



# focus

# trent

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## in the news



Trent's Dean of Research and Graduate Studies, Chris Metcalfe, garnered front page coverage in the *Globe and Mail* on Monday, October 21. Featured in an article about the presence of pharmaceutical drugs traces in Canadian rivers and streams, Prof. Metcalfe was the first expert quoted in the article.



Prof. John Jennings's new book, *The Canoe: A Living Tradition*, was reviewed in a full centre-spread of the *Globe and Mail's* Book section on Saturday, October 12.



The *Toronto Star* featured Yann Martel's recent Booker Prize win on the cover of its Entertainment section on Wednesday, October 23.



Television crews from the Discovery channel visited Trent twice over the last month. They were on hand to interview Jose Kusugak, president of Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami, and Trent's Dr. Brad White.



## thinking big

Open dialogue and critical thought have been tenets of life at Trent for many years. Perhaps that could be said of most university environments but, at Trent, these principles seem to flourish in a very big way.

The resulting atmosphere on campus is one that nurtures higher thought, and has quite possibly played a role in attracting so many progressive thinkers and leaders to Trent each year.

Assessing just how many visitors speak at Trent and interact with students is quite astounding. The depth and range of topics addressed by guests is broad and presents students with many opportunities to rub shoulders with great visionaries and artists.

Take, for instance, a two-month period this fall. During the months of October and November there have been an impressive list of guests at the University. Inevitably, each of these visitors has the potential of shaping the experiences of students in a tangible and meaningful way. Here are a few examples of the quality leaders who came to Trent during this time period.

❖ Jose Kusugak, president of the Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami, spoke to students on Wednesday,

October 9, in the Native Studies lounge. A leader of substantial national importance, Mr. Kusugak presides over the largest geographic area of Canada. As president of the Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami (formerly known as the Inuit Tapirisat of Canada), he is the spokesperson for all of Canada's Inuit peoples and his talk at Trent focussed on issues of implementing land claims in the Arctic.

❖ First-year Trent students enrolled in Administration 100 were treated to a guest lecture on Monday, October 7, by the Bhutanese Minister of Finance Yeshey Zimba.

Mr. Zimba's daughter, Sonam Chuki Zimba, is a second-year student at Trent University and Mr. Zimba delivered the guest lecture while visiting her at the University.

"It was a very interesting talk. I was very excited to have him in our class," says Administration 100 Professor Ray Dart.

❖ The Honourable James K. Bartleman, lieutenant-governor of Ontario, was on campus November 7 as part of a panel discussion for Trent University's annual Pine Tree Talks lecture series. This lecture was hosted by Trent's Native Studies

Department, in partnership with the Canadian Mental Health Association. Other panelists for the event were Michael Degagne of the Aboriginal Healing Foundation and Native Studies Professor Shirley Williams.

❖ Shirley Douglas came to Trent on November 12 to give the honorary annual Margaret Laurence lecture. As spokesperson for the Canadian Health Coalition, Ms. Douglas named her talk "Health Care in Crisis: You Have the Power to Save it." A lifelong advocate of the preservation of Canada's health care system, Ms. Douglas is the daughter of Irma and Tommy Douglas of Saskatchewan and has a distinguished career as an actor.

❖ On the literary front, there have been some notable guests this fall. P.K. Page, Canadian poet, writer and visual artist, was celebrated during a four-day conference at the end of October and was present throughout the event. Poets Rosemary Sullivan, Marilyn Bowering, Patrick Lane and Carolyn Zonailo also participated in the conference.

❖ Renowned Canadian author Alistair Macleod is this year's Ashley Fellow and students will

▲ Pictured above, clockwise from left: Lieutenant-governor of Ontario James K. Bartleman, and Canadian poets P.K. Page and Marilyn Bowering.

have numerous opportunities to talk with him. His first appearance will be on Nov. 21 when he delivers a Rooke lecture. Mr. Macleod will talk with students in small-group settings. Mr. Macleod is the author of the novel *No Great Mischief*, as well as the short-story collections *Island*, *The Lost Salt Gift of Blood* and *As Birds Bring Forth the Sun and Other Stories*. (see pg. 3 for more details)

❖ Additional guests at Trent this fall have included the CBC's Shelagh Rogers, pianist and new music performer Eve Egoyan, Tim Wynne-Jones, and various guest lecturers in the Rooke lecture series, the Champlain College visitor's series and the LEC social issues lecture series.

