

## in the NEWS



Professor Magda Havas and her groundbreaking work on “dirty electricity”

were featured on a *Global Television* evening news segment on Monday, February 13.

“Time After Space” was the title of a cover story in February’s edition of *50 Plus* magazine, which featured Trent University’s current Chancellor, Roberta Bondar. The article explored the interesting paths Dr. Bondar’s life has taken since her time as the first Canadian woman in space.

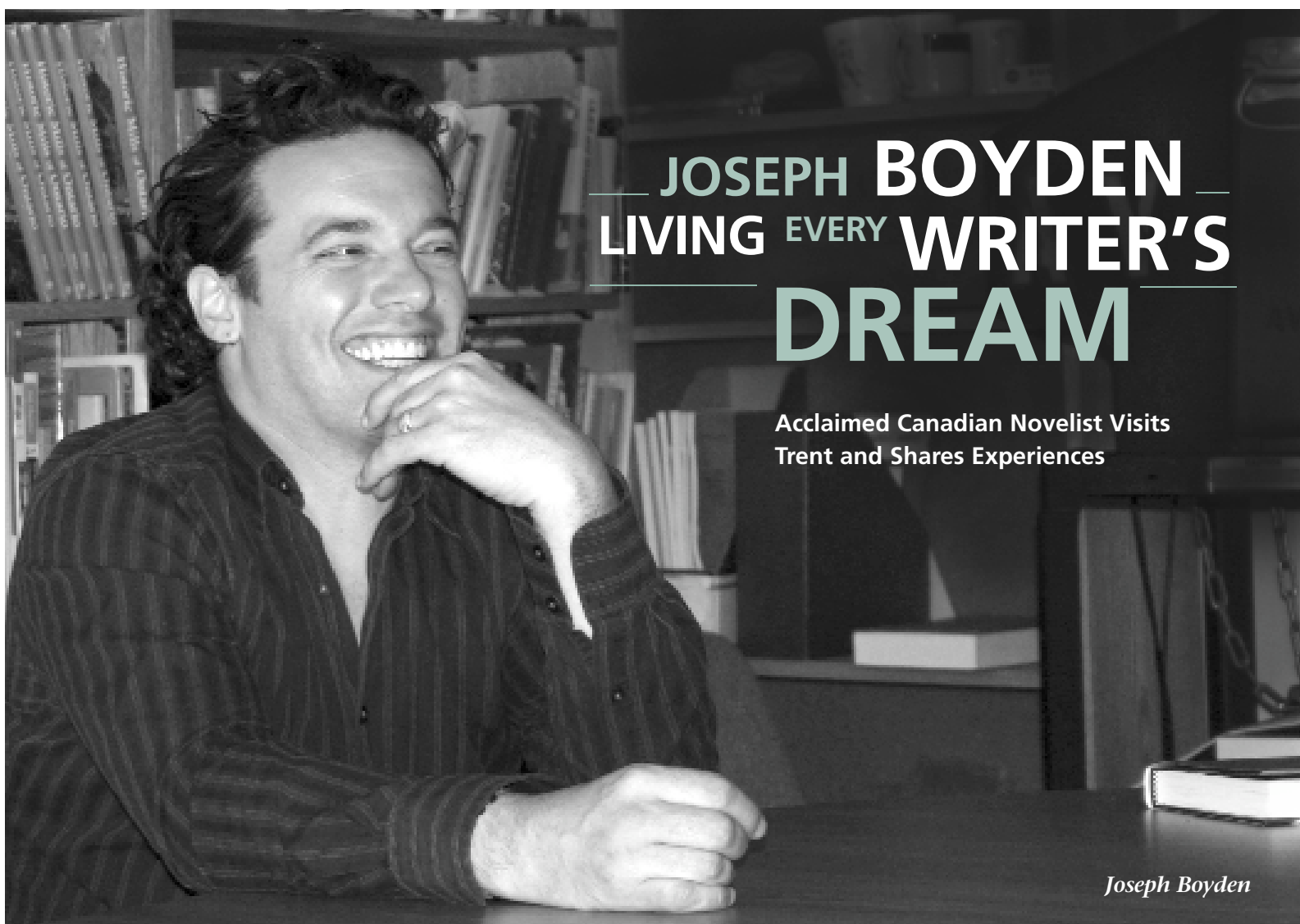
On Friday, February 17, Professor Lynne Davis appeared on *CHEX Television* talking about the Ipperwash Inquiry.

