

focus

TO
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2004



trent

Your connection to news at
Canada's Outstanding Small University

a Galactic graduation



Top row, from left: Prof. Michael Peterman and Dr. Jean Murray Cole; happy graduates; PhD graduate José Luis Hernandez Stefanoni and son.

Bottom row from left: President Bonnie Patterson; convocation in progress; Dr. P.K. Page and Dr. Terence Dickinson; the procession forms up.

THE STARS WERE ALIGNED AT TRENT University's 37th convocation ceremonies, held on the library podium on May 27 and 28.

With Dr. Roberta Bondar, Trent's ninth chancellor presiding, degrees were conferred upon a record 1,285 undergraduate and graduate students. Among those were the first graduates from the School of Education and Professional Learning and the Trent-Fleming Nursing Program.

Dr. Bondar opened the first of three convocation ceremonies, taking credit for the wonderful weather – she noted that she had flown higher than most and had “seen the clouds from both sides now.” A day-and-a-half and more than a thousand handshakes later, she dismissed the final ceremony encouraging graduates to pick out a star to guide them.

“Pick out a star from the night sky that you can call your own because trust me, it will see you through decades of times when you need support and someone is not right there, but it's a cloudless night...Find it, look at it, and remember today and keep it in your heart – it is also the Trent star.”

At each of the ceremonies, President Bonnie Patterson welcomed parents, friends and family members and addressed the graduates.

“On a day like this, you look back on past accomplishments and achievements and look ahead to future directions and dreams. You have worked incredibly hard to get here,” she said. “Convocation is gloriously gratifying for everyone involved. For our graduates, of whom we are all so proud, it is the successful conclusion, and culmination, of several years of dedication and determination, and the formation of friendships that will last well into the future. The values and goals you established for yourself, will be well entrenched in your tomorrow.”

Degrees were conferred upon 1,251 undergraduate and 34 graduate students, and six undergraduate students received diplomas. Trent granted 32 master's degrees – 14 in the arts and 18 in the sciences – and two PhDs. Honours bachelor degrees were presented to 461

arts and 244 science graduates, and general bachelor degrees on 262 arts and 78 science students. One hundred and thirteen students received Bachelor of Education Degrees, 47 students received Bachelor of Business Administration Degrees and 48 students received Bachelor of Science in Nursing Degrees.

Honorary degrees were conferred upon six distinguished Canadians, recognizing their outstanding contributions to science and the arts, and to the realization of advances in social justice. On May 27 at the morning ceremony, a Doctor of Letters degree was conferred upon Dr. Don LePan, President, Chief Executive Officer, Chief Financial Officer, Secretary and Director of Broadview Press. Trent's Dr. Leonard Conolly, former president and professor in the Department of English, introduced Dr. LePan, noting his exceptional contributions to scholarly publishing in Canada. Thanks to the vision

and inspiration of Dr. LePan, Broadview Press has supported the work of young and emerging Canadian academics and has nurtured the growth of academic fields that previously lacked scholarly publishing.

The Honorable Rosalie Silberman Abella, a Justice of the Court of Appeal for Ontario, was presented with an honorary Doctor of Laws degree. Dr. Abella was recognized for her distinction in the field of jurisprudence and for her exceptional contributions to Canadian society as a champion of human rights, justice and equality. Dr. Abella was introduced by Dr. Julia Harrison, chair of Trent's Women's Studies department, who remarked that at the age of 29, she was appointed to the Ontario Family Court, making her Canada's youngest, and first Jewish woman, to be appointed to the Bench. The sole Commissioner and author of the 1984 federal Royal Commission on Equality in Employment, she

created the term and concept of “employment equity.”

In her address to convocation, Dr. Abella encouraged the graduates to listen, and be open to what they hear beyond the borders of their own lives.

“I want you to see and listen before you define, and not the other way around.”

Her words were also inspired by George and Ira Gershwin's *Of Thee I Sing*: “Go forward stars – shine, inspire, be worthy of this mighty nation and let us sing of thee. My final wish for all of you is that the dreams and visions you hold so exuberantly today, will all come true.”

Dr. Michael Peterman, of Trent's Department of English, introduced Dr. Jean Murray Cole, who received an honorary Doctor of Letters degree at the May 27 afternoon ceremony. Dr. Cole was recognized for her outstanding research and writing on the history of the Peterborough region and the

continued on page 2

taking baby steps toward graduation



Kaitlin Byrick and her uncle John Henry, an alumnus.

KAITLIN BYRICK WAS GRADUATING from sitting up to standing up about the time she attended her first Trent University convocation ceremony in 1981.

At six months old, she was there with her parents to celebrate her uncle's graduation from the Business Administration program. Twenty-three years later, Ms. Byrick's bonnet and booties had turned to a graduation gown as she crossed the podium to receive her Bachelor of Science degree in Biology and Environmental Science on May 27. Her uncle – alumnus John Henry – was there to congratulate her.

"It brought back a lot of good memories," says Mr. Henry. "The day was most enjoyable; it was a lot of fun and the University was looking great."

Mr. Henry now lives in Toronto and has been working in human resources for the last 16 years – he's currently with Mackenzie Financial. He says the Trent connection within his family has really come full circle, as it was Ms. Byrick's father Bill, who first recommended the University in 1978.

Ms. Byrick was thrilled to follow in her uncle's footsteps when she chose to come to the University.

"He always speaks very highly of the school...as 'the best place to be'," she says.

She recalls Mr. Henry talking about being involved in college cabinet and working at The Commoner (a former Trent University pub) and, in the summertime, in Conference Services. And having cheered on her father as he rowed in The Head of the Trent regatta, and having heard

from her mother JoAnne, a staff member, Ms. Byrick knew enough about the University to choose to call it her own.

