

TRENT

Spring 2007
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PUBLISHED BY THE TRENT UNIVERSITY ALUMNI ASSOCIATION



The Students of Alumni House

see page 16

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CELIA DYER '83

Teaching for Good

When I was asked to write a guest editorial for this magazine, I was inundated with memories of Trent that have made me smile several times over the past few weeks. I remember my tiny room upstairs in Langton House, and the rope fire-escape my Dad made and tied to the foot of my bed, ready to throw out the window in case of an emergency. He was quite concerned about my quaint but, in his mind, perhaps not-quite-to-code, lodgings. I remember working in the library at Kerr House and finding comfort in the quiet evenings, when gentle ghosts seemed to wander through the bookshelves. I remember intimate tutorials with passionate teachers who never tired of pushing my intellectual limitations further than I thought possible. I remember feeling welcome in this big, new world of university; Trent made the dream of my future seem attainable, and I clearly remember always feeling like I belonged.

Perhaps even more illuminating than the memories, have been the affirmations that have come clear as I recall my days at Trent. I am a high-school teacher in Salmon Arm, British Columbia. As many Trent graduates have done, I have opted for a career in the public-school system. I realize that the benefits of the small classes, the caring faculty, and the quality of teaching that I experienced at Trent have inspired my own work.

I love teaching. Often the political and bureaucratic inconveniences cause me to frown, but the inherent joy of helping kids learn permeates every working day. However, it seems that lately, public educators have had to work harder to preserve conditions that are conducive to optimal learning. We are continually fighting

to maintain reasonable class sizes and to serve students' individual needs as best we can. We have to, as these are issues at the heart of good education.

So, in preparation for my new venture as a contributor to this magazine, I have immersed myself in the current goings-on at Trent and have remembered how well I was treated and respected as a student there. It gives me hope to see a post-secondary institution concerned about matters of "good education," that is, recognizing individuals' differences and working hard to help those differences shine. I have learned that Trent's long-term financial and strategic plans include a focus on how best to serve first-generation students, students with special needs, and Aboriginal students. There is a commitment to hiring more faculty, which will help maintain small class sizes. These are essential considerations for any educational institution that truly believes in helping students realize their highest potential. Knowing that a university such as Trent is committed to these core values of education brings great reassurance as I send my charges off to realize the dreams of their own futures. [T celiadyer64@airspeedwireless.ca](mailto:celiadyer64@airspeedwireless.ca)



MATT GRIEM '97

You may have noticed that Trent's campuses have changed in the last five years. Peter Gzowski College now shines brightly on the east bank of the Symons Campus, a cutting-edge DNA cluster facility (affectionately called "Trent CSI" by some) is situated behind Otonabee College, and an upgraded athletic field (soon to be a stadium) is located toward the entrance of Bata Library.

For some alumni (including a number who haven't visited Trent since they graduated!), the campus may look different from the one they remember from their student days. Indeed, Trent has come a long way from Ron Thom's plan of 12 residential colleges that were to include, among other things, an art gallery and a museum.

In Trent's 43-year history, it has faced its share of financial challenges. Successive provincial and federal governments have reduced funding for post-secondary education, which has ultimately put a major squeeze on capital and physical resource maintenance budgets. The result has been that Trent, like many universities and colleges in Ontario, has had to make some hard decisions about how to continue to maintain its high quality of education while meeting ever-increasing facilities costs.

At the same time, Trent has also faced challenges in meeting the needs of its student population.

Playing a Constructive Role

Expectations have changed since we were in university.

Expectations have changed since we were in university. With the advent of new technology (e.g., the Internet), there is a greater expectation that universities will readily and quickly provide access to such innovations, which can add additional pressure to capital budgets.

Despite these challenges, Trent has been able to adapt and build a solid reputation for being "Canada's Outstanding Small University." Its picturesque campus, with its nature areas and unique architecture, are the envy of many higher educational institutions across the country. Although 12 colleges are no longer part of the long-term plan, Trent's five colleges and non-residential part-time college continue to attract students interested in broadening their horizons in the humanities, social sciences, sciences, nursing, and education.

I proudly believe that alumni have played a large role in helping Trent adapt and succeed over the years. Trent alumni care passionately about their university, and have sought to help wherever they can, be it advocating for Trent in their local community, writing to their local MPs and MPPs to demand additional funding for post-secondary education, providing expert advice, or contributing philanthropically to the University itself. In many cases, Trent alumni have played strong roles not only as critical thinkers, but also as bridge-builders seeking to provide constructive solutions.

As this academic year comes to a close, alumni will no doubt

again play a constructive role in helping Trent University adapt to the world around it. As the provincial government again limits funding for capital resources dedicated to undergraduate study, the University's administration will be seeking approval of a Facility Strategy, which will determine realistic and affordable capital priorities for the future. One area of major interest for alumni within this strategy has been the future of Traill College. The Board of Governors will be reviewing its options for the future of Traill, one of which is repurposing Traill College as a "graduate college" rather than closing it after 2007.

For our part, the Alumni Association has encouraged all alumni to be informed and has promoted opportunities for alumni involvement in the consultation process. We have also taken the bold step of passing two resolutions on the matter. First, the Council unanimously supported, in principle, the administration's proposal to repurpose Traill College. Second, the Council supported some continued undergraduate presence at Traill.

In our discussions, some councillors were concerned that the facilities proposal may have an impact on Trent's college system and wondered if there might be an opportunity to expand Traill's existing undergraduate residence facility. However, in the end, the Council was unanimous in its support of a future for Traill College. In short, the Association leadership recognizes that many alumni have extremely fond memories of their time spent at Traill College and are passionate about this important component of Trent University.