An interview with Laura Lynch, a star player on the Trent women’s volleyball team, was aired on the *FAN 590’s* OCAA College Report segment on Sunday, February 19.



The 27th annual Elders and Traditional Peoples Gathering held at Trent was featured in articles and photos in the *Peterborough Examiner* on Saturday, February 18 and Monday, February 20.

Trent University’s new VP of Advancement and External Relations was featured on a *CHEX Television* segment on Tuesday, February 28. Dianne Lister discussed starting her new position and her 100 Day Plan. 🌱



For the past several years Joseph Boyden has spent much of his time teaching American and International students about the great writers of Canadian literature. Outside of the classroom, Mr. Boyden is steadily building his own reputation as a great Canadian author and, with the success of his first novel, *Three Day Road*, it won’t be long before his own novel is considered part of the literary canon.

*Three Day Road*, a tale that weaves together the experiences of two Cree boys who enlist in the First World War with the stories of an Oji-Cree medicine woman, was released in the spring of 2005 and has catapulted Mr. Boyden into the lime-light both here in Canada and abroad.

“Every writer’s dream is what has happened to me so far,” Mr. Boyden remarked during his visit to Trent in February. For a period of two weeks he stayed at the University as the Margaret Laurence Writer in Residence and the Northern Chair Lecturer, talking about his work, his life, and his experience to date as a writer.

Born and raised in Toronto and Georgian Bay as one of eleven children, Mr. Boyden

completed his undergraduate degree at York University before moving on to attain an M.F.A. from the University of New Orleans, where he also met his wife, Amanda, a fellow writer and trapeze artist. After graduation the two returned to Canada where Mr. Boyden took a teaching position in James Bay. Two years later they returned to New Orleans where he accepted a teaching position at the University of New Orleans. For the last seven years they have been living there, travelling regularly back to Canada where most of his family still lives.

As a writer, his life over the past year has been a whirlwind of activity. After having his first collection of short stories, *Born with a Tooth*, accepted for publication in 2000, Mr. Boyden went to work quietly on his first novel. For four and a half years he

retreated into the world of Xavier Bird, Elijah Weesageechak,

and aunt Niska, familiarized himself with first-hand accounts of soldiers in the Great War, and explored his native background and heritage.

His hard work paid off when the completed manuscript was

picked up quickly by an agent and a bidding war between every major publisher in Canada ensued. Not long after, the same thing happened in the United States and abroad and now, to date, the book has been translated into 13 languages, including Cree – one of the only novels

Experiencing all that the Trent community has to offer is exactly how Mr. Boyden spent his time here. In between a set schedule of book signings, readings, and lectures, he attended classes, met with students off campus, and even lent his support to a national student conference.

“I have had an overwhelming reception here in Peterborough,” Mr. Boyden remarked during one of his scheduled readings. “I am really honoured by it.”

Looking to the future, Mr. Boyden has already started work on his second novel, tentatively titled *She Takes You Down*. Throughout

the writing process, he will continue teaching the work of great Canadian authors like Margaret Atwood, Anne-Marie MacDonald, Andrew Pyper, and Michael Winter to students at the University of New Orleans, a task Mr. Boyden describes fondly as “doing my own little bit to introduce Canadian writing to the world.”

Little does he know that it will be his work as an author of the latest great Canadian novel that will make an impact on the world for years to come, helping to solidify Canada’s reputation as a country with astounding literary talent. 🌱



Mr. Boyden meets with Grad students at Traill College.

to have this latter distinction. In addition, *Three Day Road* has also won several awards including the McNally Robinson Aboriginal Book of the Year Award.