In 1999, Ms. Byrick came to Trent and started creating memories of her own. At 23 years old and looking back, highlights include a year at the University of Helsinki in Finland and a successful rowing career.

As an exchange student among a population of 32,000 at the University of Helsinki, Ms. Byrick's time in Finland wasn't without its challenges, but she says she wouldn't trade the experience for the world. She learned from well-known biologists and undertook research in a library dedicated to biology-based resources.

And having watched her father from the shore for many years, Ms. Byrick started rowing in her first year at Trent. Since then, she says it's become her passion. She's rowed in doubles, fours and eights and in 2001, was part of the eight that won a bronze medal at the Canadian Championships. This year, Ms. Byrick's crew placed fourth in the eight and fifth in the double at the same regatta. Also this year, Ms. Byrick's eight won a silver medal at the Ontario Championships.

Now, Ms. Byrick and her father, who became Trent's athletic director in 2002, both row in The Head of the Trent. In fact, she won't be leaving for a year of conservation work in Central and South America, until after the fall regatta.

"I can't wait to come back as a graduate – it's a tradition for always." 🌱



John Henry holds baby Kaitlin at his graduation in 1981. Father Bill Byrick looks on.

galactic graduation *continued*

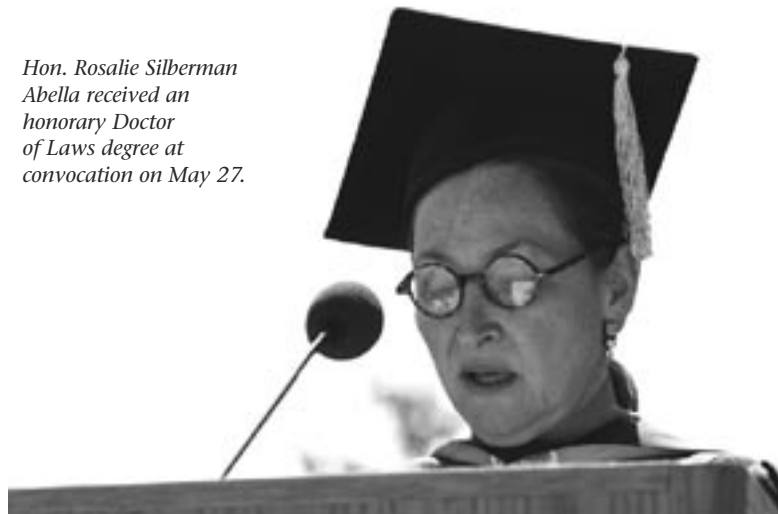
fur trade, and for her extensive volunteer contributions to heritage work both locally and provincially. Dr. Cole has contributed significantly to knowledge of Peterborough County, the Kawartha region, and Canada by publishing eight books, including three Peterborough area township histories, and many papers.

Dr. Alistair MacLeod is a Canadian writer of international renown, whose work focuses on life in eastern Canada, particularly Cape Breton. An honorary Doctor of Letters degree was conferred upon Dr. MacLeod following an introduction by Dr. Orm Mitchell, of Trent's Department of English. The degree recognizes his outstanding contributions to Canadian literature as a writer of fiction and as a teacher of creative writing. Dr. MacLeod was selected as Trent University's Ashley Fellow for the year 2002/03 and, in addressing convocation, said he felt very much at home and told graduates that Trent University would always be a sort of home for them. He encouraged them to recognize the opportunities they have been given in their education, and gave examples of elsewhere in the world, where children are too sick to be educated and where the essence of education has been lost.

"To those who much is given, much is expected," he told the graduates, adding that they will have to try hard to make a difference, in a world dominated by change.

Dr. P.K. Page, one of the most remarkable figures in Canadian culture, received an honorary Doctor of Letters degree at the

Hon. Rosalie Silberman Abella received an honorary Doctor of Laws degree at convocation on May 27.



May 28 ceremony. In a career spanning six decades, and still very much in progress, she has published more than twenty books, including poetry, fiction (short stories and a novel), a memoir, children's books, and translations. Introduced by Dr. Zailig Pollock, of the Department of English, Dr. Page was recognized for her outstanding contributions to Canadian literature and the visual arts. In 2002, Trent University hosted a conference devoted to P.K. Page, entitled *Extraordinary Presence: The Worlds of P.K. Page*, to celebrate her lifelong achievement. She took the opportunity address convocation through the reading of the poem *Stargazer*.

*The very stars are justified,
The galaxy italicized.*

*I have proofread and
proofread the beautiful script,
There are no errors*

An honorary Doctor of Laws degree was conferred upon Dr. Terence Dickinson – one of North America's leading astronomy writers – at the May 28 ceremony. Introduced by Dr. Dave Patton of Trent's Physics

department, Dr. Dickinson was recognized for his outstanding achievements as a science writer and communicator in the field of astronomy. He is renowned for unraveling and explaining the mysteries of the cosmos for amateur astronomers. Known as Canada's leading author on astronomy books for both adults and children, Dr. Dickinson has published 14 books, including one of the best-selling astronomy books in the world *NightWatch*.

In his address, Dr. Dickinson talked about the importance of developing a personal passion – and explained that he had done so at a very young age, when he saw his first meteor and read his first astronomy book. He likened personal passion to a fire in the belly, which he felt was more appropriately called "a fire in the mind."

"I have been stoked by that fire," he said, encouraging the graduates to develop their personal passion into their life's work. "I believe a lifelong passion for a subject or activity is a lifelong gift.

