see this in the careers of the successful alumni who are profiled and noted in this issue of *TRENT Magazine*. Their majors: Economics, English, Indigenous Environmental Studies, Philosophy, Psychology, Native Studies, and Biology. As so happens in the course of a long life, it is the general skills and knowledge one gains in university—a broad understanding of the world and higher order literacy, numeracy and critical thinking skills—which are the best basis for success.

**Dr. Leo Groarke, Ph.D.**  
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# Building on Tradition

## A Year of Celebrating Our Past and Building Our Future

Since the spring of 2015, a group of alumni volunteers, staff, faculty, retirees, and students have undertaken a review of Trent alumni interests and engagement. Building on the input received through two recent alumni surveys, the review process involved one-to-one interviews and small group workshop sessions. We had the privilege of including a volunteer consulting group from the Yale Alumni Association in the review. They spent several days at Trent interviewing alumni, staff, administration, and board members to best understand the broad picture of alumni engagement and the opportunities to bolster our alumni programs. Their recommendations were insightful and helped us to better gauge the appetite for alumni involvement around the university and in the local communities where Trent's campuses are located, in addition to a variety of perspectives regarding the role of alumni and ways to best serve alumni.

In September, a task force met at Trent's Durham campus for a Strategic Planning Retreat. The task force included Board members, alumni, and staff. Based on research and the broad input that had been received, they drafted the first edition of the Trent Alumni Strategic Plan 2015-18. Over the next several weeks, the plan will be reviewed by key groups and individuals and will ultimately receive endorsement by both the TUAA Council and the Board of Governors. Ultimately, it is desired that a positive, shared purpose for the Alumni Association is clarified, and major initiatives are agreed upon between the university and its alumni.

All alumni are invited to review the first draft and to provide feedback by November 8 in order for the final draft to be prepared for presentation to the TUAA Council and Board of Governors. The first draft of the Trent Alumni

Strategic Plan, as well as all of the input reports, can be found on our website <https://mycommunity.trentu.ca/alumni/outstanding>

I once again want to recognize and thank the volunteers, staff, and guests who were involved in the TUAA 50th Anniversary Alumni & Friends Reunion Weekend (August 7-10, 2014). The event was recognized nationally as the Best Alumni Event of the year by the Canadian Council for the Advancement of Education and was presented with the Prix D'Excellence Gold Award at a ceremony held in Montreal in June.

In addition, Trent University's Advancement and Alumni teams were also awarded Gold for Best New Idea on a Shoestring for the 50 in 50 Giving Tuesday Fundraising Campaign; a silver for Best Annual Report for the 2014 Report to the Community; and a

bronze in the Best Fundraising Initiative category for the Celebrating Legacies event, which marked the completion of Trent's successful Legacy Campaign.

Earlier this year, Trent was also presented with the 2015 J. Hampton Burnham Heritage Award by the Peterborough Historical Society. The award was in recognition of Trent's 50th Anniversary celebrations—particularly ones that highlighted the half-century history of the university and the contribution it has made (and continues to make) to Peterborough.

**For more information on alumni events, please visit [trentu.ca/alumni](http://trentu.ca/alumni)**

**Lee Hays '91,**  
Director, Alumni Affairs  
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Tom Symons, Lee Hays, Michael Eamon and Dennis Carter-Smith accept the 2015 Heritage Award

### Are you on the LOST ALUMNI list?

To ensure you don't miss out on important news and opportunities for Trent alumni, please update your contact information at [trentu.ca/mytrent](http://trentu.ca/mytrent)

# Faber est quisque terrae suae



The last four years have been quite a journey. We have a strengthened, enthusiastic, and productive alumni council; we have more alumni on the Board of Governors than ever before; we have outstanding direct representation with both the Board and the Senate. Yet, one question pops up all the time. And that is: what is the role of alumni with their alma mater?

Over the last nine months, I have spoken with administrators, alumni relations professionals, and alumni representing 25 universities around the world. What is the answer to the question? It is twofold. First, alumni should (and do) support their university however they can, whether financially or in kind. Secondly, there are four aspects of alumni-university interaction that represent the alumni relationship-building cycle—affinity, affiliation, engagement, and support. "These interactive opportunities lead to an enhanced and robust sense of belonging, connection and loyalty, and allow the alumni-university connection to evolve" (See Maria L. Gallo, "Higher education over a lifespan: A gown to grave assessment of a lifelong relationship between universities and their graduates," in *Studies in Higher Education*, 38:8, 1150-1161)

Sense of pride prevails among Trent alumni, and the sense of belonging is strong—as is our emotional attachment to the institution that changed our lives. A fairly common conclusion is that between three and five percent of alumni remain active to some degree with their university. At Trent, it is no different. Is this participation something that can be improved? Could a larger number of alumni be persuaded/enticed to reconnect? In my opinion, we need two strategies. One is continued communication from the university to its alumni to the extent that



## Alumni Mentors

Through a partnership with Trent's Alumni Affairs Office, Career Centre and the Colleges, the *Life After Trent* program connects students with successful and prominent alumni on a one-on-one basis or at group networking events. You could help students navigate career options, learn invaluable skills for professional development and make new contacts.

**For more information, [trentu.ca/alumni/getinvolved.php](http://trentu.ca/alumni/getinvolved.php)**

alumni understand the changing face of the institution. That "changing face" is a given as universities adapt to difficult political and financial challenges and attempt to adjust accordingly.

Second is the role of the alumni themselves. At the top of the hill by my house, there is a condominium complex whose motto is *faber est quisque terrae suae*. It was the brainchild of a Trent alumnus and means "man is the architect of his environment." Let's recast that as "alumni are architects of their destiny." To me, this means that we need to be actively inquisitive about our university; that we should not be passive recipients of information flowing out from the University; and that we should watch what is happening (follow [trentu.ca/newsevents](http://trentu.ca/newsevents)), identifying opportunities to become involved where there is a satisfying personal fit.

A primary challenge is the reality of geography and connection by distance. Increased physical connection is probably possible only for those in the greater Peterborough area

and perhaps the GTA. Outside of that catchment area, what can we do? The answer is, a lot. Trent has a considerable number of success stories where alumni have either taken a lead, or been prominent players; mentorship and Trent Talks are but two.

### Here is my challenge to you:

Explore opportunities that exist where you live, and present them to the Alumni Affairs Office for consideration and comment. Use current successful programs as a launching pad to exploit the incredible skills that alumni around the world bring to bear on the future of Trent. Don't wait to be asked. We can make a difference individually and collectively. We have ideas that will change the world (the name of the TUAA annual signature symposium) and most certainly be of benefit to our university. Isn't that our responsibility? I think it is.

**Bob Taylor-Vaisey '66**



# STEPHEN STOHN'S PIONEERING SPIRIT

From Trent Radio and *Arthur* to The Canadian Music & Broadcast Industry Hall of Fame

Today he is the executive producer of *Degrassi*, a former longtime executive producer of the *Juno Awards*, and the president of Epitome Pictures, but flash back almost 50 years and **Stephen Stohn '66** was a fresh-faced kid trying to figure out how a radio studio was supposed to work.

As one of the creators of Radio Free Arthur—soon to be Trent Radio—the learning curve was steep.

"We really had no clue of what a radio station was or how we were supposed to do things," he recalls. "Peter Northrop had the language lab set up in the library and there was a recording booth there with a 4-track tape recorder. We didn't know how to be announcers, we didn't

know how to breathe on air, we knew nothing about programming."

True to form, though, the younger Stohn had an ear for matching his product to his market. He and his colleagues did a university-wide survey to decide upon programming for the fledgling station. In the early days, they followed this survey stringently.

"We followed it to the letter," he laughs today. "If 17% of respondents wanted jazz, we tried to make sure that 17% of what was on the air was jazz."

Those early days featured reels of tape spooling to the floor as they tried to get good takes, sprinting these tapes across town to CKPT AM and CHEX FM by bike, and generally a whole lot of chaos for a quite limited audience.

Stephen Stohn has been named Alumni-In-Residence for 2015. From October 13–18, he will participate in workshops and seminars with Trent students. As part of the residency, Mr. Stohn will also interact with members of the Peterborough community through public presentations and "drop in" functions.

On October 15, he will be a featured panelist at *Through a Canadian Lens: The Current and Future Landscape of Television and Film*—a free event taking place at 7 p.m. in Bagnani Hall, Trill College.

"Our programming ran on Sunday evenings—I think from 7–11 p.m. And it wasn't like Trent Radio today, where you turn it on anytime and there it is. You had to tune in specifically for us. Which is probably why it was aired on Sunday nights. I mean, who listens to radio on Sunday nights? I think there were probably three people tuning in—and we may have boosted that to 30."

Known as a Canadian media giant now, Stohn was a Trent media mogul in the '60s. Along with Trent Radio, he was one of the founders of *Arthur* newspaper—even giving the paper its name.

"It was just called 'The Trent Newsletter' at the time" he remembers. "And people were insisting that it had to have a real name. And yet none stuck, so each week we would come up with a new one. Names ranged from the *Trent Telegram*—which wouldn't be bad—to the *Stoney Creek Gazette* to *The Stentorian*—and I've never figured out what "Stentorian" even means. One week, my friend, **Geoffrey O'Brian '66**, and I were working on the paper. It was 1 a.m. and everything was delayed. We were finishing the front page and still didn't have a name. Geoffrey asked what we were going to do, and I replied 'let's call it *Arthur*.'"

The name came from Stohn's love of The Beatles. In particular, it comes from George Harrison's quip in the *Hard Days Night* movie that his shaggy Beatle haircut was, in fact, named Arthur. Both Harrison and Stohn had tongues firmly in cheek.

"Geoffrey and I roared with laughter at that—we were tired and punch-drunk—and didn't think the name would even last a second edition, let alone almost 50 years."

At the same time, he was a contributing member of the Trent and Peterborough music scenes—teaming up with good friend (and eventual #1 Billboard hit songwriter) **Christopher Ward '67**. But where Ward was making more serious folk music, the Stohn/Ward duo were another matter entirely.

"We created our own fictional group, Cookies and Milk," says Stohn with a mischievous smile. "One of us was Captain Cookies and the other was Major Milk—we never said which one of us was which. That remains a mystery to this day."

The duo would steer their music away from the mainstream—taking an Everly Brothers song, for instance, and adding some high falsetto harmonies.

"We carried this on, even after we left university," he notes. "We spent a year travelling Europe in a Volkswagen van and ended up playing songs in various locations—

including on a U.S. Destroyer and the Playboy Club in Ankara, Turkey."

As songwriters, Ward and Stohn would go on to collaborate on a couple of modest musical successes—"Once in A Longtime" and "Maybe Your Heart," both charted in Canada.

It was this passion in songwriting that led him to help form the Songwriters Association of Canada (SAC)—a group that aimed to develop and financially nurture the creative process of Canadian composers, songwriters, and lyricists.

"Songwriters are a downtrodden, lonely lot. They tend not to be really strong when it comes to standing up and lobbying for their own rights. They tend to be more withdrawn. They tend to be really into their art—which is exactly the way they should be."



A young Stephen Stohn prepares reels of tape for the first season of Trent Radio. Photo courtesy of Trent University Archives.

By the time that Stohn had become a founding Board member for SAC, he was already a young lawyer with a keen interest in the entertainment field—and he was looking to help strengthen Canada's copyright laws, which he found to be "woefully weak." The organization that he helped found has helped countless songwriters ever since.



Stohn, his wife/production partner Linda Schuyler, and the cast of *Degrassi* on the set of Epitome Pictures.