“It was like a domino effect,” Mr. Boyden recalls.

In terms of his time here at Trent, Mr. Boyden was only too pleased to accept the invitation.

“I jumped at the opportunity to spend a couple of weeks at Trent,” said Mr. Boyden. “I have heard such great things about it, about the involved community and about the students who are so gung-ho about whatever they are doing.”



# A QUESTION OF SUSTAINABILITY



John Elkington, Ana Lopes and Don Tapscott

According to John Elkington the world “is moving into a period of significant discontinuity” and although this means there may be some tough times ahead, the forecasted bumps in the road may be just what are needed to get things back on track.

This notion of heading for a period of change and our inability as citizens of the world to do anything to stop it were key themes addressed throughout this year’s annual Tapscott-Lopes Business and Society Lecture delivered on February 15 by John Elkington.

Described as a “campaigner in the boardroom”, Mr. Elkington is the founder and current Chief Entrepreneur of SustainAbility, an independent think tank and strategy consul-

tancy based out of London, Zurich, Washington, and San Francisco. He is an internationally recognized expert in the fields of business and the environment and has spent the past 25 years working with major corporations and organizations, such as Greenpeace International, the World Wildlife Fund, Ford, and Unilever, teaching them about sustainability and working with them to implement actions in an attempt to ensure they stand the test of time.

Throughout the years, however, and in spite of the changes the business world has adopted to become more corporately and socially “responsible”, Mr. Elkington has observed that it just will not be enough to alter the trajectory/path the world is now on.

“If you added up all the positive things companies are doing, it still doesn’t add up to enough,” Mr. Elkington stated during a pre-lecture talk to students of a fourth year Sustainability class. He went on to explain that the economic bubble the world is currently experiencing will inevitably pop and, although he

## ANNUAL TAPSCOTT-LOPES BUSINESS AND SOCIETY LECTURE

is optimistic the human spirit will get us through the tough times, he is also certain that we are going to come out of it having to adjust to a very different world.

“The 21st Century might turn out to be a much more complicated time than any of us imagine,” he said.

Mr. Elkington followed up on this idea of change throughout his lecture later that evening. Using the title “Harnessing our Better Instincts: The New Role of Business in a Sustainable World”, Mr. Elkington first made it clear that, in his personal and professional opinion, the world is far from being sustainable. In fact, citing trends outlining the world’s over consumption and the rise of global average temperatures, Mr.

Elkington observed, “we are not even headed in that direction.”

“We’re like people sitting down and having a nice cup of tea on the deck of the Titanic,” he remarked.

Throughout his lecture, Mr. Elkington delved into discussion on sustainability “waves” and issues with various terms such as “corporate social responsibility”. In addition, he explored the “Triple Bottom Line” and the move businesses have seemingly taken to approach everything from three perspectives – economic, social, and environmental – in an attempt to follow a path to sustainability. The role of business in sustainable development was the main focus of the lecture as Mr. Elkington examined the “four B’s of

**“We’re like people sitting down and having a nice cup of tea on the deck of the Titanic.” – John Elkington**

“Business can’t do what is necessary,” he said, going on to explain that governments around the world need to get involved and take the lead on a variety of important issues including, HIV/AIDS, pandemics, bribery and corruption, and climate change.

Increasing government’s role, however, has its complications as well, as Mr. Elkington explained. In fact, although he

advocates for government to take on more responsibility, he also emphasizes that the

creation of more standards and regulations is not the way to go.

So, what does Mr. Elkington suggest?

“We need to destabilize things rather than stabilize them,” Mr. Elkington said, alluding to the notion that real change comes in the face of major upheaval and from true innovation. And if history has taught us anything, it is that times of upheaval and change are inevitable – we just have to wait and see what the next wave will bring.

The annual Tapscott-Lopes Business and Society Lecture is made possible through a fund established by husband and wife team, Don Tapscott and Ana Lopes, and designed to bring prominent speakers to the Trent community in order to address issues of values and ethics as they pertain to business and society. Since its inception in 2003, the annual lecture has featured many prominent speakers, including Mr. Tapscott himself who is an international authority on the application of technology in business. ☺

blended values” – brands, balance sheets, boards, and business models – and the inherent aspects of corporations that make it difficult for them to be truly responsible.