"Don't overlook a fire in the mind, nurture it." 🌱

Professors Emeriti named



Prof. David Newhouse and Prof. Shirley Williams, both of the Native Studies department. Prof. Williams was one of seven professors who received the designation 'Professor Emeritus' at the May 28 convocation ceremony. Other recipients included Constantin Boundas (Philosophy), John Earnshaw (Physics), John Hillman (Sociology), Tom Hutchinson (Environment and Resource Science/Studies, Biology), Ian McLachlan (Cultural Studies), and Stuart Robson (History).

a love of learning

"The knowledge was in itself my motivation." – Diane Lacey

THIS MOTHER OF FOUR AND GRANDMOTHER OF FIVE says give her a year, she may be back for more.

Though "keeping up" to her university-educated adult children is no simple task, Diane Lacey, of Ajax, is determined to try. She graduated on May 27 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Psychology, for which she had studied at Trent in Oshawa part-time since 1992.

With a busy career as an account manager at Siemens Canada Limited in Ajax and a growing family, she attributes her academic success to a love of learning.

"The knowledge was in itself my motivation," says Ms. Lacey. "I really looked forward to taking another course because I liked what I had learned in the previous one."

While she wasn't always convinced that she could succeed at university, Ms. Lacey's husband and her children encouraged her to try. Now,

she only wishes she had started sooner.

"I said 'I'm old, I can't do that'. My husband and children said I could."

An offer of a more demanding role at work was the impetus for Ms. Lacey to start her degree, and without a doubt, she says, she's been able to apply her newfound knowledge. A deeper understanding of economics and insights into relating to people and looking at everyone as an individual, has been useful to her in her sales field.

Ms. Lacey attributes much of the support behind her success to her employer as well as to the learning environment at Trent in Oshawa which she describes as intimate. Many of her classmates were also adults, which along with amazing professors like Teresa DeCicco and Laura Summerfeldt, made the learning environment comfortable. Ms. Lacey, admittedly a perfectionist, maintained an 83 per cent



Graduate Diane Lacey (centre) with her husband and four children, who cheered her on throughout her education and at convocation.

average and a listing on the President's Honour Roll.

"I'm that way because I like what I'm learning – it comes easily," she says. "It's such a

fulfilling thing – learning...I feel sorry for people who don't want to learn."

While it wasn't without some personal sacrifice, Ms. Lacey says

that now she won't know what to do with her time. She will likely take more courses, but for the time being, she'll be spending more time with her family. 🌱

toward a more inclusive Trent

ONE OF HUNDREDS OF CONVOCATION handshakes stood out for Dr. Roberta Bondar – the furry one.

The paw belonged to Lily – helper and pet to Melissa Webster, who graduated with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Canadian Studies and History on May 27. Lily is a labrador retriever-hound cross, and a constant companion to Ms. Webster, who sustained a spinal cord injury in a motor vehicle accident in the summer of 2000.

In September 2001, Ms. Webster moved back to Peterborough – her hometown – from Alberta, and in January 2002 returned to Trent. The warm, community atmosphere, especially in the Canadian Studies department, drew Ms. Webster back to Trent, where she had started studying in 1999.

Since then, Ms. Webster has been an advocate for people with disabilities at Trent, and has founded a disability awareness group – TSDA – Trent Students With Disabilities and Their Allies. The TSDA serves to foster a support network as well as awareness about disabilities.

"This is a place where people can find support," says Ms. Webster. "It's going to allow for a more inclusive Trent, and that is good for everyone."

But Ms. Webster's work goes beyond the borders of the University; she has taken



Graduate Melissa Webster and her companion Lily.

on roles speaking on behalf of post-secondary students with disabilities, including during a provincial government consultation process. However, Ms. Webster's advocacy work

more generally focuses on income support issues. As a member of the YWCA Board of Directors, she is involved in the food action program for sole support mothers.

Melissa Webster: "My eyes as a disabled woman are something I would never give up."

"I've always been aware of issues of poverty and social inequality, but even more since the accident," she says. "I often say it was the best thing to happen to me; it allowed me to have a focus and a path and to realize all the wonderful things in this world, but also to realize all of the challenges and downfalls, as well. My eyes as a disabled woman are something I would never give up."

Ms. Webster says she was always a socialist, concerned with issues of poverty and social inequality, but since her accident and since coming to Trent, her political and social beliefs have been amplified and fostered by her professors. She was also a member of the board of directors for Arthur – one of Trent's student newspapers; she was responsible for the anti-oppression portfolio.

"It's just part of me," she says, adding she is passionate about her work – something she will be



doing for the rest of her life.

In the near future, Ms. Webster will be heading to Church Point, Nova Scotia for a five-week federally-funded program that will see her learn to speak French. In the fall, she's planning to take more courses and in the New Year, travel to South Africa on an internship. There, she will be working with children dealing with the HIV/AIDS epidemic.

"We rarely in the developed world realized how fortunate we are and how many issues there are beyond our borders that we turn our backs on. AIDS is one of those issues." 🌱

caring for the future

a first-

THE TRENT-FLEMING NURSING graduates were not only the pioneers of the program, they put a face on baccalaureate nursing education in the community, says Dr. Lesley Lewis, program director, adding their contributions as students, extended well beyond the classroom.

"They did some very exciting things through the community," says Prof. Lewis, recalling student-run health fairs and initiatives to increase awareness of health promotion. While some of their work in the community was directly related to their courses, students took their roles into the volunteer realm at Hospice Peterborough, Doctors Without Borders and the Children's Waterfront Festival.

"There's a true sense of connectedness to the larger community," she adds.

These students completed this normally four-year program in a compressed course of study over three years. Fifty students started the program – three of them men – and 48 of them received Trent's first Bachelor of Science in Nursing degrees on May 28.