2010

While here, he'll be spending a week as alumnus in residence at Champlain College—a stay he is most excited about. While Stohn regularly communicates with members of the Trent community, it's not often he gets to interact in person.

"I love social media and digital interaction, but there's nothing like face-to-face get-togethers. In my producing and legal career I've benefited from being surrounded by extremely talented and grounded young people, many of whom are the same age as most Trent students and are just starting the great path through their lives. I'm a huge fan of mentoring, and not just because it's good for those who are being mentored. It's equally good for those who are mentoring. This visit is a chance to revisit my own experiences and world views in the light of fresh and entirely open-minded questioning.

Now, the alumni-in-residence program is not mentoring in the traditional sense, but it certainly has many of the same elements and I'm looking forward to all the different chances for interactions with the students. More down-to-earth, I'm really looking forward to the Escape Maze adventure, which I understand will be taking place on the Sunday afternoon!"

And, who knows, while here, perhaps we can persuade Stohn to start a show or two on Trent Radio. They're always on the lookout for fresh new talent.

## What's New in Media Studies?

Though Media Studies is a relatively new program at Trent, it is already making waves in the disciplines of Cultural Studies, Journalism, and Computer Science. As a subset of the department of Cultural Studies, students are encouraged to pursue interdisciplinary studies in their time at Trent, while gaining a Bachelor of Arts in Media Studies. Students take several compulsory credits in Cultural Studies and Computer Studies, and choose from a host of courses in Anthropology, Business, Political Studies, Computer Studies, Cultural Studies, Canadian Studies, Gender & Women's Studies, and Sociology.

The Cultural Studies department is now offering two new application-based film courses: "Documentary Film" and "Experimental Film." Both invite students to create films on Super 8 or 16 mm film. Right on the coattails of these new film courses comes two new courses in Music Production: "Electronic Music" and "Experimental Music."

This past year, the Media Studies program, in partnership with the Computer Studies program, purchased a 3D printer and a 3D scanner for student use in both disciplines. This new equipment enables students enrolled in "Multimedia and Design" and "Visual Design Studio" to conduct projects in mediums other than pen-to-page, and interface between multiple forms of media.

In the works is a new Game Studies course, being developed by program coordinator Dr. Liam Mitchell. The course focuses on theories of game play and the theories to support it, but also offers a practical approach to game design and structure. This course is piloting this fall, looking towards a regular offering for September 2016.

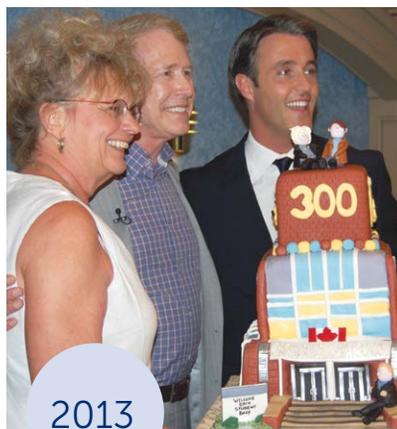
When addressing the future of the Media Studies program, Dr. Mitchell stated that, "the future of Media Studies revolves around the integration of practice and theory, as well as establishing links between the University and the community, with an eye to the political and ethical consequences of our entanglement in the media." This shift from more theory-based study to more application-based will make Media Studies courses more accessible to students across disciplines, diversifying the community and widening the student range of thought. In our digital age, awareness of the world around us—and the many mediums in which we can be reached—is an issue that becomes more and more pressing.

And while interested in shining the light on songwriters, he also carved a niche promoting the best in Canadian musical performance as a longtime executive producer for the annual *Juno Awards*. At the same time, he was a director and then chair of the Academy of Recording Arts and Sciences.

Although he has produced a number of network television shows, including *Instant Star*, the *L.A. Complex* and *Riverdale*, Stohn is probably best known for his role as executive producer of *Degrassi: The Next Generation*. At 500 episodes in, he's once again at the forefront of emerging media. *Degrassi* has just made the leap from traditional television to Netflix.

Along the way, Stohn has been showered with awards and accolades, including 24 Canadian Screen Award/Gemini nominations (with 11 wins), four Emmy nominations, a Peabody Award, and more. In 2011, he was inducted into the Canadian Music and Broadcast Industry Hall of Fame.

Earlier this year, he was awarded an honorary doctorate by Trent. He looks back at his years here and calls them transformative.



2013

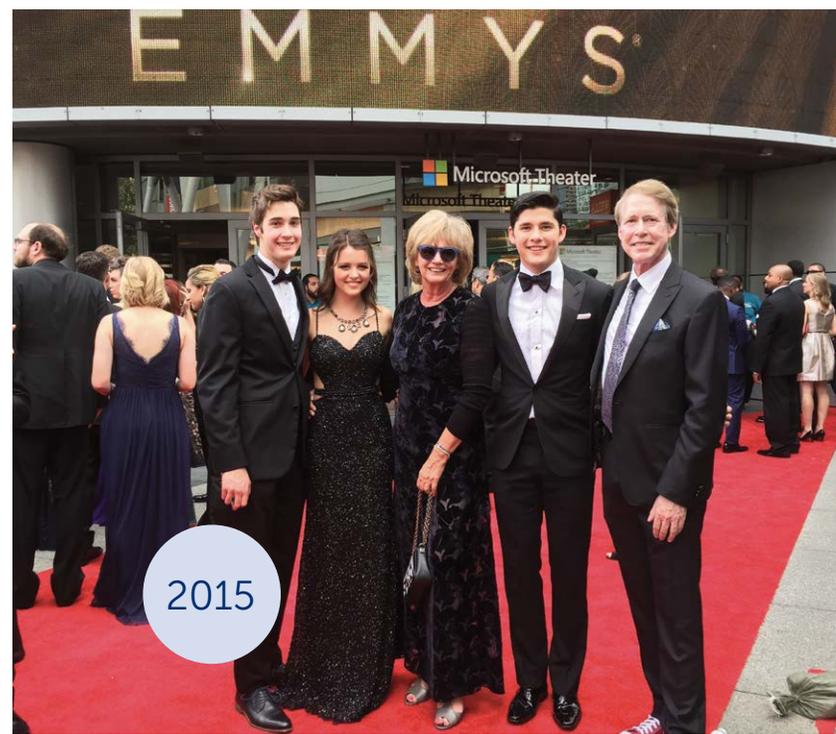
Stohn, Schuyler, and presenter Ben Mulrone celebrate *Degrassi's* 300th episode. Photo courtesy of Epitome Pictures

"I majored in philosophy and economics—two very disparate uses of language and ways of thinking—but that is the kind of thing that Trent really promoted, and still promotes. You add the extra-curriculars onto that—working on the radio station and the newspaper, as well as all the social events—and your mind starts working in whole new ways. We used to call it a Renaissance mode of thinking—it really is the Trent way of thinking. And I think it is quite unique. That has been a foundation for everything else

that I've done for the rest of my life."

Stohn will be back at Trent this month to deliver an impressive donation to the university—a \$1 million gift that will enhance student lives through the creation of the new student centre (please see our Campaign centre spread for more details, page 21).

He feels honoured by the opportunity to give. "The fact is that I have been given the opportunity to 'pay back and pay forward' for an early experience which shaped my life and career."



2015

Photo courtesy of Epitome Pictures

## BUILDING TRENT'S LEGACY: TWO NEW SCHOOLS OF STUDY

With so many different ways to characterize Canada and with issues such as melting icebergs and the pollution of our fresh water all-too-common themes in daily headlines, Trent University has reaffirmed its longstanding commitment to two important fields of study by launching two new schools—the School for the Study of Canada and the Trent School for the Environment.

### Seeing Green: New School of the Environment Unites Trent's Renowned Environmental Expertise

After 50 years as a trailblazer in environmental research and teaching, Trent University has launched the School of the Environment, bringing together vast expertise to spark the next generation of global environmental leaders in fields from aquatic science and Indigenous environmental studies to agriculture and food systems, sustainability and geography. The Trent School of the Environment will enable and empower innovative thinkers and researchers who will put knowledge into action on the world's most pressing environmental concerns: climate change, the quality of our water, sustainable agriculture and at-risk ecosystems. "The Trent School of the Environment confirms Trent University's commitment to both excellence in environmental education and to environmental research that is recognized around the world," said Dr. Stephen Bocking, director of the new school and professor of environmental history and policy. "The school will enable us to build on our 50-year record of leadership as Canada's outstanding environmental university."

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



### Oh Canada: Trent Launches School for the Study of Canada

Rising from the collective desire of scholars and students to understand Canada in its local, regional, national, and international contexts, and leading up to the 150th anniversary of our nation, Trent University has launched a new School for the Study of Canada. The school will profile Trent's longstanding leadership in interdisciplinary teaching and research expertise and engage students in broad ranging projects and dialogues about our nation. Led by over 40 scholars at Trent who study Canada across multiple programs and disciplines, many of them national and international experts in their field, students in the school will be challenged at all levels of study to explore issues of relevance to Canada, and what it means to be Canadian through a critical examination of themes such as sovereignty, nationalism, health and aging, the environment, indigeneity, regionalism, multiculturalism, immigration, labour, and peacekeeping. "The School for the Study of Canada confirms Trent as 'the' place for the study of Canada," said Dr. James Conolly, professor of Anthropology at Trent and director of the new school. "The school will build on Trent's existing leadership in Canadian Studies and draw upon Canadian-focused scholarship from other disciplines including Geography, Sociology, Anthropology and Environmental and Resource Studies, reinforcing the study of Canada as a central part of Trent's broader mission."

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

### Harvesting a Sustainable Future: Embracing Local Food Movement

When it comes to food, the more local, the better. At Trent University, it doesn't get more local than having organic produce grown on-campus by Trent students at the Trent Market Garden and served up on the menu in Trent's dining halls. This fall, students, staff and faculty were treated to fresh, organic produce across campus at variety of food service locations, thanks to an innovative partnership between the new student-run agricultural enterprise, the Trent Market Garden, and Chartwells, the on-campus food provider. The Garden, which is located on one and a half acres at Trent's Sustainable Agriculture Environmental Farm, was launched last March as a cooperation between Trent University Food Services, Chartwells and the Sustainable Agriculture and Food Systems program, with the aim to have crops planted this



summer and ready for harvest this fall. Trent University students have played a key role in the development of the Trent Market Garden and the partnership. The project has also offered students a bridge between the classroom and the real world, by having students in the program plant and harvest the crops in the Garden.

### A Top 1,000 University

Trent University is among the world's top universities, according to the recently released Center for World University Rankings (CWUR) 2015 list of the world's top 1,000 universities, coming in at number 31 nationally, and number 910 overall worldwide. The Center for World University Rankings (CWUR) is the only global university ranking measuring the quality of education and training of students as well as the prestige of the faculty members and the quality of their research, without relying on surveys and university data submissions.



### Employer Demand Sparks New Communications and Critical Thinking Program

In response to increasing employer demand for excellent communicators, problem solvers and lifelong learners, Trent University Durham has launched a new Bachelor of Arts degree program in Communications and Critical Thinking, a three-year degree that offers students an interdisciplinary learning opportunity in a dynamic academic setting, as well as practical, hands-on experience. Communication and writing skills are a few of the top skills employers are looking for. The new Communications & Critical Thinking degree program, which recently received official approval from the Ministry of Training Colleges and Universities, is one of many examples of how Trent University Durham is taking a leading-edge approach to developing new academic programs that meet both student and employer demands.