Overall though, it was the notion that, despite what business may appear to be doing, it won’t be enough to make a considerable difference that Mr. Elkington kept coming back to.

To better understand its future facility needs, Trent University is inviting students and employees to participate in a consultation process to exchange ideas about the future of existing and potential facilities.

A series of consultations are planned in the coming weeks, with each consultation session focusing on a particular topic. Individuals are welcome and encouraged to attend the sessions that interest them. Your opinions matter and we want to hear what you think about the possible future priorities for existing and new facilities.

To assist the University, a consulting company has been selected to lead the consultation process and prepare a report. The IBI Group was founded in 1974 and is concentrated in four main areas of development: Urban Land, Facilities, Transportation and Systems. The professional services provided by IBI include planning, design, implementation, analysis of operations, and other consulting

## IMPROVING TRENT UNIVERSITY’S FACILITIES

### Students and Employees Invited to Participate in Consultation Process

services related to these four main areas of development.

IBI Group has been involved in master planning for post secondary educational institutions for over 20 years. Clients include George Brown College, York University, Humber College, University of Toronto, Centennial College, University of Alberta, Dawson College, Montreal, and the University of California, Riverside. Their task is to provide an objective, third party overview of the range of opinions, ideas and possible directions for facility development. The consultants’ findings and recommendations to the Board of Governors will be used in the development of a University Facility Strategy for the next 10 years.

A goal of the project is to identify a list of priority projects through an objective evaluation, consultation and selection process.

All of the diverse advice, opinions, history and perspectives presented during the consultation process will be welcomed, and although it is not expected that there will be complete concurrence on all issues, Trent does recognize that the input from invested community members is critical to making an informed decision.

Some of the topics to be addressed include:

- Renovations to and potential expansion of the athletics facility;
- The possibility of relocating existing administration functions in the Bata Library to

increase space for library holdings and library services;

- Assessing the potential for a year-round Conference facility;
- Updating the database of renovations and improvements to better understand the cost of current and future maintenance liabilities against potential new capital projects;
- The creation of a new space to support the planned expansion of Trent’s Graduate Education programs from 250 to approximately 600 graduate student spaces during the next two to four years;
- Defining a facility plan to support the potential growth of the Nursing and Teacher Education programs, in response to student demand;

- Developing a strategy to identify space requirements to support the expansion of research areas;
- Obtaining input from the University community on the options to create a new Student Centre to provide space for clubs and groups, common student space, services, and student support services;
- Assessing the needs for additional teaching space in accordance with enrolment projections; and
- Assessing the condition of the Traill College facilities and operation costs as part of the Board of Governors 2001 plan to review the college relocation decision in 2006, following an assessment of enrolment growth against the institutional plan, government funding, and institutional finances.

For more information about the facilities consultation process and to view a list of all of the upcoming meetings/topics, please visit: <http://www.trentu.ca/facilities/> ☺





## THE AESTHETICS OF POLITICS

Davide Panagia's first book, *The Poetics of Political Thinking*, was released last month

The old saying "Don't judge a book by its cover" is one of the silliest things Professor Davide Panagia, the Canada Research Chair in Cultural Studies at Trent University, has ever heard. According to Professor Panagia, judging by appearances is exactly what everyone does all the time. This being the case, he is hoping people like the look of his first book, *The Poetics of Political Thinking*, being released this

month, enough to pick it up and find out what it is all about. Targeted at upper level undergraduate and graduate students as well as anyone interested in the area of Cultural Studies, the book aims to expand our view of politics, and what counts as political, by examining the topic from an aesthetic perspective. According to Professor Panagia, "Politics isn't just what happens in Ottawa" and this book is a first step towards