In my view, the proposal to

A Constructive Role cont'd on page 6



PRESIDENT BONNIE M. PATTERSON

As Trent University celebrates its 40th convocation, our newest and largest ever graduating class of students is about to reach personal and educational goals after several years of hard work at Trent. Just as they now turn their attention to a future beyond the University, at this time of year, I find myself similarly drawn by this milestone occasion to reflect on the accomplishments of the past year.

Following months of consultation and engaged discussion both on and off campus, "Learning to Make a World of Difference" was adopted as Trent's new headline. This dynamic phrase is meeting with great praise and support for its ability to express the uniqueness of "the Trent experience", and the ways in which our students, alumni and faculty make a difference in the world.

In fact, making a difference by reaching out here at home and throughout the world has characterized many of the University's activities over the past year. At the regional level, I have had the opportunity to speak to many community groups, including the Kiwanis Club, Kawartha Shriners, Knights of Columbus, and the Rotary Clubs of both Peterborough and Cobourg. It has been wonderful to see the ongoing enthusiasm for Trent in the community, the increasing awareness of the expertise and quality education experience offered and the development of partnerships as we pave the way

Learning to Make A World of Difference

for a prosperous future. This support is as critical today as it will be for the future of the University. In fact, Trent's enduring significance to this area compelled some of these organizations to create new student awards that will help future leaders today. Highlights included the Northumberland chapter of the Canadian Federation of University Women who established a new student bursary at Trent that was matched dollar for dollar by the Ontario Trust for Student Support thus leveraging further resources contributed by a community partner.

Complementing the University's high level of community engagement, Trent's role has similarly expanded on the international stage. Trent was invited to participate in the 500th anniversary celebrations for the University of Freiburg in Germany, a long-term partner who has worked with Trent for more than 40 years delivering study abroad opportunities for students. While in Europe, Rector Petr Saha who heads up Thomas Bata University in the Czech Republic, invited me for a discussion to strengthen the partnership between our two institutions in the fields of chemistry, biology, and environmental protection. This will align well with our new Masters program in Materials Science.

In February, I was pleased to serve as the only Canadian university panellist at the World Bank Global Forum in Washington, D.C., an international meeting of the world's leading development agencies, including UNESCO, UNCTAD and the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA). It was a privilege for me to add Trent and Canada's voice to the global discussion centred on how to bring research innovations

to developing nations. Equally exciting was the opportunity to join Trent's four student envoys to this event, who became the world's first youth team to attend a Global Forum.

Meanwhile, back on campus, Trent's global role gained added momentum with the federal government's \$2 million grant announcement in support of the Trent-based International Consortium on Anti-Virals (ICAV). Along with financial investments from a number of countries, this new funding will allow ICAV to build on a network of leading scientists from around the world who are dedicating their expertise, technology and patents towards creating global solutions to the development of antivirals in response to global viruses such as Lassa Fever or HIV. ICAV at Trent will also have a positive "head office" effect on the region through its administrative location while providing opportunities for a number of our faculty and students to be involved.

It has also been an extraordinary year of engagement with Trent alumni. A recent "Canada on Display" conference held at Trent was a landmark event with scholarly alumni gathering from across the country to share their latest historical research and honour the teaching legacy of retired Trent history professors John Jennings, Elwood Jones and Dale Standen. An impressive number of these professors' former students now teach history in universities and schools or work in national historical institutions, reflecting Trent's significant contribution to the study of Canadian history, not only in this country but abroad.

Bonnie Patterson continued on page 29

Robert Wright '79 Heats Up Canadian History with *Three Nights In Havana*

Trent University associate history professor and alumnus Robert Wright '79 has revealed a fascinating period in Canadian history in his new book *Three Nights in Havana*, which was published in February 2007 by Harper Collins. Prof. Wright is considered a specialist in Canadian-Cuban relations, and his new book examines the close connection between Pierre Trudeau and Fidel Castro that culminated in Trudeau's historic state visit to Havana in January 1976.

"It's a very interesting story," explained Prof. Wright. "I wanted to clarify the misconception that Trudeau went to Cuba as a gesture of anti-Americanism. In fact, he went to protect Canada's economic interests." Trudeau's state visit was widely denounced at the time, as it marked the first time a leader of a NATO country had visited Cuba since the American economic embargo of the 1960s.

Three Nights in Havana provides a detailed account of the political context leading up to Trudeau's trip. This visit was remarkable both politically and because it brought the Castro and Trudeau families together on a personal level as well. "When Trudeau arrived with his beautiful wife, Maggie, and their four-month-old son, Michel, Castro held their baby in his arms, cutting through the diplomatic chill within 30 minutes of landing," said Prof. Wright. The close bond between the two families continues to this day. In fact, Prof. Wright began investigating the nature of their enduring friendship following Castro's rare appearance outside Cuba to serve as an honorary pall-bearer during Trudeau's funeral in 2000.



According to Prof. Wright, Trudeau's 1976 visit was directly tied to the consequences of the FLQ crisis. In December 1970, Trudeau acceded to the FLQ kidnappers' demands for asylum in either Algeria or Cuba, and after he contacted Fidel Castro personally to request his help with this situation, Castro agreed to accept the terrorists into Cuba. This political favour, combined with the close personal affection shared by the Trudeau and Castro families, led to very warm relations between Canada and Cuba. The close ties between Cuba and Canada culminated in Trudeau's state visit to Cuba in 1976.

Canadian investment in Cuba grew during this period, and remains strong in the 21st century with more than 500,000 Canadian tourists visiting the island on an annual basis. Canadian-owned Sherritt International also has considerable mining interests in Cuba and is the largest foreign company in the country.

Interest in the unusual connection between these two fascinating political figures remains high in

both countries. Earlier this year, Prof. Wright was invited by the Canadian Embassy in Cuba to present his current scholarship as the keynote address during the University of Havana's National Canadian Studies conference. During his visit, Cuba's Ministry of Foreign Affairs also invited Prof. Wright to give a special presentation on Canadian foreign policy at the Instituto Superior de Relaciones Internacionales.