WHAT'S NEW AT TRENT



**\$25,000 Raised in Support of Trent Student Refugee Program**

In response to overwhelming concern expressed throughout the Trent community over the plight of an historic wave of refugees seeking refuge from war and strife in Syria and Northern Africa, the University organized a two-week fundraising effort, successfully raising \$25,000—enough to welcome an additional refugee student from Syria to Trent in fall 2016. Trent has been sponsoring one student per year through the World University Service of Canada Refugee Program (WUSC SRP) since 1983. With generous support from Trent leaders, and the broader Trent and greater Peterborough community, the success of this recent fundraising initiative means the University is able to double its commitment to refugee students next year.

**The Canadian Difference: A Conversation about our Country**

As our country approaches its 150th anniversary, Trent University faculty members and students are inviting Canadians to join in an unprecedented online conversation about Canada. The Canadian Difference Project, a new initiative of the School for the Study of Canada, and Trent University's Canadian Studies Department with the philanthropic leadership of Ontario-based executives William A. Macdonald and William R.K. Innes, will be a digital conversation about who we are as a nation. The conversation has started with an essay series in the *Globe and Mail* written by Macdonald. The project will evolve into a bilingual online community dedicated to encouraging open and thoughtful discussion about "what makes Canada work?" and "what could make Canada work?" Centred on a number of topical issues, and with Mutual Accommodation as an underlying theme, it will seek to crowdsource a wide range of perspectives and understanding from a diverse audience of engaged. To learn more visit [canadiandifference.ca](http://canadiandifference.ca)

**Trent University Alumni Association Annual Report 2015**

**TUAA Council Events and Accomplishments**

**BY TUAA COUNCILLOR TERRY REILLY '69**

Since April 2013, council membership has been retooled to better reflect the diversity and geographical spread of Trent alumni. To move its work plans forward, Council held two retreats and seven meetings (twice at the Durham campus), making effective use of conferencing technologies.

Following a structural review, the number of TUAA vice-presidents was reduced from four to three, and the number of committees from twelve to three. Each council member had lead responsibility for a particular segment of Alumni work, e.g. international alumni, Indigenous alumni, graduate student alumni, mentorship programs, chapter development, TUAA policies and procedures, and campus affairs. These changes are being evaluated by the TUAA Council strategic planning team, who will report this fall.

TUAA Council received presentations on College Revitalization, the Trent Endowment Lands Plan, the 50th Anniversary, the Trent Durham Strategic Plan, the new Trent Student Centre, social media and communications for TUAA, prospective corporate partners for Alumni Services, Trent Talks, and student-led proposals for fossil fuel divestment. We are grateful to the university staff, especially Presidents Franklin and Groarke for this crucial input that informs our ongoing work.

Every year council members support Trent's mission by welcoming new students on "moving in" days; delivering addresses at Convocation; providing mentorships; attending College and the Graduate Students Association dinners; participating in student and faculty symposia;

connecting with Trent's student associations on matters of mutual interest; serving on a variety of university committees and task forces; and providing content and editorial input to *TRENT Magazine*.

TUAA Council has completed the following projects: it has reviewed and revised TUAA structures and policies; negotiated a one-year free membership for alumni with the Canadian Canoe Museum; developed TUAA Council records management and retention policies and procedures; tested a Chapter model focused on the "Ambassador Theme;" developed draft guidelines for awarding honorary alumni designations; developed a draft agreement to provide consumer discounts to alumni; and developed

a draft protocol for the naming of university facilities.

Council worked together to develop and submit reports on Trent's proposed Strategic Management Agreement with Ontario Government and Search Committees for the President and the Provost. One of the major outcomes for TUAA Council was the Report on Alumni College Engagement.

During this past year, alumni participated deeply in College life through Life After Trent, Pan-Colleges Programming Fund Committee, LEC Celebrates Music, Your Trent Student Symposium, Three Minute Paper, the Last Lecture, "What Does Undergraduate Research Look Like," and Why Act(ivism) Series.



Stanislav Puchyn (mentoree), **Carol Gray '75** (mentor) and Brian Smith met at Alumni House as part of the Student-Alumni Mentoring Connections Program

**2014-15 council members included:**

- THB SYMONS, Honorary President
- BOB TAYLOR-VAISEY '66, President
- ADAM GUZKOWSKI '95, Past President
- LEE HAYS '91, Alumni Affairs Director
- JESS GROVER '02, Senate Representative; VP Governance
- CHARLENE HOLMES '85, VP Campus Affairs
- JOHN IGIEBOR-ISOKEN '98, VP Member Services
- TERESA BUGELLI '92, Councillor
- PATRICIA CARSON '74, Councillor
- WEI LYNN ENG '99, Councillor
- VIDAL GUERREIRO '01, Councillor
- DIANE THERRIEN '10, Councillor
- ADAM HOPKINS '03, Councillor
- JESSICA LEE '05, Councillor
- TERRY REILLY '69, Councillor
- ROBIN SUNDSTROM '78, Board of Governors Rep
- STEPHEN KYLIE '72, Board of Governors Rep

We thank our fellow council members who have completed their terms of service to Council in the 2014-15 year: Bianca Bannister, Fallon Butler, Cheryl Coss, Hamdy Faye, Evan Fleming, Adam Guzkowski, Dean Howley, Kate Knight, Jonathan Lake, David Mahon, Ian McFarlane, Murray Miskin, Kylie Patrick, Jonathan Pinto, Sheldon Willerton, Erin Whitton.

We also deeply appreciate the ongoing support we receive from Lee Hays, Director of Alumni Affairs, and the team at Alumni House.



A Montreal Chapter gathering: **Douglas Sweet '73, Marjolaine Boutin-Sweet '74, Sabelo Lukhele '04, François Senecal '83.**

**Events & initiatives**

2014-15 was the University's 50th Anniversary. Trent alumni were highly involved leading up to and throughout the celebratory year. The 2014-15 Yearbook was produced at the end of the year to capture many of the highlights.

In addition to 50th Anniversary events, the following events were organized or supported by TUAA:

Chapter events: New York City, British Isles, Hong Kong, Vancouver, Halifax, Montreal, and Malaysia

September 20, 2014 – Alumni & Friends Golf Tournament

October 2–4, 2014 – Homecoming & Head of the Trent Regatta

November 15, 2014 – Fall Preview Open House

February 7, 2015 – Gzowski 10th anniversary reunion

February 27, 2015 – Indigenous Studies Reunion as part of the elders gathering weekend

March 14, 2015 – Spring Thaw Open House

March 20 & 21, 2015 – 39th Team Trend Hockey Reunion

April 10, 2015 – Trent in Durham 40th Anniversary Reunion Celebration

April 18, 2015 – Alumni Awards



The 11th Peterborough Alumni Garden Party held on June 28 in the garden of Paul & Gillian Wilson



Alumni met at the Canadian Consulate in New York: **Leanne Burney '92, Rudolf Rainer '65, Mark Gentry '73, Mary Ritter '90, Michael Jakob '87, Don Tapscott '66, Lee Hays '91.**

**Awards & Honours 2014-15**

Young Leader – **Ryan Heighton '05** and **Jovan Groen '01**

Spirit of Trent – **Linda Viscardis '76** and **Edward Sawdon '82**

Distinguished Alumni – **Sigrid Johnson '78** and **Gary Botting '64**

Tony Storey Alumni Service Award – **John Butcher '67**

TUAA Awards & Honours presented to students:

David Glassco Prize – Dane Shumak

Robert W.F. Stephenson Prize – Betty (Bethelhem) Wondimu

Robert Lightbody Prize – Gillian Fraser

Bryan & Cheryl Davies Award – Kaitlyn McLinton

Scott Rennie Medal – Jim Maxwell-Campagna

Eileen Gallagher Medal – Felicia Birmingham

CC alumni recognition award – Jenna Lawson

LEC alumni recognition award – Tonia Brooks

OC alumni recognition award – Sydney Phillips

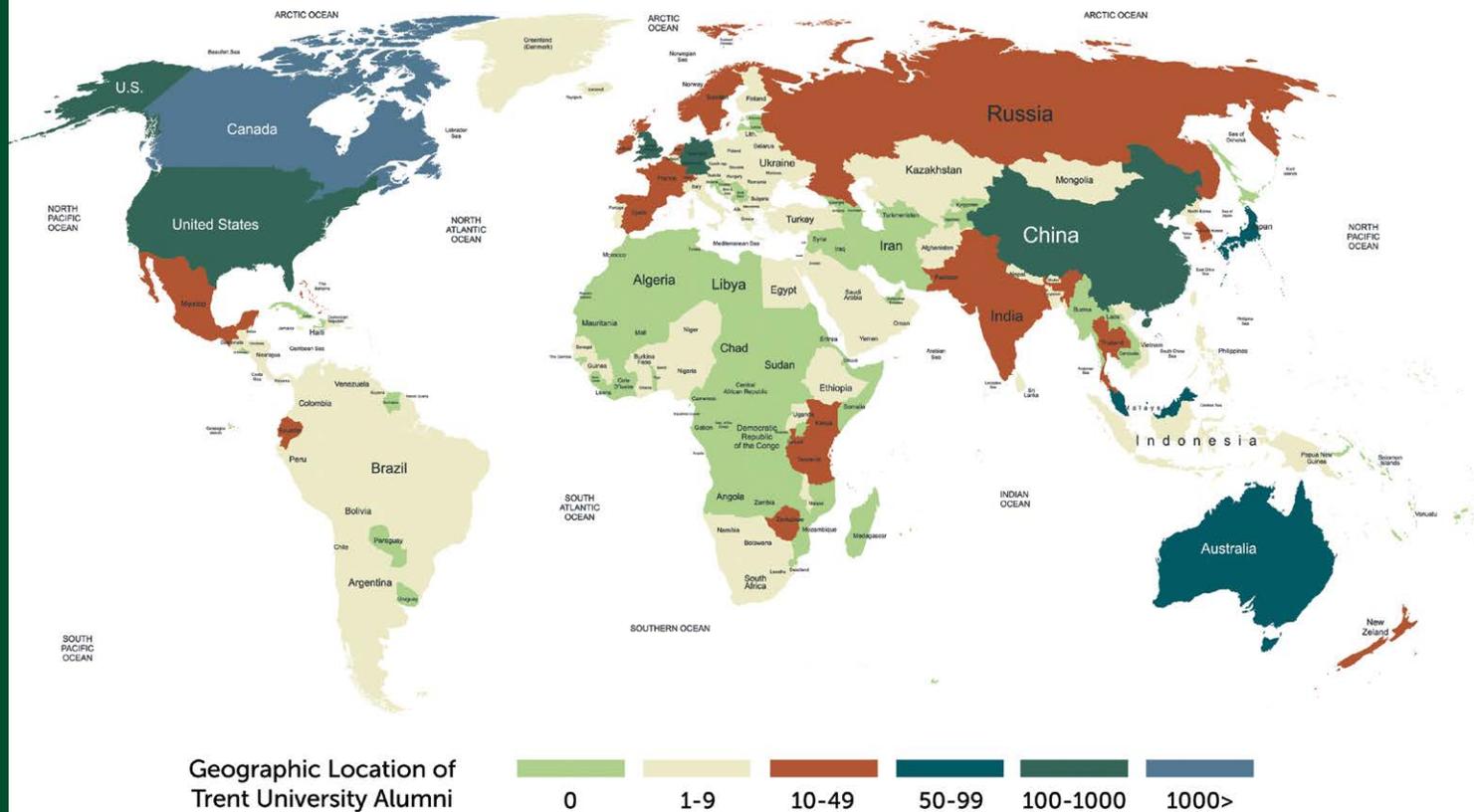
Gzowski alumni recognition award – Jennifer Patterson