Higher thinking of this sort inevitably creates an environment that enhances learning at all levels. This benefits students, of course, but also enriches the lives of all members of the Trent community. ☺

# pioneers go electronic

Michael Peterman, professor of English literature at Trent and, fittingly, principal of Traill College, has long been recognized as a leading expert on the lives of 19th-century authors Susanna Moodie and Catharine Parr Traill. He has spent decades researching the works of these two influential early Canadian writers, and is one of three academics who have painstakingly edited and preserved volumes of correspondence by Moodie and Traill.

Recently Mr. Peterman was thrilled to see a new resource open up for anyone interested in learning more about these fascinating sisters. A Web site has been launched by the National Library of Canada that boasts a wide array of documents and information about Moodie and Traill. Mr.

Peterman was asked to serve as a curator of the site, and worked for over two years to develop all of the copy and text with Beth Hopkins, a colleague from York University, and Carl Ballstadt, a colleague from McMaster University.

"The idea behind the site was to blend the resources of two institutions – the National Library and the National Archives. With both Moodie and Traill, information ended up in both locations. There were some Traill books in the archives and a significant collection of letters was repatriated from New York to the National Library," he explains. "With the Web site, the material can be fully accessible to the public and the resources can be integrated."

Hundreds of original letters



are posted on the site, as well as biographical, historical and contextual information. Additional resources and lesson plans are also posted, and the site is accented by original photographs and illustrations.

The site can be found at [www.nlc-bnc.ca/moodie-traill](http://www.nlc-bnc.ca/moodie-traill). ☺

▲ Professor Michael Peterman has been applauded for his work in curating a new Web site that celebrates the lives of 19th-century Canadian authors Susanna Moodie and Catharine Parr Traill.

# Spreading the word

Trent Students For Literacy student tutor co-ordinator Tara Kerba (right) and TSFL volunteer Liz Cacciaccaro challenge one another to find items in an *I Spy* book, one of many books that are part of the TSFL's resource library in Champlain College.



A group of dedicated students at Trent really walk the talk of community outreach.

Approximately 80 student volunteers form the Trent Students For Literacy (TSFL) group, and they forge many bridges to the Peterborough community as they help others develop literacy skills.

There are a few different ways students can volunteer with TSFL. They can be involved in a leadership capacity, as part of the organizational team. They can choose to tutor children or teens on a one-to-one basis. They can lead weekly reading circles with groups of children. Or they can opt to read to elderly residents at Riverview Manor. All volunteers spend at least one hour each week engaged in their TSFL activity.

"People are really eager to volunteer with us," says student tutor co-ordinator Tara Kerba, a fourth-year psychology student.

"I was a reading circle volunteer for two years and I loved it. It was very rewarding," adds fourth-year student Liz Cacciaccaro. "The children were always looking forward to it."

Ms. Cacciaccaro spent her reading circle time with a group of three- and four-year-old children at the Trent Child Care Centre. There are three other locations – Peterborough Square, the Peterborough Family Resource Centre and Grove Public School – where reading circles take place on a weekly basis.

"This is completely student-driven," says Marisa Conlin, regional co-ordinator with Frontier College, a Canada-

wide, volunteer-based literacy organization that supports TSFL. Ms. Conlin is a former Trent student and TSFL volunteer and says that the Trent program is one of the oldest in Ontario. It began in 1993, one year after the first group of its kind was launched at McGill University in Quebec.

Local educators and resource centre staff often refer students to the TSFL program. Word of mouth has also helped the program grow, and parents often call the TSFL office directly.

For more information about the TSFL program, please e-mail [tsfl@trentu.ca](mailto:tsfl@trentu.ca) or call the office at 748-1011 x 5362. An excellent resource library is also available at the TSFL office in Champlain College. ☺



# bringing home the booker

Trent University alumnus Yann Martel prevailed over six distinguished finalists and won the prestigious Man Booker Prize.

The Booker Prize was awarded to Mr. Martel for his novel *Life of Pi*, the story of a young man who finds himself stranded in a lifeboat with a hyena, an orangutan, a zebra, and a Bengal tiger. Among other contenders for the coveted literary prize were Rohinton Mistry's *Family Matters* and Carol Shields's latest work, *Unless*.

A student at Trent University during the 1980s, Yann Martel graduated with a B.A. in philosophy in 1985. Dr. Constantin Boundas was one of his philosophy professors and recalls Mr. Martel's voracious appetite for debate. "He was a young man of strong beliefs and he was not unwilling to share them with his fellow students," said Prof. Boundas. "As a result, he generated robust discussion in class."

Prof. Boundas also recalls that Mr. Martel expressed a fervent desire to write. "He was ripe to write," said Prof. Boundas. "He was more in tune with his talents and abilities than most of us."