examining exactly "how our different political imaginaries are structured and informed by our aesthetic sensibilities." Being released by Duke University Press this month, *The Poetics of Political Thinking* is the culmination of a lot of hard work and dedication. From 1998, when the outline was written, to spring of 2005, when the manuscript was complete, the book has been a major focus in Professor Panagia's life as it

has followed him from his days as a graduate student at Hopkins University to his time here at Trent. Born out of the observation that, within the discipline of political theory, few people pay attention to aesthetics, Professor Panagia's book strives to show that "by not paying attention, we limit our own ways of thinking about politics, and also what we allow ourselves to recognize as political." In other words, it is Professor Panagia's argument that our tastes are just as important to our political judgements as are our moral, economic and policy values. Language is one area in particular that lends itself well to the aesthetics in politics debate. In fact, the political stature given to language is a main focus of the book, hence the title, *The Poetics of Political Thinking*. With each chapter being dedicated to examining the work of a different historical or contemporary philosopher, Professor Panagia's book "intervenes in the debates about the political stature of language and the privilege we give to language as a tool for politics". The work of the great philosophers is not the only thing that inspired Professor Panagia in the writing of his book. In fact, he credits his time at Trent and the experiences he has had with the people here as a factor in the successful completion of a book that

has received many positive reviews already. "Trent is a great learning environment for me," he says. "Here I can engage with people at a level that is very satisfying." The department of Cultural Studies and Trent's commitment to the humanities and the liberal arts are some of the other reasons Professor Panagia feels at home and inspired here and this inspiration has led not only to the completion of a book but also to the development of a multi-media research space. Specifically designed for teaching interactive classes, hosting visiting speakers, and providing a space for students to screen and analyze films, the Media Research Space is something of which Professor Panagia is particularly proud because it helps to solidify the reputation of Trent's Cultural Studies department as unique and different in that it offers so much opportunity for interaction, rather than being "just a talking heads department". As Professor Panagia's time as the Canada Research Chair in Cultural Studies at Trent continues, he looks forward to continuing to work with students and faculty, and coming up with new and exciting courses and opportunities to showcase the department. With the launch of his first book and another one looking at "the political life of sensations" already in the works, he is already well on his way. 🍎



## QUEEN'S-TRENT CONCURRENT EDUCATION

Association in Education Renewed for Another Five Years

An association in education between two Ontario institutions that's lasted more than 30 years was recently renewed at Trent University. The Queen's-Trent Concurrent Education Program reached a new Memorandum of Agreement – a five year renewal of the long-held and highly successful association in education. Since 1973, Trent University at Peterborough, Ontario and Queen's University at Kingston, Ontario have cooperated with regard to a community-based teacher education program referred to as the Queen's-Trent Concurrent Teacher Education Program. The program is based on a concurrent pattern of education. Students in the program are concurrently enrolled at both Trent and Queen's. They complete

Bachelor of Arts (Honours) or Bachelor of Science (Honours) requirements through Trent and Bachelor of Education degree requirements through Queen's. Students in the program are encouraged, though not required, to do their practica in schools located in the Greater Peterborough Area. Attracting students with an average entering grade of 85% overall, the Queen's-Trent Concurrent Education Program produces exceptional teacher candidates. "Queen's is very pleased with the quality of students coming through the Concurrent Ed program," said Leroy Whitehead, associate dean of education at the signing. "And cooperation between the two universities is at a very

high level." It's this level of cooperation that has maintained the thirty-three year relationship. In large part, the new agreement rolls over what has been a relationship that has been mutually beneficial for both institutions – and, more importantly, for the many students attracted to the program. "The students are regarded as very well prepared for entry into the teaching profession – both from their experiences at Trent and their training at Queen's," said Colin Taylor, Trent's dean of arts and science. "Both parties are delighted by the signing of this new agreement." The Queen's-Trent Concurrent Education program complements Trent University's newer Consecutive Education program, launched in 2003. 🍎



Present at the signing of the new five-year agreement of the Queen's-Trent Concurrent Education Program were Leroy Whitehead, associate dean of education at Queen's University; Brian McAndrews, practicum coordinator at Queen's University; Sharon Carew, program coordinator for the Queen's-Trent Concurrent Education program; Colin Taylor, dean of arts and science at Trent University; and Joe Muldoon, assistant to the dean of arts and science at Trent University.