Trent University Durham alumni recognition award – Raheleh Saryazdi

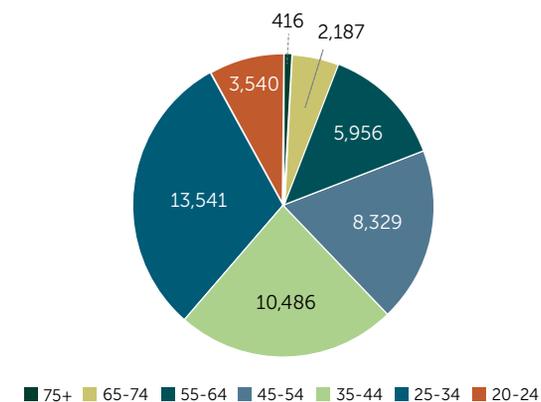


**Nancy Stephenson '69** and **Bob Taylor-Vaisey '66** present Betty Wondimu with the Stephenson prize.

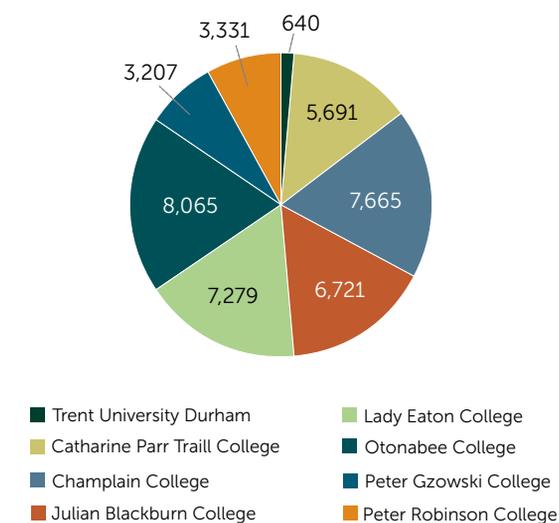
Team Trend 39th Reunion organized by **John Kennedy '85, David Wright '74** and **Bill Fields '71**



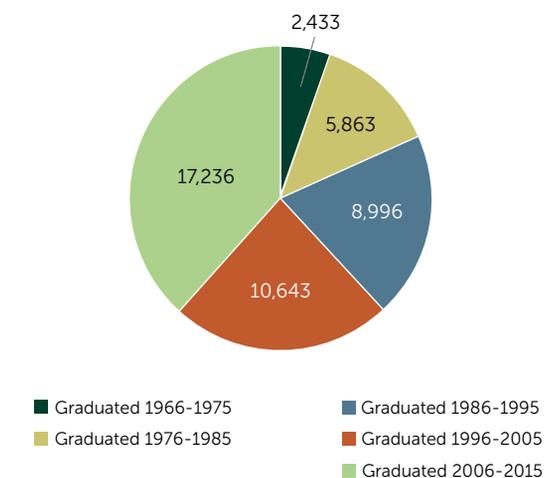
**Alumni by Age Group**



**Number of Alumni by College Affiliation**



**Alumni by Decade of Graduation**



The TUAAs thanks **Bob Taylor-Vaisey '66** for serving four years as president of the TUAAs Council. Bob, your contributions of time, energy and expertise have made a lasting difference. We wish you well in your next adventure!



The TUAAs welcomes **Jess Grover '02** as the new council president, effective October 3, 2015.



For the period May 1, 2014 to April 30, 2015

**\$1,688,778.99**

Total donations by alumni

**55%**

Alumni giving as % of total donors

**49.4%**

Alumni giving as % of total dollars

**Top 5 Areas of Alumni Giving**

1. Trent Student Centre
2. Annual Fund – Greatest Need
3. Student Financial Assistance
4. Bata Library General Support
5. Athletics Excalibur



Homecoming festivities drew an alumni crowd, including **Tom Miller '82** (far left), **Bob Forsyth '82** (left), **Bubba Lougheed '84** (right), **Jeff Lancot '82** (far right).



STUDENT COLUMN

# Innovation and Hammerhead Sharks

BY JENNA PILGRIM

**“The architect, in proposing a building, makes a choice—an imaginative choice which outstrips the facts. The creativity of architecture lies here, it imagines more than there is grounds for and creates relations which, at bottom, can never be verified.”**

— Ron Thom, *Canadian Architect*, 1962

I compare the way many students fly through their undergraduate degrees similar to the way a hammerhead shark must swim. The large protrusion on the nose of a hammerhead shark is so heavy that if the shark stops swimming, it drowns and dies. Students who study in the mass of the cultural multiversity cram their heads so full of facts and figures that they must keep moving forward, for fear of drowning or being overrun by the rest of the hammerhead population. Upon graduation, these students receive their degree, release the pressure on their brains, and start searching for a way to apply all of the facts they no longer remember, in a suit they likely cannot afford.

It seems now, we have come full circle in “challenging the way you think.” In the 1960s, architects were designing buildings that usually represented the industry in which they were to function. This style of design, later dubbed Brutalism, created buildings where “what you see is what you get.” The Scarborough Town Centre Mall and the University of Toronto Scarborough campus are examples. When Ron Thom first designed Massey College at the University of Toronto, it did not show up in any architecture magazines, and was met with a mixed response from

the architectural community. It was a design before its time.

Again and again, geniuses of the past were criticized because they were different. Ron Thom knew he was different, and that is what made him so successful. Thomas H.B. Symons was the youngest university president in Canada, a record he still holds today. PSB Wilson came straight out of a University of Toronto Blues rugby jersey to become the inaugural director of Trent Athletics (though we’re not sure if he ever really took the jersey off). Trent succeeded against all odds, and is one of the only universities to be founded with the support of unionized funding. If you tried to ask the unions of today to donate \$1 from their paychecks every week (that was a lot in those days) you would be met by a full-fledged uproar. Trent is a 50-year-old example of how crowdfunding can bring a community together.

In the *Peterborough Examiner’s* Trent inauguration edition, dated October 12, 1964, the headline reads *More Thorough Education Now Needed, to Face Automation. We are facing the same challenge today, as the argument for retention of humanity in education only grows stronger.* As Lisa Rochon states, “[Modernist architecture] argues for place, it argues for us to slow down and breathe.” Trent is not training hammerhead sharks. They are training individual beings, who care about their impact on the environment they live in, and truly locating and nurturing their sense of place. They are activists, mentors, speakers, leaders, and critical thinkers.

Ron Thom is a prime example of an unabashed innovator. Perhaps it was the fact that he possessed

no formal training in architecture. Perhaps it was because he believed that “An architect, no less than an artist, should be willing to fly in the face of what is established, and to create not what is acceptable but what will become accepted” (*Canadian Architect*, 1962). Isn’t this what is expected from students today? To innovate, I must not do what everyone else is doing. I must create what the people need, before they know they need it.

Do you remember the first time you came to Trent (perhaps from a larger city) and breathed in the smell of pine trees and freshly cut grass? Or stopped in the middle of the bridge to admire the picturesque scene of Champlain College in the winter? Like many others before me, I revel in the adventure of finding secret nooks and intimate study spaces in the depths of the Bata Library and the furthest corners of Champlain College. It is almost like the buildings are begging you to see them for more than just limestone and concrete, more than just lines and walls. They are begging for you to see them for more than they are, to discern motion and progression. It is this kind of discovery and sense of adventure that many of us have lost in our hustle-and-bustle lives. We move back and forth like pawns, afraid to go against the grain or split the mould, for fear of societal retribution.

So really, I think Trent has been “Challenging the Way You Think” all along; in creating an environment where innovation is the norm and critical discussion is invited at every opportunity. We are not a bathtub for hammerhead sharks, but utopian aquarium of diverse wildlife.



## UNLEASH THE POTENTIAL TRENT UNIVERSITY'S \$50 MILLION CAMPAIGN

### Our Honorary Campaign Chairs



“I am optimistic about the future because I believe we are in the early days of a new civilization — one that is enabled by a communications revolution and forged by young people around the world.”

**Don Tapscott '66**

Trent University Chancellor and one of the world’s top management thinkers



“Trent introduced me to exciting worlds of possibility. Anything can happen when you’re given the chance to explore the infinite potential that exists in all of us.”

**Stephen Stohn '66**, artist, entertainment entrepreneur and lawyer



“Being creative and innovative — that’s what it’s all about. That’s how we enrich our lives and come to a richer understanding of who we are, where we are going, and what we can accomplish together.”

**Linwood Barclay '73**, novelist, humourist, columnist





# OUR PROMISE

## Our vision

Trent University has always been a very special place. From the beginning, 50 years ago, it was designed to be a university like no other – a highly interactive, cutting-edge learning environment that prepares students to be creative, think critically, understand diverse perspectives and act with a strong moral compass.

Trent remains true to this vision. Students work closely with faculty in smaller classes where they are encouraged to articulate their ideas, debate with their professors, and seek different viewpoints. Trent encourages independent, critical thinking and intellectual risk-taking, attracting aware, passionate and inspiring students and faculty committed to creating a better world.

This learning environment means Trent is unique. The colleges offer leadership opportunities, close community connections give students the chance to explore societal issues through hands-on projects, and students have unparalleled opportunities to participate directly in research and work side-by-side with world class researchers.

Trent University is reinvesting in this outstanding legacy through the \$50 Million Campaign – our most ambitious philanthropic campaign to date. We are excited to announce that we are entering the final phase of the campaign and are celebrating with two generous gifts.

**Stephen Stohn '66**, artist, entertainment entrepreneur and lawyer, is giving \$1 million to the new Student Centre, which will provide students with dynamic, collaborative space. And **David and Joan Moore**, longtime members of the Trent 'family' are giving \$1 million towards the renewal of the Bata Library.

The goal of the **\$50 Million Campaign** is to unleash the potential of our students. Along with the new Student Centre and the reinvigoration of the Bata Library, we will equip students to be social innovators and entrepreneurs through our new Centre for Entrepreneurship and Social Innovation, support research on pressing issues such as water quality, food sustainability, ecosystems, and Indigenous health, offer new scholarships and travel funds to deserving students, renew spaces in the Colleges, and invest in our architecturally significant campus for future generations.

Fifty years ago, Trent made a promise to be a vibrant institution of learning, discovery and action. It is only with the support of Trent alumni, our community and others who believe in our vision that we are able to keep that promise, now and into the future.

OPENING  
SEPTEMBER  
2017

\$1 MILLION DONATION TOWARDS

# ENRICHING STUDENT LIFE



\$1 MILLION DONATION TOWARDS

# A LIBRARY FOR THE FUTURE

Trent was a transformative experience for **Stephen Stohn '66**. He credits his time here for his enormously successful career as an artist, and entertainment entrepreneur and lawyer.

Stephen believes in the potential of today's students to forge a new world. He is giving \$1 million towards construction of the new Student Centre, scheduled to open in September 2017 on the West Bank of the Symons Campus between the Bata Library and the Athletics Centre. Stephen wants future generations of students to have new opportunities to explore, connect and engage.

Trent students are the driving force behind the new building, providing \$10.5 million of the \$15 million project through a student levy.

The rest will largely come from the *Student Centre Challenge*, which calls on staff, faculty, alumni and others to invest in this opportunity to create an intellectual and social hub in the spirit of Trent's tradition of empowering our students.