The Man Booker Prize is one of the pre-eminent literary prizes worldwide. Previous winners include Salman Rushdie, Michael Ondaatje and Margaret Atwood. Ms. Atwood commented in the *Sunday Times* that "*Life of Pi* is not just a readable and engaging novel, it's a finely twisted length of yarn, a boys' adventure for grownups." The Man Booker Prize comes with a cash award of \$120,000 (Cdn) and Mr. Martel can expect to see an increase in sales and recognition worldwide.

Mr. Martel currently lives in Berlin where he is teaching a university course on animals in literature. ☺

Alistair Macleod, an Ontario author with Cape Breton roots, will arrive on campus this month as the 2002-03 Ashley Fellow.

Mr. Macleod is perhaps most celebrated for his 1999 novel *No Great Mischief*, a work that was published followed two internationally-acclaimed collections of short stories, *The Lost Salt Gift of Blood* (1976) and *As Birds Bring Forth the Sun* (1986). In 2000 Mr. Macleod's short stories were gathered together with two new stories and published in a single-volume book entitled *Island*.



**Alistair Macleod**

"I am a great fan of Alistair's work," comments Orm Mitchell, professor of English literature at Trent. "He could be described as a modern day ancient mariner."

Prof. Mitchell has known Alistair Macleod for much of his life. His father, W.O. Mitchell, was a friend and colleague of

# a celtic beat

Mr. Macleod. When asked what element of Mr. Macleod's work he enjoys most, Prof. Mitchell notes the depth and resonance of Mr. Macleod's prose. "When Alistair talks to students about creative writing," Prof. Mitchell explains, "he says 'you want to write about what you deeply care about and take the reader into your story and make them stay there. You want to really move them and make them feel, when they turn the last page, that they have been changed.' That is what his work is like."

Prof. Mitchell notes that Trent was one of the first universities to put Mr. Macleod's work on course reading lists. Since the early 1980s his short stories have been read by students in English 265.

"Home has always been Cape Breton for Alistair," explains Prof. Mitchell. "One of

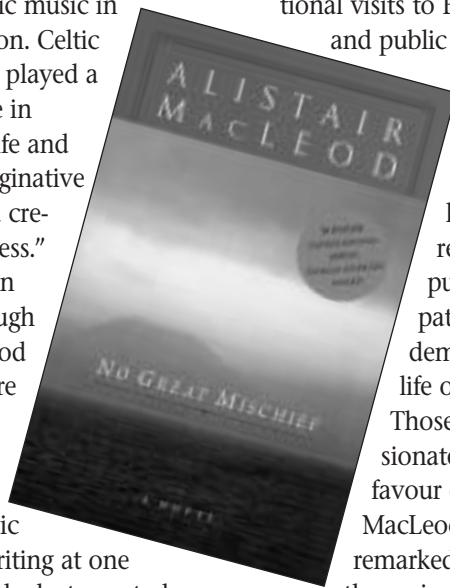
his short stories is called *The Tuning of Perfection* and it is about celtic music in Cape Breton. Celtic music has played a major role in Alistair's life and in his imaginative world and creative process."

While in Peterborough Mr. Macleod will explore the relationship between celtic music and his writing at one of the Rooke lectures, to be held at the Peterborough Public Library on November 21 at 7:30 p.m. His talk, entitled "The Tuning of Perfection," will include a reading of the short story by the same name.

The Rooke lecture is free and

open to the public.

While at the University in November, Mr. Macleod will also lead some creative writing workshops with Trent students. He will return to Trent in the new year for four to five weeks and that visit will include additional visits to English classes, and public readings.



The Ashley Fellow is a visiting scholar who gives public lectures, resides on campus and participates in the academic and college life of the university. Those who wrote passionate submissions in favour of Mr.

MacLeod's nomination remarked that, as one of the major sensations on the Canadian and international literary scene, he would greatly enrich the academic and creative experience of students at Trent. ☺

# rugby wrap-up

The Trent rugby teams have just wrapped up a stellar season.

The men's team played was extremely successful, making it to the quarter-final play-off level. This is the first time a Trent rugby team has reached such a high level of play.

"This Trent team has turned the corner and is now a power in varsity sports," says Trent Athletics Director Bill Byrick.

Coach Scott Dawson agrees. "The season went extremely



well," he says. "Over the past two seasons Trent has received a significant number of players who have played at a high

level, and there is a growth of interest in rugby at Trent. This year we had about 55 players come out for the men's team

and approximately 45 were practicing on a regular basis."

The women's rugby team also had a rewarding season. Fifty-two women were registered in the club this year, and team captain Kelly Broek says members were very enthusiastic. "I really enjoyed the support team members gave each other through the season," she says.