Prof. Wright believes that Canadian-Cuban relations will remain strong despite Fidel Castro's failing health. "The transition of power to Castro's brother Raúl is complete. Fidel hand-picked all the government ministers before transferring his authority, and Raúl controls the military. The Cuban political environment is completely stable."

Prof. Wright's *Three Nights in Havana* was one of four new books by Trent history faculty honoured in a special celebration by the department in February. Then in March, *Three Nights in Havana* reached the best-seller lists for Maclean's and the Canadian Booksellers' Association. Prof. Wright teaches first-year and upper-year Canadian history courses at Trent's Oshawa campus. [T](#)

Kori St. Cyr '03: Broadening Horizons

BY TERRY MCDONALD '89

Canada's outstanding small university opened up a big world for Kori St. Cyr '03.

He was a student in his native Bahamas when Cynthia Bennett Awe '77, the manager of programs and services for the Trent International Program, recruited him. "She stayed in touch with me throughout the whole process. I had a sense that this would be a school that would really look out for me," recalls Kori.

And he thrived at Trent. Despite the demands of attaining his Honours degree in biochemistry and molecular biology, he found time for student politics and served as the '05-'06 president for the Trent International Students Association.

He believes that his Bahamian background instilled in him his strong sense of political activism, but it was further nurtured in the university environment. He cites the movement to redesign Trent's degree certificate as a touchstone of his political experience. When the certificates were revamped with a more professional look, it illustrated for him "the fact that you could make change."

While his interest in the political sphere was growing, his passion for science was taking new direction. As a promising science student in a small country, he had been presented with one career goal: becoming an MD. However, at Trent, the interdisciplinary environment broadened his horizons.

"I never thought I'd love research," he confides. But he found his niche while doing the research for his thesis on how changes in the neonatal environment can affect mammary gland development and cancer risk. Moreover, he had the chance to



work with Trent's Dr. Bradley White, the Canada Research Chair in Conservation Genetics, and Dr. Leslie Kerr, an up-and-coming behavioural neuroscientist.

"Being a TA and working on the thesis gave me the experience to get the job that I have now," says Kori, a research technician at Iogen Corporation, a biotechnology firm specializing in cellulose ethanol. His ultimate goal is to do a Ph.D. in cellular and molecular medi-

cine. "If I had gone to a big school like the University of Toronto, I wouldn't have had the opportunity to do this research as an undergraduate."

Finally, from the vantage point of someone who is embarking on the next phase of his life, he muses about being an international student. "It's about finding out where you are in the world and who you are in the world." He might well be talking about Trent itself. **T**

A Constructive Role continued from page 3

refocus the College could mean a bright future for Traill. As a space partly dedicated to graduate students in downtown Peterborough, Traill could become a revitalized space with new offices, lecture halls, and teaching space. Graduate students would benefit from services specific to their needs, while undergraduates would benefit from new teaching space and downtown facilities. I also believe that the proposal has a sound business case, which can be workable in the current fiscal environment and seeks to tap into government

promises for additional funding for graduate studies.

Of course, the Board of Governors has a difficult job to do. In order to ensure that Trent continues to excel in its academic mission, it must remain strong financially, and with this understanding, the Association respects their decisions. As always, Trent's alumni will help in any way we can to ensure that the University continues to be a place of strong community and excellence in scholarship. **T**
mattgriem@trentu.ca

Philosophy's Loss is Poetry's Gain



Richard Harrison '76

Those words are from Bernard Hodgson, a professor of philosophy at Trent. He is speaking in praise of **Richard Harrison '76**, a former faculty member in the Philosophy department, who has returned to Trent, all the way from Calgary—but not to teach. He is back for a very special night of poetry reading—a night that touched all who attended, and left the crowd buzzing.

Sitting in the Senior Common Room of Lady Eaton College, Richard is in the midst of telling us a story about how one of his paintings, which used to hang in this very room, was stolen. “No one seems to want to steal my books—but people have no trouble stealing my paintings!” he laughs.

“I was always involved in writing in some way,” Richard explains. “When I started at Concordia, I wanted to focus on poetry.” The former biology and philosophy major explains that after his stint at Concordia, “I spent two years just living in Montreal, thinking about and reading about poetry.”

His poetry has brought him significant national attention. He is

Richard Harrison continued on page 32

Prof. Fanny Dolansky '93 Featured in Annual Alumni Lecture

Professor Fanny Dolansky '93 returned to Trent on March 6, 2007, to deliver the annual Alumni Lecture. An assistant professor of Latin literature, Roman family history, and Roman religion in the Department of Classics at Brock University in St. Catharines, Fanny spoke on “Women, religion, and the welfare of the Roman family.”

Fanny graduated from Trent in 1997 with a B.A. Honours in Classical Studies. Upon her convocation, she received the Governor General's Silver Medal for achieving the highest overall academic standing among undergraduate students. After graduating from Trent, she completed her graduate studies at the University of Victoria (M.A. 1999) and the University of Chicago, where she received her Ph.D. in 2006.

Returning to Trent as a guest lecturer was an exciting moment for Fanny: “It's great to come back and see similar class sizes and that the same interest and enthusiasm in the classics still exists at Trent,” she said.

Fanny presented some of her recent research, which combines historical evidence from several sources including ancient texts, art objects, and other archaeological finds to better understand the history of the Roman family, children and childhood, as well as gender and sexuality in Roman society. She noted that her work is very interdisciplinary and also commented on the value of using modern theoretical frameworks in both her research and teaching. During her presentation, Fanny argued that domestic rites helped to promote a sense of unity among the diverse members of the household and to foster a community of identity based upon normative social values and beliefs, especially regarding gender and juridical status.