Having also contributed to the cultures at two institutions – Trent and Fleming College, graduates will now make their mark across the province, mostly in hospitals and long-term care facilities. Though many will stay in the community, a number have accepted positions in Toronto hospitals. At least 42 of

the students had received job offers before convocation, says Prof. Lewis.

"The opportunities they have been offered are truly outstanding and they speak to their abilities and what they've been able to achieve," she says. "They're amazing people because they took a chance on a new program and because they had a hand in shaping that program."

Though united by their passion for nursing, these graduates have diverse backgrounds – many of them have families, most of them are single mothers. Their bond is undoubtedly their motivation, says Prof. Lewis.

"It's really incredible how much they support each other," she says. "All the students are amazing – it's not an easy program – it's a heavy, demanding program."

And while the faculty members have learned a lot from these first students, Prof. Lewis says they have provided an incredibly supportive environment, in which the students were continually empowered and mentored.

"There is a lot of role modelling and supportive behaviour going on around here," she says. "It all goes back to modelling what you want the students to be; if you want them to be empowered, you let them see how that plays out. Those behaviours you hope they use

within communities and with patients."

Prof. Lewis, who has been involved in baccalaureate nursing education since 1983, became involved in the creation of the program in January 2001 and by September, 50 students were admitted into each of the compressed and non-compressed streams. Prof. Lewis devised the program and was then invited to implement it.

The program is unique in its integrated model, which sees the students study at two institutions. A great deal of effort, she says, went into streamlining this course of study so that the program was delivered seamlessly by Trent and Fleming.

"There is a real sense of unity within the program," she says. "It's pretty neat; what we have here is very special." 🌱



Bachelor of Science in Nursing graduates in the convocation procession.



BScN graduates Dan and Jennifer Clydesdale. The couple returned to Trent from Alberta for convocation.

BScN

"WE HAD TO COME BACK FOR graduation," said Jennifer Clydesdale emphatically, before she and her husband Dan crossed the podium to receive their Bachelor of Science in Nursing degrees on May 28.

The couple flew back from Fort Vermilion, Alberta, for convocation. They had first arrived there only weeks earlier to start their positions at the 38-bed St. Theresa's General Hospital. Their work is going well and they say they are settling into this 800-resident town.

And at such a small hospital, the flexibility of their skills comes into play.

"You're everything – an ER nurse, a maternity nurse, an ICU nurse," says Ms. Clydesdale.

"You're whatever is going on that day," adds Dan Clydesdale.

But having fulfilled their independent practice placements

last term at the 49-bed Whitehorse General Hospital, the couple felt confident they would acclimatize.

"This program has allowed us to think outside the box...and incorporate all aspects of an individual's life into their care," said Mr. Clydesdale, adding their experience in the Northwest Territories confirmed for them that they wanted to work in a rural community.

In the Yukon, the couple found an excellent teaching environment, where they were exposed to a variety of patients – pediatric, psychiatric and intensive care. The experience also confirmed for the Clydesdales, that they could practice confidently and competently. While the wildlife and outdoor opportunities as well as the somewhat slower 'Yukon time' appealed to them,

nursing in the north

"This program has allowed us to think outside the box...and incorporate all aspects of an individual's life into their care."

there was no employment available at Whitehorse General.

After having sent their resumes all around the world, they found the positions in Fort Vermilion, a town they had never even visited. Always up for an adventure, the couple ventured west to start their careers.

At the hospital there, they will continue their education in maternity and neonatal nursing and through their critical care certification.

The couple met before they embarked on their nursing-career paths, but soon became "study buddies" and both say their profession is their passion. Ms. Clydesdale started nursing school when she realized she wanted to interact with patients and provide hands-on care, while Mr. Clydesdale says he "stumbled upon it" after some education in engineering, arts and science, and a career in sales and marketing.

"Nursing fulfills me," says Ms.

Clydesdale, who sees a future for herself in maternal child health or health promotion or as a midwife or nurse practitioner. "There are so many doors that open up... It satisfies who I want to be as well as what I can give."

Meanwhile, Mr. Clydesdale's focus is on a high-acuity setting like the emergency room or intensive care unit and higher education, though he says he hasn't ruled out a future in mental health or public health. 🌱

-class convocation



"IT'S BEEN AN INCREDIBLE year," said Dr. Deborah Berrill, reflecting that only one year ago in May, the School of Education and Professional Learning had received its accreditation.

Since then, everything from the faculty members to the space – Gzowski College at Argyle Street – has come together and the school graduated its first class of 113 students on May 28. Doug Wilson, registrar of the Ontario College of Teachers was in attendance to celebrate this first class of teacher graduates.

"Everyone has been outstanding, from the first class candidates and faculty to the office staff," says Prof. Berrill, founding director of the program. "Getting a full program up and running in a single year has taken the effort and commitment of the whole University. It has truly been a community effort."

Looking back, Prof. Berrill says the amount that was accomplished between May and last August, when the first on-line module course started, was amazing. Close to 25 faculty members were hired and what had been a "virtual" program to that point, became reality as course frameworks were developed, course syllabi were written and textbooks were ordered. In this same time period, classrooms were prepared and telephones and computers were installed. On August 25, 2003 the program welcomed its

first students and by September 11, the 180 full- and part-time teacher candidates were in schools for their placements and the Supporting Readers At Risk program had begun. In this unique aspect of the Trent Bachelor of Education program, all teacher candidates – elementary and secondary alike, tutor two students at risk in reading from September to December. Trent's future teachers come to deeply understand how the inability to read at grade level affects both academic achievement and construction of self, says Prof. Berrill.

"Research done on this initiative by faculty this year has demonstrated powerful learning by teacher candidates regarding application of reading theory and use of multiple learning style approaches in teaching reading," says Prof. Berrill. "As well, the candidates learned to construct these struggling learners differently, recognizing their intelligence and understanding and that learning disabilities rather than disposition interfered with learning."