The new Student Centre will be a lively and social space. Some of the features include:

- Bookable meeting spaces for Trent's 50 clubs and 36 groups, where students can do everything from promote social justice to upgrade their language skills
- Space for the new Centre for Entrepreneurship & Social Innovation, which will provide knowledge, tools, experiences and supports students need to become successful innovators, entrepreneurs and change agents

- Space for hosting conferences and public meetings, fostering even stronger community engagement

**"It is an honour to be able to contribute to an institution that reflects those elements of the Trent experience which have meant so much to my life, and could mean so much to the lives of Trent students in the future."** – Stephen Stohn '66



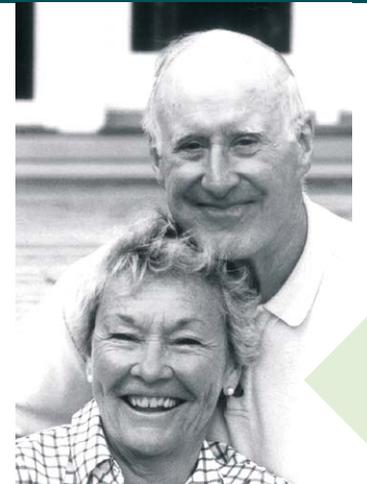
When **David Moore** toured the Bata Library he thought about the rocketing pace of change, new information technologies, digital resources, and how the library can serve future generations of students.

**David and his wife Joan** are giving \$1 million to the renewal of the library because the project appeals to their interest in creating inspirational spaces to support student learning.

"What really got me excited was looking at the library differently and seeing its potential," says David. "The library of the future will be less of a space to read and be silent, and more of a place for innovation, inspiration and collaboration."

David's enthusiasm for Trent began over 30 years ago, when he joined the Board of Governors in 1982. He chaired our *For Tomorrow* fundraising campaign in 1989, and in 2011, he and his wife Joan donated \$200,000 towards the construction of the Athletics Centre.

Building on approval of a new Strategic Plan for the Bata Library, the next step in the multi-million dollar project is a Space Renewal Plan. The plan will transform the library into a modern learning hub, with quiet, individual study pods but also with project rooms for collaborative work, a discovery centre for learning and research, technology hubs to explore digital collections, and with dedicated space for graduate students and faculty. Imagine edit suites,



touch tables, cutting edge gaming computers, 3-D printers and other innovative technologies to stimulate research and learning.

**The potential is limitless.**



## Our Campaign Chair

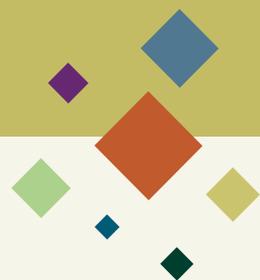
Ken Hartwick '81, is the chair of this final phase of our **\$50 Million Campaign**. He describes Trent as a place that cares about the individual student. That struck home when his daughter Brooke transferred here in 2012 because she was unhappy at a larger university.

"From the very first interaction, it was remarkable," he says. "On her first day, her professor introduced himself. The next day, he called her by her name. What I see is the same spirit I experienced 30 years ago."

Today, Ken asks, "What can I do to ensure that future students enjoy the best of Trent?"

The **\$50 Million Campaign** is fundamentally about our students, enriching their learning environment and unleashing the potential of the next generation to make this a better world. It's an investment in our shared future.

**Unleashing the potential. That's what it's all about.**



"A lot of opportunities outside of the classroom, like an undergraduate research internship one summer, allowed me to gain real experience in the lab. Trent's Study Abroad program in Ghana was, honestly, life changing. I learned so many things about myself, development and the environment. It was so much more than a classroom experience. After school, my dream job is to work at the UN."

**Irene Brueckener-Irmin '09**, B.Sc.  
Honours Environmental Chemistry



"What could compel me, originally a Business Marketing Major, to devote a significant amount of time to learning more about heritage preservation and Ron Thom? It had little to do with grades, classes, or even academic discipline. It is a prime example of how at Trent an intellectual passion can take hold of an individual."

**Jenna Pilgrim**, Business Administration student



"I consistently hear students bringing in concepts learned in class, with cultural knowledge and personal experience and braiding these notions into powerful, moving statements that call for change from their peers. Trent provides a space for this challenging thought to flourish, take form and create change on campus that can be carried forth with students into the world. We must decide now what the future of Trent will look like, and what steps can be taken to ensure that this exceptional thinking space be preserved for the generations to come that will face even further complex challenges we are trying to decipher now."

**Anastasia Koschenko**, Environmental & Resource Sciences/Business Administration student



**UNLEASH THE POTENTIAL TODAY**

Web: [trentu.ca/give](http://trentu.ca/give)  
Phone: 705-748-1601  
Email: [advancement@trentu.ca](mailto:advancement@trentu.ca)

## Building Trent:

### Three alumni newly appointed to Trent's Board of Governors

#### DR. ARMAND LA BARGE '95

For **Dr. Armand La Barge**, leadership is closely tied to communication—and the ability to make lasting relationships from disparate points of view. Much of this philosophy stemmed from his experiences policing in an area that saw rapid cultural change within a relatively short period of time.

Eventually becoming chief of York Regional Police, La Barge learned early in his career that leadership was a matter of both teaching and understanding.

"I started policing in a community that, in 1973, was uniquely different than the community I retired from in 2010," he explains. "And it was about embracing that change—finding ways to partner with communities within our community that traditionally didn't have a good relationship with police services and police in general."

Working in area that saw a rapid growth in new Canadian populations,

he often found himself communicating with individuals or groups that had a natural mistrust of law enforcement.

"For a lot of people who immigrated to the area, their understanding of the role of police was radically different than that of other Canadians. The police, as they knew them, weren't always there to help or to protect—in a lot of cases, the police were merely extensions of a military or government denying them of their civil liberties and rights."

His role, and the role of his fellow officers, was to find a way of easing tension and natural suspicion. As he grew in the ranks, this responsibility became more and more important.

"The challenge for me was figuring out how, as a police leader, to establish contact with the various communities—and how to establish partnerships with them. In the end, I think we were quite successful in doing so. A lot of the time it was a case of reaching out to them and helping

them to understand that policing in Canada was different from policing in wherever they may have come from."

Which was not always an easy task. "Sometimes leadership consists of not being afraid to confront issues that have been simmering for a long time—but confronting them from a perspective of engaging people and discussing them in an open and respectful manner. And engaging them from a perspective of finding solutions. Working together to find ways around the impasses that exist within society."

Dr. LaBarge was appointed chief of police in 2002, a position a position he held until his retirement in December 2010. During that time, Dr. La Barge served as the president of the Ontario Association of Chiefs of Police, and was a member of the First Nations Chiefs of Police Association.

As a person passionate about building community, Dr. La Barge has also been a dedicated volunteer for numerous organizations. He was vice-chair of the St. John Council for Ontario, and a past member of the Canadian Community Living Foundation, and the Herbert H. Carnegie Future Aces Foundation. He has served as chair of the Uxbridge Public Library Board, chair of St. John Ambulance York Region, and was a charter member of the Rotary Club of Uxbridge. He was the chair of Special Olympics Ontario and is a member of the Special Olympics Hall of Fame. Dr. La Barge currently serves as the chairman of the St. John Council for Ontario, the co-chair of the Association of Progressive Muslims of Canada Advisory Board, and a member of the Universal Peace Federation.

*Continued on the next page.*



Armand La Barge with Professor John Wadland

# Volunteer!

When it comes to developing leadership skills, volunteering exposes you to opportunities and individuals you might not ordinarily meet. It opens doors.

*Continued on the previous page.*

And then there is his involvement with post-secondary institutions. With a B.A. (Hons) degree and a Multicultural Studies Certificate from York University, an Honorary Bachelor of Applied Studies degree from Seneca College, an M.A. in Canadian and Native Studies from Trent University, and an Honorary LL.D. from the University of Guelph, he has been a part of several college/university communities. He found a leadership role in all of them. Dr. La Barge was a member of the York University Board of Governors and a member of the Governance and Human Resources and Marketing, Communications and Community Affairs Committees. He is president of the Seneca College Alumni Council. This past July, he began a three-year term on the Trent University Board.

All of this speaks to a second tenet of this philosophy toward leadership.

"Volunteer!" he urges. "When it comes to developing leadership skills, my best advice is always to volunteer. Volunteering exposes you to opportunities and individuals you might not ordinarily meet within a specific professional or work sector. It opens doors."

And Dr. La Barge speaks from experience. His volunteerism has led to numerous prestigious awards, including the 2012 Black Business Professional Association Harry Jerome Award for Diversity, the Wilf Wilkinson Rotary Peace Award, the YMCA Peace Medallion, the Police Exemplary Services Medal and First Bar, and the Queen's Golden and Diamond Jubilee Medals. He was invested as an Officer of the Order of Police Merit and an Officer in the Most Venerable Order of the Hospital of St. John of Jerusalem.



**GARRY CUBITT '67**

As Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) for the Regional Municipality of Durham, a member of the Trent Board of Governors, the founding chair of the Board of Governors of UOIT, and a Queen Elizabeth Diamond Jubilee medal recipient, **Garry Cubitt** has carved out a position as a leader in his community and beyond. Interestingly, despite the impact he has on huge communities of people, he originally found a leadership role on a more immediate one-on-one level as social worker.

"My desire was to work in the community and help facilitate positive outcomes for people. Very early on, I learned how listening could be such a positive tool in helping people bring about personal change."

Durham Region, where Cubitt serves as CAO, has a historical commitment to mental health. Since the 1970s, when he first started looking into mental health concerns as a social worker, he has understood that the complexity of these issues represents a constant challenge. Under Cubitt's leadership the region has introduced some of the best programs in the country.

In addition to strong programs in General Welfare, Adult, Children and Family Services, Durham also offers programs such as Adult Protective Services (which offers social workers for adults with developmental disabilities), Behaviour Management, and an Employee Assistance Program. The latter—a part of the Family Services department—is the only program in Canada to be accredited by Excellence Canada, a particular point of pride for Garry. "This speaks to the high level of professionalism, quality, and passion for service that my team possesses," he explains. His team's motto for service development and delivery is "a hand up, not a hand out."

As his career switched to being more administrative in nature, his leadership role has evolved into one that has impact on greater numbers of people. His philosophy through all of this has remained remarkably consistent.

"We can all be leaders," he says. "No matter our roles or positions. When people bring their best to the table, they end up going beyond what they thought they were capable of. When we embrace each other as colleagues and try our best to facilitate new ways of thinking, the sky is the limit."

Looking at the Trent community, he sees unlimited opportunity for people to find leadership roles.

"You look at the exceptional faculty, our passionate staff, and the energy of our student body and there is so much to offer. It is a matter of people bringing their gifts to the fore. This is particularly true for alumni. They have passion, care and concern for the university, and often quite a bit of experience to offer."

## There are now 16 alumni on the Board of Governors.

This is the first time in history this has been the case.

### STEVE KYLIE '72

**Stephen Kylie** finds inspiration in community. In particular, the community that helped raise him—and the community he chose to return to after completing law school and beginning a career in Toronto and Ottawa.

"As a lawyer, there are many places to set up shop," he notes. "But Peterborough was the place where I wanted to raise a family."

The big cities' loss was definitely Peterborough's gain, as Kylie has become an integral part of many initiatives that have made the area a better—and more humane—place to live.