Fanny was impressed with the changes she saw on Trent's campus since her time here as a student. “I'm jealous of the infrastructure that is available now! It's great to see how this campus is transforming itself in a positive direction,” she remarked. She said that she keeps in touch with fellow students she met on her first day at Trent as well as classics professors David Page and Ian Storey, adding that she considers Trent unique in the way that it fosters lifelong friendships between faculty and students.

The Alumni Lecture is presented by the Trent Alumni Association, in conjunction this year with the Department of Ancient History and Classics. The lecture contributes yearly to the intellectual vitality of Trent. **T**





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The Colin Taylor Award: Trent Philanthropy at its Best

BY JOHN MULLIN '03

The Colin Taylor Award is the brainchild of recently appointed Dean of Arts and Science, Professor Christine McKinnon. As the story goes, Prof. McKinnon was sitting in a President's Executive Group (PEG) meeting last November, when the issue of the Ontario Trust for Student Support (OTSS) came up. The OTSS is a program in which the provincial government agrees to match all bursary or award monies raised by the university.

Prof. McKinnon was eager to pursue this exceptional program—but she had another goal in mind as well. Prof. McKinnon made it clear why she felt it was important to honour Colin: "Colin has long been a champion of Trent's strong tradition of providing an excellent liberal arts and science undergraduate education to its students."

To underscore the point, she notes that, "We have all been fortunate to have had such a champion in the Office of the Dean of Arts and Science, and I think the generous support by the faculty of these awards reflects their gratitude and their admiration for his efforts. Colin will be returning in the fall to doing what most faculty like to do best—teaching and researching. I know he will be very pleased to learn that several undergraduate students will be the deserving beneficiaries of these awards!"

When one considers Colin's career at Trent, it is not hard to see why Dean McKinnon and others want to honour him. As a former chair of the geography department, the associate dean of arts and science, the acting dean of arts and science (three times, no less), and, finally, two terms as dean of arts and science, Colin has served in some of Trent's most important positions. In those years, "Colin



"Colin has long been a champion of Trent's strong tradition of providing an excellent liberal arts and science undergraduate education to its students."

was admired and respected for his humanity and his unstinting conviction that Trent is a very special place," notes Prof. McKinnon.

Prof. McKinnon's next step in the creation of the award was to seek the support of the leadership of the university—which was readily available. With the "full support" of PEG and the advancement office, Prof. McKinnon turned over the process to Sherry Booth and the advancement office team. Sherry approached various faculty members and personal contacts of Professor Taylor's, and notes that "they couldn't think of a better way to honour him."

Why Honour Professor Colin Taylor?

President Patterson was thrilled to discuss the prospect of hon-

ouring Colin, explaining that he "always worked hard at finding balance. He was remarkable at balancing his role as a teacher, a researcher, and an administrator." She also told me that "he was always consultative, a great compromiser, and always wanted to get as many opinions as possible on any issue so that he could get the best possible outcome for everyone involved." President Patterson was also clear about one thing – Colin was always very interested in students, and in students of all sorts. Indeed, Trent alumnus Ted Cragg '00 told me, "I found him to be very welcoming and supportive, and interested in student pursuits." President Patterson also pointed out that he sits on the board of Fleming College, underscoring the point that his interests are very broad indeed.

Professor Leonard Conolly, former president of Trent and current interim principal of Lady Eaton College, was another colleague who was more than willing to offer his praise. "Colin is modest, intelligent, and non-confrontational," Prof. Conolly notes, saying also that Colin "is the model Trent faculty member."

For his part, Colin commented he was "surprised and flattered, frankly." He noted that "it's wonderful that something with my name on it has the opportunity to raise some badly needed scholarship money for students."

"When I spoke to Colin initially about the idea to do an award, he was humbled," explained Sherry Booth, manager of planned giving and leadership gifts. "But his reaction, after blushing, was to wonder, 'Do you think we can raise the money?'"

Colin Taylor continued on page 12

Making A Difference: Ismail Barmania '84

Ismail Barmania '84 describes his first memory of Trent as one of his favourite moments from his time here. However, it could have turned out very differently. "I started at Trent in 1984, arriving here from Northern Secondary School in Toronto. I arrived alone without any idea of what to expect. I didn't know if there would be some form of terrible hazing ritual. I parked at Champlain College and stepped out of my car. Someone asked my name and handed me a beer. They shouted out a room number and numerous "red shirts" descended on my car and carried all of my belongings up to my room where I was greeted by an upper year student who helped me settle in." Of course, the "red shirts" were not there to haze Ismail – they were the Intro Week staff of the 1980s.

Ismail is honest about his reasons for coming to Trent: "I had taken a boat trip down the Trent Canal when I was in high school and I was overwhelmingly impressed with the architecture of Trent." Certainly, these reasons for attending Trent are probably more common than first assumed.

Having graduated with an Honours B.A. in History, with numerous courses in politics and classical history, Ismail is quick to note that he had "many excellent professors." Among his favourite professors was David Page, who "inspired and encouraged me throughout my Trent years. He has remained a friend and is a continuing source of inspiration and guidance. He won the Symons Teaching Award recently and it was well deserved." The small classes and tutorial system are two things that Ismail points to as outstanding elements of his Trent education. Interestingly, Ismail observes



Ismail Barmania '84, former U.S. President Bill Clinton, and Nadine Lumley '84

that "one of the real benefits of attending Trent was the syllabus. In every course I attended at Trent I was given a syllabus by the professor at the beginning of the year. Looking back on it, the syllabus was a contract between the professor and the students. It outlined the entire course, what would be covered in every lecture, what would be covered in every seminar, the list of required text books, a list of optional reading. It is surprising that this is not the case at every university."