On September 20, Trent Chancellor Dr. Roberta Bondar was the keynote speaker as the school hosted the inaugural Partners in Practice Conference. This first-ever conference for educators was organized in partnership with the district school boards – Kawartha Pine Ridge, Peterborough, Victoria,

Northumberland and Clarington Catholic and Trillium Lakelands. Close to 400 educators took part.

The conference was one of a number of initiatives that took place in partnership with the district school boards. Prof. Berrill says the first year of the program would not have been so incredibly successful without the collaboration that took place among them. The proof, she says, is in the achievement of the first class.

"We told them they were first class from the very beginning; they trusted that the program would reflect the quality and culture of Trent University," she says.

Among the first class were students ranging in age from 23 to 52, with varying past experiences, which made the program enriching for everyone, says Prof. Berrill, adding graduates are headed across Ontario and overseas to teach, while several will continue on with their master's degrees.

As for faculty members, two new tenure track appointments have been made for September - Prof. Cathy Bruce and Prof. Mark Lee. And while faculty members are taking the time to review the first year of the program, all full-time faculty members will give research papers on the start-up of the school at the Canadian Society for Studies in Education in Winnipeg this month. 🌱



Prof. Deborah Berrill addressing convocation.

BEEd

following childhood dreams

AFTER A 23-YEAR CAREER IN EARLY childhood education, Susan Scoffin is following her own childhood dream of becoming a teacher.

"I've waited 30-some years to do this," she said, adding she knew on her first day of school at age six, that she wanted to become a teacher. "Some people can learn how to teach, but for me, it's a great mix of my talents and my interests - a great career."

Ms. Scoffin crossed the podium on May 28 to receive her Bachelor of Education degree – she was cheered on by, among others, her eight-year-old daughter.

"I was thrilled to go back to school – I was so ready for the next stage," says Ms. Scoffin, who is hoping for a primary teaching placement in the fall. "I felt honoured being accepted and I feel just as honoured and privileged having completed the program - it has met all my expectations and I can leave with



Graduate Susan Scoffin

a very positive feeling about it all."

Ms. Scoffin undertook practicum placements at Westmount and Keith Wightman public schools and is the recipient of the School of Education's Innovation In Teaching Prize for Primary-Junior.

She recalls a defining moment during her first placement as she

prepared to teach her first class. As she wrote on the board, she realized how comfortable and how prepared she felt.

"We're all poised waiting to have our own classrooms and our own kids, we're all really ready for that," says Ms. Scoffin, adding she made some close friends through the program.

"Wow, what a year." 🌱

THOUGH IT WAS THE HARDEST THING she had ever done, School of Education graduate Laurie Fernandez, wouldn't turn back time for the world.

After more than 10 years in government housing program development and delivery, she decided to follow her lifelong dream and become a teacher. She convoked as part of the school's first class on May 28.

Days before her convocation, as Ms. Fernandez worked to finish up her final practicum placement at Keith Wightman Public School, she wondered whether she had ever been so excited.

"I know the amount of work it took to get here...It took everything I had ...there were huge demands and there was huge learning. It brought out capacities I didn't know were there," she said, adding that despite the demands, it was a great blessing to be a part of the program's first year.

Ms. Fernandez completed her first degree through distance education in 2002, to prepare herself for teacher education. Though it was a great challenge for her to go back to school, her philosophy of education applies as much to university as aptly as it does to the early years.



Graduate Laurie Fernandez

"Education is the way the world will advance," she said. "It's the greatest gift to us and the greatest gift we can offer others."

Hoping for a primary or junior classroom placement for the fall, Ms. Fernandez extends that philosophy to inclusive education.

"That underlies everything I do. Every student matters to me and I'm committed to helping them be successful," she said. "I feel like I've been a teacher all my life, but now I know how to do it properly. There are hundreds of things to know, like teaching strategies and all the lenses through which you have to look at your children. You have to take all those things into consideration." 🌱

2004 Convocation awards

Symons Teaching Award: Eric Helleiner

Professor Eric Helleiner received the Symons Teaching Award at the May 27 morning convocation ceremony. The award is presented annually to a faculty member who displays exemplary teaching, as well as concern for students. Prof. Helleiner is a member of the International Development Studies program and was awarded a Canada Research Chair in International Political Economy.

Two of Prof. Helleiner's nominators summed up his strengths by saying:

"Professor Helleiner's approach to teaching embodies and conveys the three qualities that a professor needs most to communicate effectively to and with students. These qualities are passion, erudition and humility."

"His dedication to his students extends well beyond the classroom. He is always happy to provide advice, whether it is on an essay or on future paths to follow...In short I cannot imagine my Trent experience without Professor Helleiner."

The Symons Award for Excellence in Teaching was established in 1976.

Distinguished Research Award: Peter Dillon

Professor Peter Dillon of the Department of Chemistry and the Environmental and Resource Studies program was presented with Trent University's Distinguished Research Award at the May 28 convocation ceremony. The award is given annually to a member of Trent's faculty in recognition of outstanding achievements in research and scholarship.

Prof. Dillon was awarded an NSERC Industrial Research Chair in Watershed Biogeochemistry and is the Director of Trent



University's Water Quality Centre. In 2003, the Royal Society of Canada awarded Prof. Dillon the Miroslaw Romanowski Medal, which is presented for significant contributions to the resolution of scientific aspects of environmental problems or for important improvements to the quality of an ecosystem in all aspects, terrestrial, atmospheric and aqueous brought about by scientific means.