He's chair of the Peterborough Poverty Reduction Network, a member of the finance committee of St. Alphonsus' Church, president of the Roman Catholic Peterborough Diocese Good Shepherd Foundation, co-chair of the Rotary Club Victoria Day Fireworks and Family Night, and vice-president of the Peterborough Federal Liberal Association.

But that only scratches the surface. Previous stints include: director of the Rotary Club of Peterborough, United Way cabinet member, chair/Director of Kawartha Pine Ridge Lung Association, director of Ontario Lung Association, member of the Institutional Ethics Committee for St. Joseph's Health Centre and Marycrest Home for the Aged, member of Save the Market Hall Campaign, member of the Board of Directors of the Central East Local Health Integration Network, past chair and director of St. Joseph's Care Group, member of the Board of Directors for St. Joseph's Health Centre Peterborough, member of the

Fontbonne Society Board of Directors, and treasurer of the Catholic Health Association of Ontario.

In each of these roles, he's made it a point of championing the more vulnerable members of our society. If Stephen Kylie had his way, no one would fall through the cracks. Not that he'll accept praise for his leadership.

"There are so many people here who won't hesitate to help when asked," he says. "There is never a shortage of volunteers in Peterborough."

While Kylie was always willing to offer time and energy to sports groups, it took a bit of a nudge to get him into a more robust community volunteer role.

"Stan McBride, a former Peterborough mayor, sheriff, and Citizen of the Year, told the Kawartha Pine Ridge Lung Association that if they were

looking for new directors, he knew a young lawyer that might be interested.

"And when Stan McBride recommends you," he smiles, "you step forward and do your best."

There was no looking back for Kylie. Within a short period, he took on more and more important positions within the local Lung Association and then the Ontario Lung Association.

Since then, he has been looked upon as a leader who guides through understanding and compassion.

While he is now comfortable in leadership roles, he knows that everyone has to start from somewhere. As a result, he sets very reachable

goals for anyone who wants to start volunteering.

"You don't have to be educated to make a difference. You don't have to be able to write cheques to actualize change. We can all be a part of the process. But don't be afraid to walk into an organization that you are interested in. Don't be afraid to put your hand up when people are asking for help. Every bit of effort is needed and the skill sets needed are far reaching. Besides, you will gain skills and knowledge through the volunteering effort."

Because for Kylie, being a good leader means understanding

both the causes and the organizations that you are working for. That and gaining the applicable skills.

"If you are on a board or committee, you need to learn as much about them as possible. It is a matrix of this knowledge and primary skill sets that is needed for leadership."

Lately, much of his energy has gone into

the Peterborough Poverty Reduction Network—and their major project to transform the historic Mount St. Joseph's convent into a hub for community housing and community development spaces. It is a project that much of Peterborough is rallying around.

Kylie has also just taken on a new role with Trent's Board of Governors. Initially appointed to two-year term in the alumni seat in 2013, he has more recently been appointed to an external seat.



## Don't be afraid to put your hand up when people are asking for help.

# COMMUNITY BUILDERS

## Trent Alumni Impacting Change



**JAMES KUPTANA '10**

Though he graduated just a few years ago, **James Kuptana '13** has already gone far—physically as much as professionally. Currently, Kuptana is working as the Aboriginal Liaison for ConocoPhillips, a role he assumed after completing an internship with the company's Canadian Arctic Business Unit in 2013. It's a job that keeps him moving between various locales, from the company's Canadian headquarters in Calgary—to field offices in Edmonton, Red Deer, and Eckville—and to various Aboriginal communities that are often much farther afield. Talking to Kuptana, you get the sense that he's alright with a somewhat nomadic lifestyle. Indeed, he seems to make himself at home wherever his experiences have taken him. What's more important to him is cultivating a sense of community, wherever he happens to be.

Though he grew up in Ottawa, Kuptana has longstanding ties to the Canadian North, as his mother was born on the Prince of Wales Strait in the Northwest Territories. He grew up in nearby Sachs Harbour (in what is now the Inuvialuit Settlement Region). Growing up, Kuptana visited often, spending time with an extensive family unit that included uncles and aunts, nieces and nephews, and many cousins. These were formative experiences for a young Inuit boy growing up in "the South," as he aptly

calls it. "My fondest memories," he says, "involve cleaning snow geese with my grandmother, and then smoking them in her smokehouse with drift wood that we'd collected ourselves. As we say in Sachs Harbour, 'Mamaqtut'—which means delicious!"

I asked Kuptana what it was like to grow up in Ottawa, a place that I assumed is as far removed from the North culturally, as it is physically. But as he tells me, the city has the largest population of Inuit outside of the Canadian Arctic, something that allowed his family to maintain a sense of connection—not only to the

**"My time at Trent wasn't just about learning, but growing physically, spiritually and emotionally."**

community around them, but to the North as well. "I grew up in Ottawa," Kuptana explains, "but I feel like Sachs Harbour is one of my homes away from home. I feel quite welcome there whenever I have a chance to visit."

The emphasis on community is a recurring theme in my conversation with him. And it just so happened to be a major part of his decision to move to Peterborough as well. "I actually visited the Trent campus prior to applying," he explains.

"It was during a spring break one year—in high school, actually. My dad suggested we make use of the time, so we visited several campuses in Ontario. It might sound a little cheesy, but when we arrived at Trent, it was love at first sight. And after chatting with several professors in the Environmental and Indigenous Studies programs, I became interested in applying there because I felt a really strong sense of community."

Though he did well at Trent, graduating with a B.A. in Indigenous

Environmental Studies, it seems that Kuptana's experience here was as much about developing his character as it was about attaining a degree.

"My time at Trent wasn't just about my experience in the classroom; it was also about growing those aspects of my personal character—the physical, the spiritual, and the emotional."

His time at Trent also allowed him to return to the north doing valuable work.

"After class one day I asked my professor, Dr. Chris Furgal, for extra help. He asked what I was doing for the summer, and before I knew it I was working in my home community and two other communities in the Inuvialuit Settlement Region on a traditional knowledge study of the Beaufort Sea ice."

The experience armed him with the confidence and skills to reach out to other communities.

"Since then I have traveled around the world advocating for Inuit rights and the inclusion of traditional knowledge in policy, legislation and curriculum. The opportunities that have arisen from post-secondary education are far and wide."

Kuptana credits several Trent professors—John Wadland, Shirley Williams, Chris Furgal, and Dan Longboat, in particular—with fostering a classroom environment in which such growth could take place.

Speaking of Dr. Wadland, Kuptana praised the way he "encouraged me, in smaller seminar groups, to share my perspective ... he really helped to nurture my development and growth, and helped me to grow out of my introverted shell a little bit. Or at least grow into a larger one," he says, with a laugh.

**BY RYAN PERKS '08**

### DR. YUWA HEDRICK-WONG '74

An economist with experience in over 30 countries, ranging across three continents, **Dr. Yuwa Hedrick-Wong '74** has been at the centre of global development efforts for over 25 years. Since 2001, he has been with MasterCard, where for the past six years he has served as Global Chief Economist. He is also Chair of the Academic Advisory Council at the MasterCard Center for Inclusive Growth, a position—and an organization—that is much more progressive than what many people might assume for a financial organization.

"A major challenge for economists and advocates over the past half century has been to find ways to drive inclusive growth," he says. "We aim to ensure that a country's economic growth drives shared prosperity — that it is not just limited to a single class or group of individuals."



The Centre for Inclusive Growth works to expand the middle class—in both developing and developed nations—in order for a better sharing of the benefits of economic development. In this situation, there is large-scale betterment—a boost to the common good—and growth for MasterCard's business as well: a win-win process.

Hedrick-Wong stresses the importance of taking this a step further.

"We work with governments to create a deeper understanding of the importance of inclusive growth—and of equity," he explains. "The impact of this can lead to being a win-win-win situation."

It's a fast paced, hectic line of work, one that often finds Dr. Hedrick-Wong traveling to two or three different countries in about as many days. "At the drop of a hat I fly halfway across the world," he explains. "I'm met at the airport by someone whose job it is to brief me on hotel information, and on what my day will entail" he says, as if it's the most natural thing in the world. "Within an hour, I could be in front of government officials or senior executives to talk about various issues in the global economy."

As he himself readily admits, "these are not people that would put up with a turgid, jargon-filled presentation. It's an audience that, if you don't get their attention in the first five minutes, you're toast." It can be physically demanding as well, he explains, "especially as you grow older. But intellectually it's very stimulating—that's why I continue to do it. I'm constantly taxed to the maximum in trying to understand the different social, political, and economic dynamics that are at work across the world."

Given the level of stress he's used to facing on a daily basis, and the seeming ease with which he meets the many challenges of his work, you'd be forgiven for assuming that Dr. Hedrick-Wong sailed effortlessly through his undergraduate years. And yet, when I recently caught up with him by telephone at his home on Salt Spring Island, off the coast of British

Columbia, he admitted that when he first came to Trent in 1971, he was not particularly serious. "To be honest," he explains, "I was a very indifferent student when I came to Trent. Basically, I didn't know what I wanted."

And so—like many undergrads—he took a variety of subjects: from history and philosophy, to political science and, of course, economics.

But it wasn't any specific discipline, so much as the "unique intellectual environment" he encountered at Trent that

Dr. Hedrick-Wong credits with setting him on his future course. He recalls one philosophy seminar in particular, with the late Dr. Alan Orenstein, for the way it gave rise to a sort of "learning by symbiosis." It was in groups like these that "I learned, implicitly, how to learn... that is the greatest gift that Trent gave me."

It's no surprise, then, that Dr. Hedrick-Wong is often praised for his ability to grapple with complex economic issues, and present them to a variety of audiences with clarity as well as authority. I was curious what role his time at Trent had in the development of these skills. "I would absolutely connect what I do today with my experience at Trent," he says.

"Just imagine, you're sitting there, with a professor and several fellow students, and you cannot communicate—you're in big trouble. That's another gift that Trent gave me: not only did I learn to express myself, but I was constantly challenged in the process by people demanding, 'what exactly are you saying? Explain yourself!' ... This was a major factor in terms of learning to do what I do today."

**BY RYAN PERKS '08**

**"Trent University taught me how to learn."**

**DIANE THERRIEN '10**

Diane Therrien's move from political activist to politician was one that took even her by surprise. The recent M.A. graduate in Canadian Studies and Indigenous Studies—and current Peterborough City Councillor—had long been politically active, but not in a way that was conducive to public office.

"I spent a long time being frustrated by governments at all levels," she explains. "And, even then, when it came to really following politics, the municipal branch was one I probably spent the least amount of energy on."

Instead she was a passionate advocate, most recently working with the Peterborough Poverty Reduction Network.

All of this changed when a major political issue in Peterborough came to a head.

"When the Parkway debates started heating up, a lot of people who weren't used to being engaged in local politics became a lot more tuned in. I began attending council meetings and really following the process. I mean, I had never been to a council meeting."

And then a strange thing happened.

"Even when the Parkway debate ended, I continued to attend council meetings," she recalls. "Even if they were only discussing one or two issues and they didn't have any real weight on my life."

But Therrien also noticed a fairly large discrepancy.

"I remember watching the conversations and thinking that there were so many voices that weren't at that table—but should be. And that there had to be something more that Peterborough could offer from their elected representatives...I'm not trying to disparage anyone, but it is



not representative. There are people there that don't understand the realities of being precariously employed or growing up in the fiscal environment that we are experiencing right now."

And then she came to a realization.

"I was at a point of my life where I recognized 'I could do this.'"