### Another Successful Summer Job and Volunteer Fair Wraps Up

Gzowski College at Symons campus was a lively hot spot on February 9 as Trent's Career Centre hosted their fourth annual Summer Job and Volunteer Fair. With an unprecedented 31 organizations in attendance, over 1,000 students had the opportunity to explore opportunities, network, and apply for jobs and volunteer positions on the spot.

Participating employers ranged from public sector companies to non-profit organizations and on-campus departments.

"It was the best fair I have been a part of," said Maggie Sullivan of Youth Programs and Services at the YMCA of Peterborough.

The focus of the Summer Job and Volunteer Fair is on seasonal employment and volunteer opportunities and is one of three large recruitment events put on by the Career Centre each year.

### Hundreds Participate in 27th Annual Elders and Traditional Peoples Gathering

The Native Studies department at Trent University held their 27th annual Elders and Traditional Peoples Gathering over the weekend of February 17. In spite of the cold weather, over 600 people attended and participated in events and activities.

Highlights of the weekend included Tipi creeping and the morning Sunrise Ceremonies held on both the Saturday and Sunday. This year's gathering, entitled "Passing It On", featured traditional and contemporary teachings, workshops by

elders and Trent Aboriginal faculty, and aboriginal crafts for sale. A special menu was even prepared and available all weekend in the cafeteria.

Guest speakers include: Mike McDonald and Ernie Benedict (Akwasasne), Jacqui LaValley (Shawanaga), Kathy Bird (Peguis, Manitoba), Norma General and Jan Longboat (Six Nations), Dorothy Cameron (Shoal Lake), Sylvia Maracle (Tyendinega), and William Commanda (Maniwaki).

### Ashley Fellows for 2006/2007 Announced

For the second year in a row, the Senate of Trent University has appointed two Ashley Fellows for the upcoming academic year.

Professor David Montgomery, described as one of the most eminent historians in the United States, is an international scholar of significance and a sought-after lecturer and public speaker. Best known for authoring such books as *Beyond Equality: Labor and the Radical Republicans*, and more recently, *Citizen Worker*, Professor Montgomery has made a name for himself through the study and examination of labour movements in the United States.

Professor Peter Stephenson is an internationally-recognized senior medical anthropologist. Receiving his doctorate from the University of Toronto, Professor Stephenson has held teaching positions at various institutions all over Canada and abroad. He currently resides at the University of Victoria where he holds the distinguished position of a Michael Smith Fellow. Professor Stephenson's research extends

across multiple disciplines. He is currently working on a book, tentatively titled *Zombie Factory*, which looks at the popular misconceptions of stress and early mortality experiences in post-industrial societies.

Both Ashley Fellows will be hosted by Champlain College.

### Trent Professor Travels to Palestine to Observe National Election

Professor Marion Boulby travelled to Palestine in January as a member of the Canada Corp Team, sent to observe the Palestinian legislative election and to help ensure that it was run freely and fairly.

In total, 56 Canadians served on the Canadian Observation Mission for the West Bank and Gaza legislative elections held on January 25, 2006. Professor Boulby was one of 39 short-term observers who stayed for approximately ten days. This mission marked the first time Canada has sent its own team to observe elections.

Professor Boulby, who also travelled to Palestine last year to observe the Presidential elections as part of a Canadian contingent under the European Union, was pleased to be involved in the process for a second time.



"One of the most striking aspects was to experience the euphoria the Palestinians felt at having the opportunity to vote in these elections," recalled Professor Boulby whose personal role was to help set up voting stations, observe voting, and monitor the counts.

### TSSC Assistant Director Honoured with Award

Barry van Dompsele, Assistant Director at Trent Summer Sports Camp, was recently honoured by the Ontario Camping Association as the recipient of the Ron and Mickey Johnstone Youth Leadership Award. The award is presented yearly to young camp professionals who have demonstrated outstanding leadership of youth through innovation and creativity. Barry, who is known as "Oscar" at camp, was presented with the award on February 18 by Mickey Johnstone at the Association's Annual Conference in Alliston, Ontario.