Letters of support provided by colleagues from international research organizations praised Dr. Dillon for his contributions to scholarly research:

"...his outstanding contribution to knowledge in the field is not only evidenced by his output of quality research



Photos: top left, Prof. Eric Helleiner; top right, Carol Murray shares a smile with Dr. Roberta Bondar; bottom left, Prof. Peter Dillon; bottom right, Prof. John Earnshaw accepting his Eminent Service Award from the Chancellor.

papers but also by those he has influenced and taught along the way. He has supervised an impressive list of students, many of whom have gone on to become experts in their own right. He has influenced state, national and international politicians and funding agencies."

"The Water Quality Centre is at the forefront of environmental biogeochemistry, and its establishment and success are a direct result of Dr. Dillon's efforts. His ability to secure funding from industry, governmental departments, and research organizations to produce a state of the art, innovative research centre, is testament to his vision, drive and determination. The Centre will build on this solid foundation, and has the ability to be a world leader."

The Distinguished Research Award was established in 1986.

Eminent Service Award: John Earnshaw

This award recognizes individuals who have made outstanding contributions to the life of the University in any area of its activities.

Prof. John Earnshaw was presented with the Eminent Service Award at the May 28 convocation ceremony. The award recognizes his outstanding service to Trent University through his leadership as vice president (administration and finance), and for his service to higher education through his involvement with provincial organizations.

Prof. Earnshaw joined the University in 1967 – Trent's third teaching year – as a professor of Physics; he retired in 2003, but continues to teach on a part-time basis. He served as vice president for 13 years (1981-1992 and 1996-1998).

The following is a testament to Prof. Earnshaw's

accomplishments, from a nomination letter for this award:

"John Earnshaw was an energetic, intelligent, personable, and talented administrator. He distinguished himself and ably represented the University to outside organizations. He is richly deserving of the Eminent Service Award from Trent University."

Eminent Service Award: Carol Murray

Carol Murray, senior admissions officer, was presented with the Eminent Service Award at the May 27 afternoon convocation ceremony. The award recognizes her dedication, high standards and leadership in the admissions field for more than 22 years. Ms. Murray is planning to retire this month.

Ms. Murray began working in the Office of the Registrar at Trent in 1982 as an admissions clerk and over the years, progressed to her current role.

The following is an excerpt from a nomination letter that speaks to Ms. Murray's strengths and accomplishments:

"Carol's fingerprints are, literally or figuratively, on the file of every student who has been admitted over the past 20 years. Carol serves as an advisor, coach and authority on policy issues and admissions procedures to staff as well as to managers. Carol's concern for admission standards are tempered by her very real concern for the well being of students being considered for admission...Trent University has been fortunate to have someone of Carol's calibre quietly working behind the scenes to meet enrolment targets, enforce policy, suggest changes to policies...and lead a small admissions group to set and achieve high standards of performance for themselves." 🌱

a year abroad to find focus

A BEYOND BORDERS ADVENTURE

turned physics and computer science major William Darling on to international law. In pursuit of this newfound passion, this Trent graduate will be attending law school at McGill University in September.

Mr. Darling gained a new perspective on Canada and how others see Canadians during his year of study at England's University of Leeds. Overseas during the war in the Iraq, he became particularly interested in activism taking place there. This experience, Mr. Darling says, is one of the best things that could have happened to him during his time at Trent, having help set his future direction.

His year at Leeds also allowed him to compare large and smaller university experiences, and realize the importance of



Graduate Will Darling

the involvement he had in his education at Trent. He contrasts a class of 200 at Leeds to a class of five at Trent, noting that personal attention from professors at Trent creates a truly interactive learning environment.

"You're not just a student

there (at Trent), they involve students in selecting profs – things like that show they value your input."

Mr. Darling has spent the last two summers working at Trent in environmental physics and computational physics. 🌱

Academic Medal winners

Governor-General's Gold Medal: The Governor-General's Medal is awarded to the student with the highest academic standing on graduation in the Master's and Doctoral degree programs. The Silver Medal is awarded to the Honours student with the highest academic standing in the Bachelor's degree program. **Governor General's Gold Medal:** Pauline Elaine Quesnelle, M.Sc. **Governor General's Silver Medal:** Svetoslav Dimitrov Diamandiev, B.Sc.H.

President Symons Medal: The Symons Medal was established in 1972 in honour of T.H.B. Symons, the founding president of Trent University.

This medal is awarded to students in the Honours program who achieve high overall standing on graduation. Karen Louise Acton, B.A.Hon. Kelly Patricia Holmes, B.Sc.N. Jennifer Hubbarde, B.Sc.Hon. Mark Jay Palmer, B.A.Hon.

Bagnani Medal: The Bagnani Medal was established in 1986 to honour the late Professor Gilbert Bagnani, one of the founding faculty members of Trent University. This medal is awarded to students in the General program who achieve high overall standing on graduation. Johanna Wilhelmina Kowacz, B.Sc. Maureen Elizabeth O'Reilly, B.Sc.

sharing the 'part-time perspective'

"Universities are about personal growth and personal exploration."

GRADUATE KIM FIELDING IS AN advocate for part-time students; she says they've got a lot to give. And having served on more than 40 committees during her time at Trent University, including its Board of Governors, Ms. Fielding herself, is proof positive of that statement.

This Cultural Studies major has been studying on a part-time basis for seven years and through her extensive involvement, and as president, of the Julian Blackburn College Student Association (JBCSA), has come to meet many other part-time students.

"We're incredibly diverse; we're middle managers upgrading our skills, we're 85-year-old retirees, we're single mothers and we're 19-year-old high school graduates," she says, adding the part-time perspective is an important one.

"Part-time students are an integral part of the University; we have a wealth of knowledge and experience that we can share... We're a proud bunch – part-time students – we seem to always have that little bit more to give."