Recalling his Trent days with fondness, Ismail recounts his days at Champlain College, where "from the minute I arrived I was welcomed and felt at home. I developed very close friendships with many people while in residence and we had lots of good times. On Friday nights we would start by meeting in the common room to watch Miami Vice and then we would head out to the Ceilie or the Commoner." As many alumni can no doubt sympathize, "I am surprised that we didn't lose more people on those freezing cold nights walking back from the Commoner!"

Ismail is proud of his time in the Trent Study Abroad program at Keble College, Oxford. This summer program he described as "like being a Rhodes scholar but without the necessity of being exceptionally smart or motivated." His other memories are, again, likely to be common ones to Trent alumni —kayaking in the summer, hiking, and even doing some sailing. Skiing in the winter rounded out a season's worth of activities.

Ismail in his own words:

- Graduated in 1988
- Received the John J. Robinette Award
- Attended University of Toronto Law School 1988-1991. Received Juris Doctor.
- Married in 1991 to Nadine Lumley '84. We have gone on to have two children, Ayesha age 13 and Zachary age 8. I hope that one day they will choose Trent.

I was called to the Bar in 1993. I handled my first jury trial within 6 months. I attended the Court of Appeal very shortly thereafter and

Ismail Barmania continued on page 13

Harry Kitchen: Celebrating 40 Years at Trent

BY PAUL WILSON (HONORARY ALUMNUS)



On December 31, 2006, more than 150 friends, alumni, colleagues, and economic gurus assembled at the Parkway Place Banquet Hall in Peterborough to celebrate Harry Kitchen's retirement after 40 years of teaching and mentoring a multitude of students at Trent University. The event was a complete surprise to Harry, which was absolutely as it should be as Harry was frequently in a state of surprise during the past four decades! Harry's wife Caroline arranged for him to be at the event under the pretext of attending some old-timers' hockey function. The evening's atmosphere was one of celebration and fond appreciation. Two of Harry's long-time colleagues, Professor Robin Boadway, the Peacock Professor of Economic Theory at Queen's University, and Professor Tony Culyer, Deputy Vice-Chancellor of York University in the U.K., spoke eloquently about Harry's considerable contribution in the area of municipal financing and economic theory on an international scale. From a teaching perspective and representing thousands of students who had learned at the feet of Professor Kitchen, Roger Young '69, freshly arrived from Vancouver Island, spoke affectionately and humorously about his economic mentor. The youngest of the Kitchen siblings, Michael, affectionately known as Boomer, said a few words about the effects of being a Kitchen offspring. The current Chair of Economics at Trent, Professor Torben Drewes, announced the establishment of the Harry Kitchen Lecture Series in Public Policy to honour the retiree. Donations can be made to support the series through the Advancement Office by calling (705) 748-1601 or emailing advancement@trentu.ca.

The evening was rounded off by the retiree himself sharing a few words of wisdom and memories from his over 40 years at Trent. **T**

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Initial estimates suggest that, including the money raised for the Colin Taylor Award, up to \$60,000 has been generated for the University.

Colin's initial concern was quickly put to rest. As the Advancement Office began raising the funds needed to establish the award (an award needing a minimum of \$12,500 to meet OTSS matching criteria), they found Colin's colleagues and friends equal to the task—and then some. The actual amount raised was not even close to \$12,500—in fact, much more. With donations still to come in, the advancement office estimates that more than \$37,000 has so far been raised. Add to that amount the dollar-for-dollar matching contribution by the provincial government, and it is conceivable that the award may end up with an endowment of over \$75,000.

The principle here is simple—the larger the endowment, the larger the award deserving students will receive. An endowment is invested in perpetuity and only a portion of the interest is used each year for the award. In this way, students will benefit for generations to come.

What's more, the generosity of Colin's friends and colleagues extends beyond donations for the Colin Taylor Award. As part of the fundraising drive, many of the donors expressed a keen interest in helping out other causes—whether it be athletics, other scholarships, awards, or bursaries—and so even more money was raised. Initial estimates suggest that, including the money raised for the Colin Taylor Award, up to \$60,000 has been generated for the University.

Colin Taylor continued on page 13

“At Trent I developed a personal and academic confidence...”

the Supreme Court of Canada in 1998 on an admiralty law case.

In 1999 I became a partner at Aylesworth LLP, which is one of the oldest law firms in Canada (founded in 1861). Also in 1999 I received my qualifications as a Certified Financial Planner.

I am primarily a litigation lawyer representing some adults and many children who have been catastrophically injured. These cases, where I represent injured or orphaned children, are my passion. Some of these children acquire their injuries in accidents (bicycles, cars, boats, etc.) and others through medical malpractice. In many cases, these children will be disabled for the rest of their lives. There is nothing more rewarding than protecting the rights of a child and securing their future. My efforts can change the life of a child for the better. It is hard not to be motivated every morning when the outcome of your efforts is so important. In keeping with my legal practice, I also serve on the Board of Directors of the Association for the Neurologically Disabled, which provides rehabilitation to disabled children.

Over the years I had some

involvement with the end of apartheid and subsequent developments in South Africa. I was involved in consultations over the South African Charter of Rights, which is modelled on the Canadian Charter but which reflects the protection of more rights, including rights of privacy, environmental rights, labour rights, and more fundamental rights including the right to housing, health care and clean water. I was also one of the international election monitors of South Africa's first democratic election in 1994.

I am currently the Vice Chair of the Nelson Mandela Children's Fund (Canada), which supports programs for children in South Africa. Many of these children are orphans, victims of crime, or afflicted directly or indirectly by poverty and AIDS. The fund supports hospitals, schools, orphanages, and AIDS education programs.

In November 2006, Nadine and I were honoured to meet with Former President Bill Clinton when he was in Toronto.

Looking back at my years and experiences at Trent, I feel that I was most fortunate that I received a unique approach to education and to my personal development.

It was an invaluable opportunity to develop skills, talents and interests.