She also recognized that there was no reason for her not to run for office—despite the fact that she didn't fit the traditional demographic mold of Peterborough City Hall. Like many municipal councils, it skewed male and it skewed older. She nonetheless succeeded in gaining a seat.

"It's still a bit of an old boys club," Therrien notes—she is joined by only one other

female councillor. Senior staff at City Hall is also predominantly male. "No one makes a big deal about it. And no one is disparaging about it."

There is one exception to that statement, however.

"They sometimes call me 'girl!' she laughs. "Which I guess is something that 60-65 year old dudes do."

Bridging the gap can be hard.

"I've talked about things that other councillors don't agree with—or in some cases don't really understand. But then I get phone calls or emails from constituents saying 'thank you for bringing that up!'"

There is a certain amount of risk-taking in being a somewhat unique voice on council, but Therrien feels it is an important one.

"So many young people are frustrated with the political system at all levels—a lot of it has to do with the fact that so few politicians are willing to take risks, instead, falling into party line."

For her, the status quo isn't good enough. Something else needs to be brought to the table.

As a young female council member—she was 28 when she was elected last year—Therrien has become a political role model. Her advice for harnessing political passion and conviction?

"Not everyone is cut out to be a candidate—not a lot of people want to be a candidate... But if you know somebody that would be good at it—or even know of someone who would be good at it, try to help them and get behind them. If you have good organizational skills or good social media or web design skills, offer to be their tech or social media planner. Go with what your skills are. I'm an extrovert—my parents will tell you all kinds of stories about that side of me

—and that comes in handy when you are out canvassing and knocking on doors for hours.

If you're not, then chances are there are a whole bunch of other skills you can bring instead."

Not that politics is the only way to make a difference in your community.

"Volunteer," Therrien urges. "Find organizations that you think are doing good things and offer your services. But find something that interests you and drives you."

After all, two years ago, Diane Therrien wouldn't have even considered being a politician.

Find organizations that you think are doing good things and offer your services.

**DR. SURESH NARINE '91**

It's hardly surprising that Dr. Suresh Narine was named one of Canada's Top 40 leaders under the age of 40 in 2011. After graduating from Trent with a M.Sc. in Chemical Physics, Dr. Narine has been instrumental in expanding the scope of biomaterials research. At the same time, he's been inspiring a whole new generation of students to do the same.

Internationally recognized as a pioneer researcher, Dr. Narine began his teaching career at the University of Alberta where he was appointed professor and AVAC Research Chair at the young age of 27. While at the University of Alberta, he was the founding director of the Alberta Lipid Utilization Research Program and was twice named Professor of the Year.

Returning to Trent in 2009 as professor of Physics, Astronomy and Chemistry, Dr. Narine quickly established himself as a leader. In just fourteen months he built the Trent Centre for Biomaterials Research (TCBR), a 7,000 sq. ft., state-of-the-art, research and technology development facility that focuses on the creation of petro-chemical replacements and biomaterials from lipids. Under Dr. Narine's directorship the TCBR has developed into a world-class facility that is collaborating with universities in other countries.

Research agreements have been arranged with the Mahatma Gandhi University in Kerala, India, The Hebrew University in Jerusalem, Israel, University of the West Indies in Cave Hill, Barbadoes, and the Universidade Estadual Paulista in Botucatu, Brazil. These relationships allow for cross-fertilization among undergraduate and graduate students in multi-country, multi-disciplinary research projects supported by both industrial partners and various levels of government

in the respective countries. It is expected that these partnerships will help drive the advancement of green technologies as well as lead to the development of internationally trained highly qualified personnel.

The TCBR reflects Dr. Narine's commitment to making the world a better place and to taking a holistic approach to solving problems. "Our work is focused on attempts to remake many of the world's materials in a sustainable, toxin-free, environmentally-friendly, but economically-viable, manner," he says. "I think without this change, our irresponsible consumption of harmful materials poses a serious threat to our way of life and our world."



A native of Guyana, Dr. Narine first came to Trent as an undergraduate student in the Trent International Program. He was attracted to Trent's beautiful setting, its emphasis on cross-disciplinary learning and its world-class faculty.

"I felt that it would be a place where I could develop my somewhat radical ideas, in an environment which would encourage deviation from the larger schools' factory-focused approach to learning."

As a student, Dr. Narine says Trent's unique approach to learning taught him much more than textbook

facts. "I learned to think for myself, to challenge the status quo, and I learned that solutions often reside in unconventional partnerships. Without this approach, many of the successes I have counted in my life would not have been possible."

**"Without change, our irresponsible consumption of harmful materials poses a serious threat to our way of life and our world."**

Now an award-winning teacher, Dr. Narine is instilling the same approach to learning in his students. "I am back at Trent because I believe that propagating this culture is vitally important to a whole new generation of thinkers and doers."

Dr. Narine also points out that Trent's small size, world-class facilities and faculty provide students with opportunities beyond the classroom that don't exist at larger institutions. "Trent students have the opportunity, at an early stage in their academic careers, to be involved in projects of potentially significant impact on the environment and on commercialization of new business ideas, which could additionally lead to authorship, patents or other career opportunities," says Dr. Narine.

This past February, Dr. Narine was named laureate for the Anthony N Sabga Caribbean Awards for Excellence in the Science and Technology category. The honour is in recognition of his work in Guyana and Canada creating the rare bridge between scientific research and commercial application.

In addition to his roles at Trent and in Guyana, Dr. Narine is a member of the Canadian Association of Physicists, the American Physical Society, the International Federation of Food Technologists, and the American Oil Chemists Society.



# A JAMAICAN'S TRIBUTE TO JIM, JACK & JOHN

BY MARIE WALFORD-PALMER '88



John with youth group at Riverton City

In the 1980s, Canadian Jesuit Fr. James "Jim" Webb, took a team consisting of another priest Brian Massie, religious sisters Mary Power, Rita Lavoie and Mary Ryan, and Jesuit novice Phil Nazar, to work in Jamaica. Their duties concentrated mainly in the inner-city communities of South St. Andrew and a rural parish, St. Mary.

Fr. Webb worked assiduously and was an ardent social justice advocate who passionately developed activities to elevate the marginalized. These included:

- creating banana and marmalade cooperatives;
- providing renovated homes to single mothers and constructing institutions which were predominantly Canadian-funded;
- starting an election-watch committee, Citizens' Action for Free and Fair Elections (CAFFE), which invited the Jimmy Carter Centre to observe elections in the '90s; and
- delivering thought-provoking sermons on how to "live the gospels" for Jamaica's Amnesty International chapter. These sermons challenged members of parliament to be integrally involved in their constituents' lives instead of only when elections were drawing near.

Fr. Webb collaborated with Jack Matthews to secure Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) scholarships for Jamaicans to attend Trent. I was the third recipient, preceded by **Joy Forrester-McLeod '85** and **Devon Leckie '85**. I had the privilege of meeting Jack on two occasions—first at our orientation camp in September 1988, and then at a pre-Christmas Trent International Student Association (TISA) meeting that same year. He was warm-

spirited, engaging and appeared to have my best interests at heart. He enquired about Fr. Webb while encouraging me to keep warm! Unfortunately for me, he retired from the university when I enrolled.

During my first week at Trent, student **Michael Ganley '87** introduced me to his parents, John was the voluntary Executive Director of then CIDA-funded Jamaica Self-Help (JSH), which gave donations to Jamaican organizations. It was a very traumatic week, not only due to culture shock but also because Jamaica was hit on September 12, 1988 by devastating hurricane Gilbert. I had arrived in Canada on the 9th!

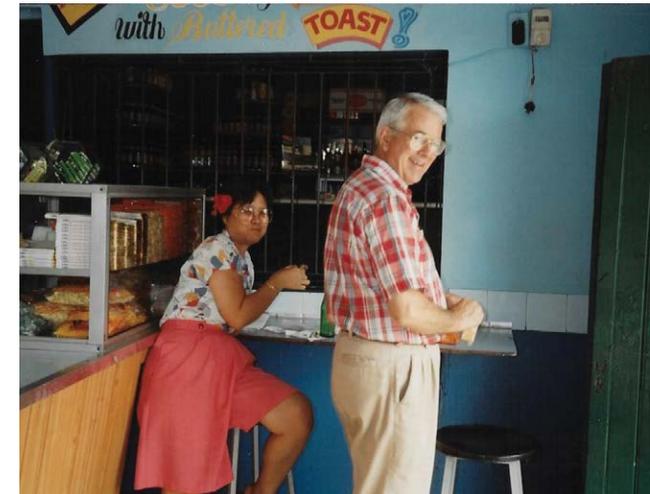
Reports stated that three-quarters of Jamaica was flooded. Images of inundated areas, makeshift boats passing tree-tops and people crying for missing relatives was all over the television. I feared the worst for my family. In Gilbert's aftermath, Jamaica's resilience gained support from abroad, including JSH.

John, the consummate teacher, taught in Jamaica, and always grasped opportunities to educate me. Through his influence, I received a well-needed blanket and a JSH-sponsored trip home in summer '89. Family-man John possessed a big heart; hosting monthly meetings, planning aid for Jamaicans, fund-raising, plus other responsibilities. He even worked on projects with Fr. Webb.

In 1992, while attending the University of the West Indies, Fr. Webb asked me to teach at my alma mater, St. Peter Claver Primary. I replied, "Just for one year" ...it's 23 years later! After encountering students first-hand from



John and Rosemary Ganley with Fabian Brown



John Ganley and Maydene Chuck in Jamaica

extremely poor backgrounds, I became cognizant of the fact that I had to answer the call and say "Yes" to them and, consequently, to Jamaica.

My years at Trent provided a platform for my future development as an educational administrator, where my determination to master adverse situations was honed. Overcoming initial apprehensions upon my arrival in Canada was made easier by the many friends I made there. Decades later, I'm an appreciative Trent graduate.

These giants have now been called to glory; Jack in 2008, Jim in 2012, and John in 2013 though their attempts to improve this global village continue through JSH.

Marisa Kaczmarczyk and her team still invite Peterborough youngsters to experience Jamaica with them. I express my sincerest gratitude to JSH and all Trent alumni who have assisted Jamaica with their time, talents and treasures. May we be aware of the lives we impact and never avoid the opportunities to help. If we are not effectively impacting the lives we touch, being blessings, as Jim, Jack and John, then Trent's motto, from 1 Cor. 13:12, will be a farce for us.

This article is long overdue. I thank these individuals for the part they played in my development, both at Trent and beyond. From trans-Atlantic to Jamaica, these stalwarts abandoned their comfort zones to positively change others' lives. Not through sympathy but with love and empathy, not through haughtiness but with humility and sincerity, not through complicated efforts but with simplicity, not through being imitative but through being authentic.

Their distinguished lives of service answered Cain's question, "Am I my brother's keeper?" They opted to serve rather than be served. Determined to make a difference in the lives they encountered. Their legacies and spirits will live on, and may their families continue being grateful for these men's lives and may their souls rest in peace.

*One Love.*

## 43rd Annual Trent Temagami Colloquium – The Best Year Ever!

The 43rd annual trip to Temagami for Trent students, faculty, and alumni wrapped up this past September.

The event was a great success, in no small part because of a tremendously generous \$30,000 donation to support student participation and keep student costs affordable. The anonymous donor made the donation in honour of Professor Emeritus Bruce Hodgins and his wife Carol.

Bruce and Carol began leading canoe trips in 1957 for Camp Wanapitei on Lake Temagami. Bruce became a faculty member in the History Department in 1966 and was part of the development of Canadian Studies at Trent. Bruce and Carol have co-hosted the annual trip to Temagami for 43 years, helping students, faculty and alumni to begin to share in their love of nature and the land.