Ms. Fielding moved from Hamilton to Peterborough to

study at Trent, on the advice of an alumnus. She had intended to study biology and continue on to medical school, but in her first year found an affinity for cultural theory and sociology. Also in her first year, Ms. Fielding served on four committees, laying the groundwork for her roles as JBCSA senator, vice-president and president. In her fourth year of study, she was elected to the Trent Board of Governors for a two-year term, which will end this month. Her involvement in governance, she said, grew out of her desire to get involved.

"When I came to Trent, I didn't want to come in, take courses and leave. I knew I could get out of this, something that was bigger than the courses," she says. "Universities are about personal growth and personal exploration."

Having successfully balanced her family – Michael, 14, and Nicole, 11, her work and her studies, Ms. Fielding says, has given her a sense of pride, but adds she couldn't have done it without support from Trent.

"I'm proud of myself; Trent has allowed me to be proud of myself," she says. "Trent has the



Graduate Kim Fielding

most incredible opportunity to change lives and I don't think they quite realize that they do."

Ms. Fielding was recently awarded the Robert W.F. Stephenson Prize for excellence in student governance and the Julian Blackburn College Alumni

Recognition Award from Alumni Affairs. And as an alumna, says she will continue to spread the word about part-time studies.

"There's a lot of people in this world who think they're not smart enough for university... It's about making life choices. I say

'just try one course' – there's nothing to lose and the world to gain."

Ms. Fielding is now working with Trent's Alumni Affairs department on a special project for Trent's 40th anniversary celebration this fall. 🌱

academics & athletics: a winning combination



Alex Babaris in the pool.



Graduate Tracey Bielawski



Graduate Alex Babaris accepting the Civic Athletic Award of Merit from Mayor Sylvia Sutherland

LOOKING BACK, GRADUATING ATHLETES Alex Babaris and Tracey Bielawski couldn't imagine their university careers without sport, and would encourage anyone with an interest, to try varsity athletics.

"I think varsity sports are a fantastic experience," says Mr. Babaris, who graduated May 27 with a Bachelor of Arts degree in History. "You learn so much in terms of straight-out skills, like

"You learn so much in terms of straight-out skills, like time management... and on top of that, it's fun." – Alex Barbaris

time management, which is so important. It helps balance you as an individual and on top of that, it's fun."

Typically Mr. Babaris, who will continue on at Trent part-time next year, practices in the pool between 12 and 14 hours a week and lifts weights six hours a week. About every other weekend, he swims in competitions. Mr. Babaris did some swimming in high school, but decided to pursue the sport – something that comes easily to him, he says – at a more competitive level at university.

At Trent's March Athletics Awards Ceremony, Mr. Babaris was the recipient of a University Athletic Award, an Excalibur Award of Distinction, the Gary Wolff Leadership Cup, was honoured as an Ontario University Athletic (OUA) All-Star, and was named the most valuable member of the swimming team. More recently,

he was presented with the City of Peterborough's Civic Athletic Award of Merit. Mr. Babaris was the OUA swimming champion in the men's 50-metre fly, and the bronze medallist in the 100-metre fly.

"The coaches here are fantastic and it worked really well to develop me as an athlete and as an individual," he says.

Meanwhile Ms. Bielawski was twice named an Academic All Canadian for excellence in athletics as well as academics. She was a member of the women's volleyball team as well as maintained an average of at least 80 per cent those two years. Ms. Bielawski convoked on May 27 with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Anthropology with an emphasis in Archeology. In September, she'll pursue museum studies at Fleming College.

In Ms. Bielawski's first two years of volleyball at Trent, the team did not play within a

competitive circuit but for the last two years, has competed with the Ontario Colleges Athletics Association (OCAA). Both years, the team has fallen just short of the playoffs, but Ms. Bielawski is certain the team will get there this coming year.

"Volleyball was really great; the coaches and the girls that I played with – I can't compliment them enough," she says, adding practices took place three times a week.

Between games and practices, Ms. Bielawski had the opportunity to attend Trent's field school in Belize in summer 2003. The focus was Maya archeology, at Minanha – located within the north Vaca Plateau of west central Belize. There for close to a month, Ms. Bielawski said she was immersed in a completely different culture and having seen pictures in textbooks, was thrilled to have a real hands-on experience. 🌱

Trent Summer Conferences

For groups from across Ontario, gathering at Trent University for summer conferences has become a tradition.

The Trent School of Rugby has been coming to the campus for its annual conference for more than 30 years and will be among the 50 groups using the facilities this summer. From Science Camp for intermediate students to the Ontario Special Olympic Spring Games, the University is abuzz with activity.

Looking at her calendar, Conferences Services Coordinator Lori Johnston says the summer will be a busy one, which will welcome new and returning groups. "Some of these groups have been coming to Trent for more than 25 years," she says.

The Full Gospel Businessmen's Fellowship group has a long history of summer conferences at Trent, as does the Margaret Morris Method Dance Group. Trent has already welcomed this summer, the Ontario Association of College and University Housing Officers and an OPP training course. A Trent University alumni association conference and original class reunion is scheduled and the Trent International Program and the Ministry of Natural Resources are also hosting reunions at Trent.

An average summer will bring almost 4,500 people to the University and this summer will be no exception. Groups vary in size from 40 to 200 and many events attract guests and spectators. Also on campus this summer, there will be 11 wedding celebrations, says Ms. Johnston.

Conference visitors stay at the Symons Campus, Catharine Parr Traill College and, also this year, at Gzowski College on Argyle Street. Trent's newest residence on the East Bank of the Symons Campus also welcomed its first conference visitors this spring. The new building is air-conditioned and features single rooms with double beds and semi-private washrooms. Within the building are classrooms and a dining hall.