The Bay Street world is intensely competitive and complex. At Trent I developed a personal and academic confidence which had been lacking during high school. I developed confidence that I could compete with any other university graduates on an equal footing. This sense grew from a wide range of competent professors, the opportunity to study abroad, and an environment in which your peers could and would “catch you” if you faltered. The ability to compete was proven when (in 1998) three Trent grads were accepted to University of Toronto Law School out of (literally) thousands of applicants competing for only 200 spots. Still others were accepted to other law schools. All of these Trent grads have distinguished themselves in their own ways as lawyers, in their communities, and the Canadian justice system.

Trent gave me a dream that I could change the world and it set me on the road to achieving those dreams. Whether or not I actually change the world is yet to be seen. What matters to me is that I feel like I am making a difference. [T](#)

Colin Taylor continued from page 12

“It was a wonderful surprise for us, to have so many donors express interest in supporting both the Colin Taylor Award and other causes!” Sherry says.

As for the actual Colin Taylor Award itself, it represents the spirit of Trent University in a meaningful way. It is viewed as an award that is to be broad in scope, and for which all undergraduate students (whether in the humanities or the natural sciences) will be eligible. The successful candidate

will show not only financial need and academic excellence, but also a proven track record for improving the intellectual and academic life of the university. Though the final amount of the annual award has yet to be determined, it will be in the neighbourhood of \$3,000.

Ultimately, the Colin Taylor Award is not even really about money or how much the endowment is worth—the overwhelming figure is just icing on the cake. The real significance of this award is

to honour Colin, and to provide a deserving student with financial assistance. To have a \$75,000 award named after you is proof that your career has been meaningful and that you have made a difference—and that you will continue to do so, for many years to come and for many people.

Donations are still being accepted to the Colin Taylor Award. Please contact Sherry Booth at (705) 748-1011, ext. 7593, or email sbooth@trentu.ca. [T](#)

Award-winning Writer Mentors Trent Students

BY JOHN MULLIN '03

The evening of September 28, 2006, saw something that is truly rare and certainly exceptional—a special reading by a two-time Governor General's Literary Award winner. What made it even more special is that the reading was given by one of our own.

That evening, in the Trill College Senior Common Room, **Julie Johnston '80** read from two of her most recent novels. Just beforehand, she spoke briefly about her post-Trent life, as well as some of her impressive professional achievements.

"I wasn't involved in any extra-curricular activities while I was at Trent," Julie says, which may surprise some. However, "I had a good reason for it—the four children I had living at home!"

Julie came to Trent after studying psychology at another institution, but found that psychology was not for her. An avid writer already, she enrolled at Trent and took a degree in English literature.

Before attending Trent, Julie had already written two plays, and had them produced. She also had published several articles and short stories in various magazines. Clearly, Julie did not find her writing muse at Trent—it was already well established.



Julie Johnston '80

However, there was an important event at Trent that did help her along in her writing career—she met writer-in-residence Timothy Findley. As Julie notes, "It might be a bit much to call him my mentor—but he helped my career, without a doubt." Findley was happy to read some manuscripts and to give some advice—the most useful of which was "to write stories that were longer."

In one of the ironies of life for a writer, Julie recounts how she began writing her first book, *Hero of Lesser Causes*, in 1986, but it did not see publication until 1992. The irony here is not only that the book took so long to get published, but that it would go on to win Julie her

first Governor General's Literary Award in Children's Literature. It didn't take nearly so long to win her next—that came in 1994 for her second novel, *Adam and Eve and Pinch-Me*, making her the first author in Canadian history to win the award for both her first and second books. When asked if she expects to win any more Governor General's Awards, Julie laughed and replied, "I think they are sick of me—I won two, so I doubt I will get another!"

Julie's involvement with Trent does not end with her participation in the reading series. She is also a volunteer for the English Literature Department's literary mentoring program. Essentially, she wants to help foster young writers and give them direction, not unlike the direction she received from Findley. There is something beautiful about the situation here, to have Julie nurture students' creativity in the same way she was encouraged by another major Canadian author while at Trent. Perhaps that is the main point to be taken from her reading that September evening: special things happen at Trent, and they can lead to even more special things in the future. [T](#)

Head of the Trent Saturday, September 29, 2007

Be sure to return to Trent for the
Homecoming 2007 Alumni House
Festival!

Art show, live music,
children's activities,
open house at Alumni
House, and more!

TRENT
UNIVERSITY

Living and Enjoying the Open Spaces with Chris Corrigan '86

BY TERRY MCDONALD '89

As with his music, Open Space Technology (OST) facilitator **Chris Corrigan '86** has found that many of those “eureka” moments happen when you strike a fine balance between chaos and order.

His name will be familiar if you attended Trent between 1986 and 1991, when he was ubiquitous on and around campus: playing local music gigs (including a stint with the Born Again Pagans), hosting blues and jazz shows on Trent Radio, and writing for both the *Arthur* and the *Peterborough Examiner*.

After school, the native studies grad found himself a job at the National Association of Friendship Centres in Ottawa. As a policy analyst, he reached out to First Nations communities, fielding their views on the federal government's latest policy briefs. “I realized that I was collecting stories,” recalls Chris. “It always seemed to lead us into interesting places.”

In 1994, he moved out to British Columbia — with partner **Caitlin Frost '89** — where First Nations issues were moving to the fore. He continued his career as the senior policy advisor for the British Columbia Association of Aboriginal Friendship Centres, and later as a public information and consultation advisor for the Federal Treaty Negotiation Office.