**Correction:** From the holiday list in the last Focus Trent, please note the last day the University will be open to the public is December 21, 2006, (not 31st).

### Joan Sangster Wins Killam Research Fellowship

A Trent professor was named as one of ten new Killam Research Fellows for 2006. Professor Joan Sangster was awarded this top honour for her proposal, "Transforming Labour: Women and Paid Work in Post World War II Canada", which will examine the transformations in women's lives in the period between 1945 and 1975, paying particular attention to the impact of paid work.

Among Canada's most distinguished research awards, the Canada Council for the Arts Killam Research Fellowships are designed to recognize and support distinguished Canadian scholars, normally full time professors at Canadian universities and research institutes, who have established an outstanding reputation in their area of research. The Fellowship will provide Professor Sangster with two years of release time from teaching and administrative duties, thereby allowing her to conduct extensive research and ultimately create a history of working women in this post-war period.

"I feel very honoured and privileged," said Professor Sangster. "This is an amazing opportunity, especially for people in the humanities who need the time to write."

### Trent Fencer Wins Top Honour

Trent University varsity fencer, Tamar Walsh, was presented with the Dave O'Donnell Most Valuable Player Award during the OUA Championships in February. The award, given out once a year to a university female fencer who best shows the attributes of skill, style and sportsmanship, is a top honour in the sport.

"I was surprised when my name was called for the award," Ms. Walsh said. "It's nice to be recognized for my style of fencing and skill, but I think it is nicer to know that people acknowledge when you are being friendly."



Ms. Walsh first started fencing when she arrived at Trent four years ago. Over her university fencing career, she has made it to finals for both individual and team events for every year she has competed. Hailing from Coldwater, Ontario, Ms. Walsh will graduate in the spring with a degree in Anthropology.

## UPCOMING events

[www.trentu.ca/events](http://www.trentu.ca/events)

**March 10:** The second annual Women's Studies Research Day will be held from 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. in the "Pit" at Lady Eaton College. A reception will follow.

**March 15:** New Directions in Canadian Research lecture, "The Dominion of Youth: Towards a Historical Understanding of Generation and Nation" by Prof. Cynthia Comacchio, Wilfrid Laurier University. Wilson Reading Room, Kerr House, Traill College. 3:00 p.m. All welcome.

**March 15:** Thomas H.B. Symons Seminar Series on Graduate Student Research. Traill College Junior Common Room, 7:00 p.m. All welcome. [www.trentu.ca/gsa](http://www.trentu.ca/gsa)

**March 16:** Writers Reading Series, A.F. Moritz, award winning author and poet. Lady Eaton College Pit, 8:00 p.m.

**March 21:** Trent alum and Vision TV President, Bill Roberts, will deliver a talk on "Faith and the Media", 7:30 p.m. Champlain College Council Chambers.

**March 23:** Rooke Lecture Series, "Creating the Past: Myth, History and Fiction", by M.G. Vissanji, a Canadian writer of Indian origin. Peterborough Public Library, 7:30 p.m.

**March 23:** Lecture on Forensic Anthropology by Tracy Rogers, University of Toronto. Otonabee College, Room 109, 3:00 p.m.

**March 27:** Spirit Within, student Art Show, begins. Seasoned Spoon/Champlain College Senior Common Room.

**March 30:** Kathleen O'Shea will deliver a talk, "Women on Death Row". Peterborough Public Library Auditorium, 7:30 p.m.

**March 31:** Native Studies Department presents "Cinema, Creation and Conversation: Film Festival and Pop-Culture Conference". First Peoples House of Learning (Gzowski College). All day festival begins at 9:30 a.m. Free. Everyone welcome. 748.1011 x7912 or [kharriso@trentu.ca](mailto:kharriso@trentu.ca) for details.

**April 1:** Classes end. 🍀



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