Trent Celebrates Lift Lock Anniversary

Within the Trent University Archives in Bata Library there are close to three cubic metres of history on the man behind the construction of the world's largest hydraulic Lift Lock. This extensive collection creates an anthology of Richard B. Rogers' life and is a compilation of diaries, letters, maps, photographs, reports and drawings and plans.

Trent's Archives department is home to the Richard B.



Dr. Bondar presents photograph

One day prior to presiding over her second convocation ceremonies as Chancellor of Trent University, Dr. Roberta Bondar presented the University with a breathtaking panoramic photograph titled *Tanquary Fiord* at a reception for friends and supporters of Trent.

Dr. Bondar spoke at the reception and unveiled the image – the second of three of her arctic photographs intended for the University's permanent collection. The first image, *Sirmilik Hoodoos Panorama*, from Dr. Bondar's series on Canada's National Parks in the last Millennium, was presented to the University last year, after her appointment as Chancellor of Trent University.

This reception provided an opportunity for Dr. Bondar to meet with friends and supporters of the University. The photograph presented is one of many featured in the book *Canada – Landscape of Dreams*.

Rogers' papers – part of a larger collection entrusted to Trent University by descendants of the family in 1982. As the Lift Lock celebrates its centennial year, University Archivist Dr. Bernadine Dodge says it's an ideal time to look beyond the structure to its superintendent engineer as a part of a historical portrait.

An on-line exhibit of the collection has been created to mark the Lift Lock's centennial year and is located at www.trentu.ca/library/archives/zrhomepg.htm.

Athletic Award of Excellence



The Department of Athletics at Trent University has received, for the second consecutive year, the Canadian Intramural Recreation Association (CIRA) Ontario's Outstanding Intramural Achievement Award 2003-2004.

Coordinator of Campus Recreation, Sue Robinson, received the honour for the coordination of the more than 2,250-student strong program at Trent. CIRA Ontario awards the Outstanding Intramural Achievement Award annually to top programs in Ontario. Trent was among the schools recognized for offering a variety of activities that promote fun,

physical activity, inclusion and cooperative participation, and involvement of students in a leadership capacity.

Athletes Recognized by City

Congratulations to the Trent University athletes honoured by the City of Peterborough with Civic Awards. The awards were presented at a ceremony on June 1 at Showplace Peterborough.

"Congratulations to all our athletes on this deserving recognition," says Athletic Director Bill Byrick. "As you compete across the province and across the country, you make Trent University, as well as Peterborough, proud. Your commitment to your respective sports and your academics is truly admirable." The following are the award recipients:

- Head rowing coach Carol Love – Senior Female Athlete of the Year
- Rower Peter Van Rooijen – Senior Male Athlete of the Year
- Swimmer Alex Babaris and Rower Rob Park – Peterborough Civic Athletic Award of Merit
- The Trent women's heavyweight eight rowing team – Peterborough Civic Sport Award

Members of the women's eight squad were, Lauren Chewter, Marie Leforme, Kristy Benesko, Lene Dover, Candice Harding-Calder, Julianna Stonehouse, Alicia Unrau, Kaitlin Byrick, Jackie Graff (Coxswain), Carol Love (coach).

Getting Oriented at Trent



Waves of recently admitted students from across the country and around the globe will flock to Symons Campus this summer for Trent's New Student Orientation Program. The program was first developed and implemented in the summer of 2003, at which time it was known as Summer Registration. This year, the program has expanded to a full day of activities including information sessions on MyTrent!, Introductory Seminar Week, the Academic Skills Department, and Financial Aid, as well as the opportunity to pay tuition and residence fee deposits, sign residence contracts, and take a tour of both the Symons and downtown Campus locations.

The New Student Orientation (NSO) Program is being designed and implemented by an enthusiastic team of recent graduates and current Trent students. The team emphasizes that the program has been designed to complement Introductory Seminar Week (ISW), but certainly not replace it, as each program fulfills a distinct set of needs. The Orientation program focuses on the practical aspects of being a student whereas ISW is a more comprehensive introduction to the Trent community.

With the elimination of OAC, students are graduating high school and entering post-secondary institutions at a younger age. The New Student Orientation Program fulfills the resulting need for increased support systems to guide not just younger students through the transition, but nervous parents,

too. The Office of Student Affairs will lead sessions that encourage parents to allow their sons and daughters more independence, while informing them of all the programs in place at Trent to ensure that students succeed.

New students will be booking appointments online to visit Trent University for their Orientation Sessions which run from July 7 until August 20. This year, Trent students studying in Oshawa will enjoy a program tailored specifically to their needs at the Academic Advising and Registration Fair, which takes place on August 6 and 7.

The New Student Orientation team can be reached at orientation@trentu.ca or at 748-1011 ext. 5061 or visit their website at www.trentu.ca/newstudentorientation.

in the news

Prof. Julia Harrison, chair, Women's Studies and associate professor, Anthropology, was interviewed on CBC's *Ontario Morning* on May 31, about her research project on Ontario cottage culture. In this work, Prof. Harrison will explore what it is about cottaging that makes it meaningful to so many Ontarians as well as how it is changing.

Prof. James Schaefer, of Biology, was interviewed for a May broadcast on *Open Air: Natural History Radio from Newfoundland and Labrador* and was the subject of an article in April's *Environmental Review*. In both cases, he discussed his research on the disappearance of woodland caribou.

The research of **Prof. Chris Metcalfe**, dean of Research and Graduate Studies, was the subject of a May 29 article in the *Toronto Star* headlined "Is our water drugged?" by author and environmentalist Cameron Smith. The article focuses on the findings of a study soon-to-be-published in *Environmental Science And Technology*.

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