Through it all, these “generative conversations” he'd been practising as part of his everyday work had become a vocation. He had been using OST practices — built around “the strong belief that groups of people are capable of finding the answers they're looking for and the questions they need” — to facilitate meetings since 1994. He and Caitlin became consultants in 1999, and they recently



Chris Corrigan '86

“We're working with groups to find inherent leadership capabilities and activate capacities that are already there.”

founded Harvest Moon Associates —inspired by the Neil Young song and the idea that they would “work with people to harvest their best work.” The consulting practice deals primarily with Aboriginal organizations, First Nations communities, government, business and not-for-profit groups. Using OST methods, “we're working with groups to find inherent leadership capabilities and activate capacities that are already there.”

For anyone who has been involved in First Nations issues in B.C., it has been a heartening time of changing attitudes. Chris points to the “radical shift” that has been made since the difficult period in the relationship between First Nations and non-Aboriginal peoples the early 1990s, and to the present, “when B.C. has become a leader in inviting the other levels of government to become serious about the First Nations relationship.” He is in a unique position to serve as a bridge between the

cultures, coming from a mixed Ojibwa and Celtic background. “We know that one world view is not going to cut it,” he observes. “We need both.”

The OST philosophy fuels his prodigious writings, and he has authored and edited many documents on the practice, which are freely available on the Internet. “What you discover on the Web is that it works better when you give it all away. It's all open source,” he says.

When he is not on the road, inviting meeting participants to share “their deep engagement and sustainable action,” he's enjoying the Bowen Island home that he and Caitlin share with their kids Aine and Finn. He's also finding great satisfaction in helping people to connect with each other and find understanding. “One elder called me a living treaty,” he shares. “I'm proud of that. I've been able to straddle these communities and voices.” [T](#)

Working at Alumni House: "About the Best Job a Student Can Have"

BY PAUL DELANEY '64

Welcome to Alumni House! Alumni-in-residence Paul Delaney '64 went behind the scenes and interviewed the students who keep Alumni House running, the new home for the Alumni Association and the Office of Alumni Affairs on Trent campus. Formerly the Master's Lodge at Champlain College, this elegant space is the living embodiment of the Trent spirit where alumni old and new are always welcome.

John Mullin '03 is Prime Minister of the Lady Eaton College Cabinet and will soon be a Trent alumnus. He is one of a handful of talented and conscientious undergraduates who work part-time in Alumni House (the former Master's Lodge at Champlain College). All are from southern Ontario, and most are related to Trent alumni. They represent a variety of disciplines, and colleges from both sides of the Otonabee. They are paid, but not excessively, and it's clear from meeting them that they love their work. Every day is different: today they may be planning for or assisting with a special event, yesterday they could have cleaned a carpet spill or moved furniture, and tomorrow they could find themselves designing posters, data processing, writing, interviewing alumni, preparing mailing lists, bartending ... or tidying up the guest suite.

Each has developed a unique understanding of what it means to be a member of the Trent alumni family. Being a graduate is much more, they all realize, than just being a revenue source or a reunion statistic. They are surprised how widespread alumni are, how successful some seem



This page, above: John Mullin. Top right: Nick Fauset. Middle right: Patrick O'Brien, Heather Foy. Bottom right: Allison Porter, Stephan Donald.

to be, and how involved with the university many still are. According to **Peter Stephenson '04**, "Trent never leaves you." Meeting so many alumni at events such as Convocation, Head of the Trent, and Alumni House social gatherings has enabled these young people to see alumni as real people ... as opposed to being mere names on lists. They find that the alumni, while physically altered, once shared many of the concerns still being voiced at Trent: pollution, apathy at TCSA elections, the cost of tuition, the future of the colleges, and Canada's role internationally. The generation gap seems to disappear as each shares his or her story.

Peter is the student representative on the Alumni Council. He feels that Trent has been part of his life forever, and it has. His parents, Robert '68 and Nancy (Roxborough) '69 met at Trent, and his father was once Chair of the Board of Governors. Peter was often brought along to events and meetings, and he reflects today on the fact that the place (when he was little) "that was built like a



stone maze and was full of giants" is now his home.

Two other Trent students who have become part of the Alumni House crew because of their work in its kitchen are **Sylvia Dick '05** and **Nikos Kapetaneas '06**, both employees of The Seasoned Spoon, the new student-run restaurant located in the former Private Dining Room at Champlain. Nick and Sylvia very much appreciate the welcome they have been given by **Kathleen Easson '78** and **Tony Storey '71**, but they do harbour the suspicion that someone in the building may be sabotaging their baking efforts (perhaps by turning up the heat in the oven when they are not watching) so that there will be slightly burned muffins or broken cookies left over! Sylvia



Above: Peter Stephenson. Left: Sylvia Dick and Nikos Kapetaneas.

Patrick O'Brien's '03 parents Roy '75 and Nancy (Clark) '75 graduated from Trent, and they have been active alumni in Ottawa. Pat has worked for the Office of Alumni Affairs the longest—he is now in his third year of employment. Like his colleagues, he has never had a specific title; his job just evolved. This writer remembers Pat well - bartending at PSB Wilson's at a Peterborough-area alumni gathering, and handing out cold glasses of lemonade to heat-stroke candidates at last spring's Convocation.

Heather Foy '03 is from a wee Irish village named Cloyne, somewhere between Peterborough and Ottawa. Her mother, Jeanette (Beswick) '74 loved her time at Trent. Most of the time Heather is involved with organizing and running special events such as the Alumni Golf Tournament and the March Break Open House. Heather and Pat both worked on the widely-attended Commoner Farewell/Reunion event, and both were moved by what they experienced. It was not only about nostalgia; there was genuine heartache. They could sense how much Trent alumni care, and want to share their memories.

Stephan Donald '99 started at Trent at the end of the twentieth century but did a detour;

Alumni House continued on page 18

had to contend with a ghost early one morning; she saw it out of the corner of her eye and felt its presence when she tried to open the door. She has convinced herself that it was Tony, but who knows? Others who have spent time alone in Alumni House have had similar experiences. Peter Stephenson is researching the former Masters of Champlain College; perhaps he should spend a weekend there, alone.