The women's team was coached this year by Kirstin Fuller and will go on a tour to Wales in February.

Both the men's and women's rugby teams were treated to a visit by Canadian national player Scott Stewart on October 23. Mr. Stewart conducted an afternoon clinic with many of Trent's rugby players, running drills and instructing players in technique. ☺



## UPCOMING EVENTS

- Nov. 14:** Call the Career Centre (748-1011 x 1385) to book an interview with TD bank in the Morton Reading Room, CC.
- Nov. 14:** Rick Miller, Canadian satirist and actor (creator and producer of McHomer), gives a workshop on acting and improvisation at Champlin College. 748-1011 x 1237.
- Nov. 15:** Career Centre workshops, Morton Reading Room, CC. Call 748-1011 x 1385 to RSVP.
- Nov. 15:** League play begins for campus rec. hockey. 748-1011 x 1257.
- Nov. 16:** Fall Tour day; campus tours leave Blackburn Hall every half hour, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. RSVP is not required.
- Nov. 17 & 24:** First aid courses offered at the Athletics Complex, 9 a.m. – 5:30 p.m. 748-1011 x 1257.
- Nov. 18:** The Canadian Armed Forces holds an info/recruitment session, 11 a.m. – 1 p.m. in the Morton Reading Room, CC.
- Nov. 20 – Dec. 7:** American filmmaker Alan Scott Moncrieff visits Champlin College to present workshops on producing video shorts and writing scripts. 748-1011 x 1237.
- Nov. 21:** K.E. Kidd Lecture Series and Colloquium with guest lecturer Shelly Saunders from McMaster University, OC 109, 4 – 6 p.m.
- Nov. 21:** Alistair Macleod delivers a Rooke lecture, Ptbo. Public Library, 7:30 p.m. Topic: "The Tuning of Perfection – Celtic Music and Writing."
- Nov. 26:** Senate meeting, 2 p.m., A.J.M. Smith Room, Bata Library.
- Nov. 27:** Faculty seminar, "Engaged Learning," OC 219, 12 noon – 1 p.m. 748-1011 x 1254.
- Nov. 27:** Writers Reading presents poet and novelist Catherine Jenkins at 8 p.m., OC SCR.
- Nov. 29:** Open session meetings of the Board of Governors, 1:00 p.m., A.J.M. Smith Meeting Room, Bata Library.
- Dec. 2:** Deadline for applications for research funding exceeding \$1,500 for the current academic year. Call Angie Best, ILC, ext. 1254, for more info.
- Dec. 5:** Rebecca Martel speaks about "Aboriginal Health and Wellness, Science Complex Lecture Hall, 7 p.m.
- Dec. 5:** Bill Kimball delivers a Rooke lecture, Ptbo. Public Library, 7:30 p.m. Topic: "New Dance in Peterborough and Canada."

## Committee info

A publication is now available summarizing committee information for Trent this year. The report identifies who is involved in each committee and presents an overview of the overall committee structure at Trent. If your issue of *Focus Trent* is missing a copy of this document, please visit [www.trentu.ca/committees](http://www.trentu.ca/committees).

## First-year survival

The Counselling Centre has added new information for first-year students to its Web page, as a way of sharing coping strategies with first-year students and parents. These sheets cover topics such as: the top ten ways to combat homesickness, homesickness won't last forever, how do I know if I need counselling, how to raise a parent while at university, tips for adjustment to university life, memo to parents and how to live with your roommate. As well, the counselling team can provide one-on-one help if a student would like to speak to someone about how they are feeling. Sessions are free for registered students and confidentiality in all cases is guaranteed. Call 748-1386 or log onto [www.trentu.ca/counselling](http://www.trentu.ca/counselling).

## Looking ahead

The Career Centre team at Trent is committed to helping students access information about career choices. In October an entire week of events raised the profile of the work of Career Centre staff, and an open door policy continues for any students interested in exploring issues related to the world of work.

Highlights of October events at the Career Centre included a grand opening celebration and a University-wide career fair, held in the Great Hall on Oct. 16. Students were also invited to attend sessions in the resource room to become acquainted with a WebCT career planning and work search program designed by Career Centre assistant Shannon Maguire.



## Meals on Wheels

Every weekday, a group of volunteers appears at Trill College to pick up Meals on Wheels food. Between 50 and 70 meals are served up each day by Trill College kitchen staff for this program.

Pat Osborne, an Aramark employee who manages most of the Meals on Wheels duties, packs up buns, soup, hot meals, sandwiches, desserts and more each day for delivery to local people who cannot easily get out of their homes. Meals on Wheels volunteer drivers pick up the packages and deliver meals each day.