"There are few people I have met who bring more energy and enthusiasm for inspiring young people to connect positively with the land, and with each other, than Bruce and Carol Hodgins," said Prof. Stephen Hill the chair of the Colloquium organizing committee.

\$30,000  
anonymous  
donation!

The colloquium, celebrating interdisciplinary and experiential learning, is sponsored by a number of academic departments at Trent and seeks to examine our understanding of the land, with a focus on the study of Canadian, environmental, and Indigenous issues. All students are invited.

The 60 participants in the fall 2015 colloquium had the chance to interact with **Jeremy Ward '89**, the curator of the Canadian Canoe Museum; filmmakers Alex Williams and Sara Roque; environmental educator **Glen Caradus '88**; Joe Katt, Second Chief of the Temagami First Nations; **Dan Longboat '70** and **James Wilkes '07** of the Indigenous Environmental Studies Program; and Professors **Peter Andrée '88** of Carleton and David Welch from University of Ottawa.

Planning for the 44th Colloquium is already underway. All are invited!



# SUNSHINE SKETCHES

**Brent Niganobe '05**, and Giselle Niganobe announce the birth of a daughter. Giizhgaate Hazel Niganobe was born on April 25, 2015.



**Julia (Kennelly) Watson '05**, and Adam Watson announce the birth of a son. Cole Michael Watson was born on March 31, 2015, weighing 7 lbs 8 oz and was 19.5 inches long.



**Alyson (Rudkin) Truax '06** and Mitch Truax announce the birth of a son. Lucas "Luke" James was born on February 26, 2015, at 2:41 a.m., weighing 6 lbs 14 oz.



## STRIKING A FAMILIAL CHORD: New Bachelor of Social Work Hits Close to Home

BY JENNA PILGRIM

For **Tracy Condon '96**, the choice to attend Trent was an easy one. Coming from a Trent family, she knew from a young age that Trent was where she would begin her post-secondary career. Ms. Condon is the daughter of **Bob Condon '69**, alumnus and 30-year employee of the Trent Physical Resources Department and the Athletics Centre at Trent; and granddaughter of Bernie Blodgett, one of the original housekeepers at

very passionate about social justice issues, and you can't help but feel enthusiastic about being an advocate for the greater good as well."

Now a certified social worker in Peterborough, Condon specializes in advocacy for pregnant women at the Partners in Pregnancy Clinic on Simcoe Street. In her spare time, she is giving back to her Trent Community by sitting on the Peterborough Field Advisory Committee for Trent's new Bachelor of Social Work (B.S.W.) program. The Field Advisory Committees (both in Peterborough and Durham) consult with the Department of Social Work to review curriculum, mission and value statements, stimulate innovation, advise on local community needs, and recruit student placement sites for social work students.

The new B.S.W. program has an unlimited enrollment in the first two years. In addition to four compulsory Social Work courses, students are encouraged to study related courses in Psychology, Sociology, Anthropology, Political Studies, Indigenous Studies, and Gender & Women's Studies; all of which can be applied to the completion of their B.S.W. degree. Upon completion of the first two years in the B.S.W. program, students must then compete for limited seats (25 on each campus) for their third and fourth professional years. Students successfully admitted into the two-year intensive professional program are required to complete two field placements that emphasize experiential learning. The professional years' curriculum includes innovative topics ranging from diversity, social policy, theory and practice, feminist trauma models, queer social work, anti-oppressive child welfare, and leadership.

The program boasts an impressive 700 hours of clinical field placement per student, which is no easy feat for department personnel and Director, Susan Hillock, to recruit and organize. However, Dr. Hillock states that the volume of support the Department has received regarding placements has been overwhelming.

"The community has been very receptive and excited about the new BSW program," Hillock states. The BSW program has secured student placement commitments from over 130 community organizations in both Peterborough and Durham, and that number will continue to grow between this year and next when students enter the professional stages of the program.

Coupled with the new program is a new award, the Social Work Prize, which will be awarded to a graduating B.S.W. student who demonstrates a passion for social justice paired with high academic achievement. The first class of Social Work students are set to enter the professional portion of the program in September 2016 and graduate in the spring of 2018.

For more information, please visit: [trentu.ca/socialwork](http://trentu.ca/socialwork).



Students proudly sporting department sweatshirts.



Our students at the September Peterborough PRIDE parade

Catharine Parr Traill College. When describing her grandmother, Condon said that "the students were [like] her second family, she was more a mother than a housekeeper." It's easy to see how family ties like these could lead Condon down the career path of social work and children's advocacy. As the saying goes, the apple really doesn't fall far from the tree.

Having studied a joint-major in Psychology and Sociology, Condon states that her unique degree structure gave her the competitive edge to go on to complete a Master's of Social Work at the University of Toronto. She became captivated by child advocacy issues, and credits Trent with igniting this flame. "Trent as a community is

## Art Punk

Television Rd is an alt-rock-something band with jazz and funk influences. Along with a playful and upbeat sound, the CBC described their debut album has having an underlying "creepy, menacing vibe."

They have just released their sophomore album, *Banshee Cypher*. Despite the fact that the band has a traditional rock line-up, they utilize eclectic instruments such as the melodica, maracas, tambourine, wood blocks, saxophone, and keyboard. Television Rd. plays a unique blend of genres while channeling a colourful punk energy.

All five members are Lady Eaton affiliates, with four members being current Trent students and lead singer **Sara Ostrowska '10** is a recent alumna.



## ALUMNI ACCOMPLISHMENTS & PURSUITS

**Tania Pattison '84**, has published *Critical Reading* (Pearson Canada, 2015), a textbook for ESL students in universities and colleges. Tania is a past curriculum coordinator of the Trent-ESL program. She now works as a freelance materials writer and editor with educational publishers around the world.

**Janette Platana '11**, has published *A Token of My Affliction*, a collection of 21 short stories, which is on the long list for the Frank M. O'Connor International Short Story Award, with Margaret Atwood's *Stone Mattress* and 88 other books by writers around the world. Janette resides in Peterborough, where she runs creative writing workshops and does community building through the arts.



## Social Media



Want to really tune in with your fellow alumni? Get timely news, information, and content by "liking" our Facebook page (Trent University Alumni Association) or following us on Twitter @TrentAlumni.

Also, be sure to check out our latest podcasts, where we feature in-depth interviews with some of our best and brightest alumni. Recent episodes include: singer/songwriter/playwright, **Ian Tamblin '67**; Canada's first VJ, former MuchMusic host, and #1 Billboard hit songwriter, **Christopher Ward '67**; political firebrand and Peterborough City Councillor, **Diane Therrien '10**. Find them at [trenttalks.podbean.com](http://trenttalks.podbean.com).

# Tariq Rafi '86

The world has lost a wonderful friend, teammate, father, husband, brother, brother-in-law and comrade. Trent alumnus and Trent Rugby alumni, **Tariq Rafi**, died on May 31, 2015 after persevering through two and a half years of cancer treatment, giving his family two and a half more years of unique memories and time together.



Tariq, a student from 1986 to 1990 was a key member of Trent Athletics, and by all accounts a natural athlete, with a particular intuition and passion for rugby. He was also actively engaged in the spirit of Trent in other ways. It was while he was a student don in Otonabee College that he first met his wife, **Leslie Kirke '83**, while she was the College Assistant. With his good friend **Brent MacFarlane '86**, he was co-manager of the Cat's Ass pub in Otonabee, and a staff member at the Commoner Pub.

Members of Trent Rugby and the greater Trent alumni community gathered for a celebration of Tariq's life in Toronto this past summer. **Phil Playfair '82** ran the AV portion of the celebration—Phil and his wife Jacqui Code are neighbours and good family friends. Many members of Trent Rugby—**Greg Alfred '87**, **Kevin Elder '85** and **Mark McLaughlin '85**, to name a few—were led in singing "Swing Low Sweet Chariot" (minus

any inappropriate rugby influenced gestures) by **Dave Van Wees '85**, who spoke with great spirit about his friendship with Tariq.

Mark McLaughlin also gave a touching and thoughtful speech recalling his friendship with Tariq throughout high school in Ottawa and then at Trent. **Kelly McBane '88** offered her version of the song "Smile," which brought the image of Tariq's own genuinely uplifting smile to the minds and hearts of everyone there.

The visitation was anything but solemn for the members of the Rugby team. Hailing from a particularly exciting era in Trent Rugby history, many of the team stayed in touch after graduation, raising their children together and living in similar cities. In true Trent Rugby style, many former teammates gathered at the local pub down the street from the funeral home to reminisce about old times. To hear McLaughlin tell it: "The one thing I believe nobody could quite escape was the thought that Tariq would come around the corner, take his place in the middle of the gathering and lead the gang into the next round of knee slapping, table pounding, hilarity." A sports team is a special bond, but Tariq made this team unique through his dedication to the team atmosphere and his passion for the sport of Rugby.

With the support of both the extended Kirke and Rafi families; especially Tariq's brother Saad and wife Sylvie, Leslie and their son Sullivan—who is 10 years old and the spitting image of his father—are now figuring out life without Tariq, as he would have been 48 this September 25. In the words of a close friend, "he is irreplaceable."

## CALENDAR OF UNIVERSITY EVENTS

**Wed. Oct. 14**, 7 p.m., The Venue Doug Stenton: The Archaeology of the 1845 Franklin Expedition—New Evidence and Questions

**Thurs. Oct. 15**, 7 p.m., Bagnani Hall, Through a Canadian Lens: The Current and Future Landscape of Television and Film, Featuring: **Stephen Stohn '66**, **Bill Corcoran '70**, **Bay Weyman '76**. Moderated by **Molly Blyth '01**.

**Tues. Oct. 20**, 7 p.m., Market Hall, David Morrison Lecture in International Development: Winnie Byanyima, Executive Director, Oxfam International

**Wed. Nov. 4**, 7 p.m., Bagnani Hall Thomas H.B. Symons Seminar Series, Cristen Watt, Assessing Canada Lynx Dispersal Across An Elevation Barrier and Tessa Nasca, Public Spaces Planning and Engagement with the Community.

**Tues. Nov. 10, 11, 12** (Location TBA) Ryle Lecture Series, Speaker Leo Groarke

**Sat. Nov. 21**, 3 p.m., Athletic Complex P.S.B. Wilson Lounge Dedication

**Tues. Nov. 24**, 7 p.m., Bagnani Hall, Traill College, Elaine Stavro Distinguished Visiting Scholar in Theory, Politics & Gender: Dr. Kimberly Hutchings, Gendered Rhetorics in the Justification of Violence and Non-Violence: Gandhi and Fanon

**Tues. Nov. 24**, Ideas That Change the World—The Big Picture (and other leadership concepts for the advancement of women), TIFF Condo Tower Theatre, 80 John Street, Toronto

**Wed. Dec. 2**, 7 p.m., Bagnani Hall, Traill College Thomas H.B. Symons Seminar Series: Meredith Purcell, Landscape Genomic Assessment of North American Moose (*Alces alces*). Chad Andres, The Technology of Consent: American Techno-military Fantasies in the 1980s.



## LOOKING BACK

In the early days of Trent Radio, there was no transmitter to get programming to air. Instead, shows were taped in the Language Lab of Bata Library and then physically brought down to CHEX Radio for a Sunday night showcase. In this archival photo, circa 1978, **Ben Henderson '76** and **Colin Stewart '76** are seen spinning tunes.

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