Trill kitchen staff have been involved with the program for four years. Prior to that, meals were distributed out of the Peter Robinson College kitchen.



▲ Pat Osborne works in the kitchen at Trill College and makes over 400 meals each week for the local Meals on Wheels program.

## Diplomatic savvy

Over 80 high school students came to Trent from October 24 – 27 to participate in the TIME 2002 Model United Nations conference, organized by Ted Cragg.

Students represented a country at the conference and participated in various councils. Modelled on an existing United Nations structure and system of protocols, sessions included the Security Council, NATO, the League of Arab States, the New Economic Partnership for

◀ Career Centre assistant and Trent student Shannon Maguire (left) talks with Gwynne Roseborough, associate director of Student Affairs, at the centre's grand opening celebration on October 16.



African Development (NEPAD), Earth Summit 2002 and an international criminal tribunal of Slobodan Milosevic. Delegates studied issues facing the global community in advance and prepared working papers and resolutions that stated their chosen country's foreign policy. At Trent they spoke, lobbied and debated on behalf of their various countries.

## Feasting on fish

On Monday, November 4, the nation's top mercury researchers – including Trent's Dr. Holger Hintelmann, Dr. Peter Dillon and Dr. Doug Evans – gathered together for a unique fish banquet.

The Collaborative Mercury Research Network (COMERN), a national scientific organization of more than 50 Canadian mercury science researchers, held its annual general meeting at Elmhirst's Resort in the Kawarthas on November 4 and 5. As part of the schedule of events for November 4, a special meal featured local fish specialties and researchers and members of the media had the opportunity to eat together and discuss the issue of mercury and its impact on the environment. Particularly, issues around the consumption of freshwater fish were explored.

## Active living

Many student clubs are in full swing on campus at this time of year. Some examples of clubs that are currently active are the Trent International Student Association, Trent University Jiu Jitsu club, Trent African and Caribbean Student's Union, Students Against Sweatshops, Trent Central Student Association, Trent Christian Fellowship, Trent Muslim Students Association, Trent Radio, Trent Film Society and the Trent Skydiving club.

Most clubs are student-driven and completely student-run. For instance, fourth-year student Sarah Miller is the force behind the newly-formed skydiving club. She loves skydiving

▲ Students prepare for a mock press conference during the TIME 2002 Model United Nations conference held at Trent from October 24 – 27.

so much that she decided to see if other Trent students might like to give it a try, and has organized several trips over the academic year to Skydive Toronto. So far, there has been a lot of interest, and the club's first excursion took place on November 2 and 3.



▲ Student Sarah Miller has formed the Trent Skydiving Club this year.

## New menu

A new Aramark catering menu was launched at a luncheon event on Friday, October 18. The new "Classic Fare" menu features a blend of Aramark executive chef creations and Trent chef favourites.

Everything from breakfast items to desserts and specialty foods is offered. Some of the new catering menu items will appear in campus cafeterias, as well, so students will have an opportunity to sample a few dishes.



▲ Food Service Director Mary-Anne Thomas proudly displays a basket of new sandwiches available from the "Classic Fare" catering menu.

## Wearing the message

Nursing students at Trent have been enthusiastically wearing new t-shirts this year. Emblazoned with the slogan "Nursing: Giving Health Care a Shot in the...", the shirts boldly declare some of the messaging around nursing and its role in Canada's health care system.



▲ Lesley Lewis, director of the Trent/Fleming Bachelor of Science in Nursing program, stands with a group of nursing students in their 2002-03 t-shirts.

## Economics award

The Economics Department's Harold F. Dusen Prize for 2002-03 has been awarded to Matthew Dove. Mr. Dove is the eighth winner of this prize, which is awarded annually to the student "completing the third quarter of an honours program who has demonstrated exceptional promise and enthusiasm for the study and dissemination of the principles and practices of economics." As well, the department's M.J. Boote Scholarship for the 2001-02 academic year has been awarded to Ms. Wei Lynn Eng. This scholarship is awarded annually to the student entering the fourth quarter of the economics program who has attained the highest cumulative average in economics courses at Trent.

## Over the top!

The Trent United Way campaign has topped its goal of \$52,000! As of November 6, the total raised was \$52,326. This included the amount raised at the "Ride at the Y" event where the Trent team (Bonnie Patterson, Allan Barnfield, Meri Kim Oliver, Bill Byrick and Don Cumming) raised \$985.

## Keep clicking

When you turn your computer on each morning, don't forget to log onto the Trent home page at [www.trentu.ca](http://www.trentu.ca). Scroll down and you will find numerous daily news stories that feature slices of life on campus.