John Mullin '03 is a prolific writer who interviews distinguished alumni from time to time. Normally unruffled by his subjects, John recently interviewed Bill Roberts '70, the CEO of Vision TV. Bill was convinced that John was not well acquainted with religious programming, but that did not deter our John. He managed to charm his way through the interview from start to finish. Who

knows what career lies ahead for John. Politics? Journalism? Law? Religion? He will be missed at Trent. By the way, it was John who commented that working for the Office of Alumni Affairs is "about the best job a student can have."

Allison Porter '04, who came to Trent via Fanshawe College, signed up to work in the Beer Garden at the Head of the Trent in 2005 and ended up getting a job with the Office of Alumni Affairs. She plans to become an elementary school teacher; her work at Alumni House draws on almost as many skills as that of a teacher. Her job changes from day to day, and that is one reason why she loves it. Allison is a self-described first-generation Trent student but hopes that she is not the last. She loves the university, the campus, the people, the city, the professors, the small class sizes ... the list goes on and on!

he graduated from Fleming and then returned to Trent, where he is now associated with Julian Blackburn College. Stephan was happily working at Mackenzie House when the Office of Alumni Affairs needed someone strong to help with the move from Traill to Symons Campus. Many boxes later he found himself involved with planning the Commoner Farewell and later, Convocation. Stephan is impressed by how involved alumni are in the greater Trent community. Whether it's raising money, running events, or promoting the University, there are sure to be alumni working behind the scenes. Soon that legion of unsung and unpaid heroes will, no doubt, include Stephan Donald.

Nick Fauset '04, whose sister Emma '00 graduated from

Trent, grew up on a farm near Campbellcroft, just south of Peterborough near Bewdley on Rice Lake. Nick's story is one of the most interesting. In the late 1960s, the then-president of the CNR, Donald Gordon, donated a brass locomotive bell to Trent for the new bell tower at Champlain College. After many pranks which involved interrupted sleep, it was decided to remove that bell from its lofty perch and to store it in the basement of Champlain College. Over the ensuing years everyone forgot where it was. Fast forward to 2006 and you'll find Nick Fauset, at times single-handedly, lugging that enormous bell up and down staircases to where it now sits, shined up and proud - beside the fireplace in Alumni House!

Nick, like so many of those

who work at Alumni House, enjoys meeting visiting alumni. It reminds him of meeting distant relatives from all over the globe. They never know who they'll meet next...another plus. Not long ago Nick and Allison let themselves in to the building for another few hours of computer chores, only to find that the place was full of security types, VIP guests, and the Right Honorable Paul Martin! So many of these fine young men and women commented on the Trent "trust factor," one of those special Trent qualities that endures. Most university administrations would have barred "outsiders" if a former prime minister were on hand. But these students who work in Alumni House were not outsiders, and this is Trent. And soon they will all be involved alumni. [T](#)

Don Tapscott '66: Wikinomics and Mass Collaboration

Business strategist and Trent University alumnus Don Tapscott '66 released a landmark new book in January 2007 for the corporate world entitled *Wikinomics: How Mass Collaboration Changes Everything*.

Mr. Tapscott describes his book as focusing on "how the new web, a new generation of young people, and a social revolution are all coming together to make the perfect storm in business." *Wikinomics* analyzes the social, technological, and cultural conditions that enable vast online communities to create new wealth and new modes of production, symbolized by the development of Wikipedia, the popular online encyclopaedia.

According to Mr. Tapscott, this new participatory economic model will have profound implications for both companies and workers alike. "The way we innovate, orchestrate capability and create is changing," he says. "The democratization of the economy is an enor-



Don Tapscott at the launch for *Wikinomics*

mously positive thing."

Named "likely the most influential Canadian media authority since Marshall McLuhan" by the *Washington Technology Report*, Mr. Tapscott graduated from Trent in 1966. Along with his family, he has been a great supporter of the University: both of Mr. Tapscott's brothers are Trent graduates, and his partner, Ana Lopes, is a former member of the University's Board of Governors. In 2006, Mr. Tapscott received an honorary degree from Trent for his outstanding contributions to the greater understanding of technology's impact on society. Together with

Ms. Lopes, he sponsors the annual Tapscott-Lopes Business and Society Lecture Series at Trent University. This event brings prominent speakers to the Trent University community to address issues of values and ethics as they pertain to business and society.

Reflecting on his university years, Mr. Tapscott credits Trent's influence with developing his global awareness and passion for social change. "Trent is where I learned how to think, to write, to communicate. It is where I learned to see the big picture. I also developed the courage to tackle big problems and big issues."

Within only one week of its release, *Wikinomics* was rated the number-one business book in Canada and a top-10 book on amazon.ca. In December 2006 *The Globe and Mail* ran a seven-part series of articles co-written by Mr. Tapscott and Mr. Williams, featuring the ideas presented in *Wikinomics*. [T](#)

Adrian Kelly '86: Writing A New Chapter

BY JOHN MULLIN '03

Adrian Kelly '86 came to Trent planning to study medicine at graduate school. That plan seemed sound—until he discovered that “the instruction in English literature and history was so inspiring that I decided on a change.” So Adrian shifted his academic focus to English and history. Despite studying “too much,” Adrian enjoyed the social aspect of University life, saying, “I tried not to be too ridiculous. I had hair as big as any of my friends and I listened to horrible pop music as much as anyone in the eighties!” His frank admission is one that would apply to any number of students from that era!

Describing himself as a “typically poor and starving” student, Adrian started to fall in love with reading after his transfer to English. In fact, he tells me that he read more for enjoyment than he did for school—though not at the expense of his school work.

After graduation, Adrian faced a choice: whether to go to law school or graduate school. After his father and a friend of his “had a firm but friendly face off” about whether or not to go to law school, Adrian decided that going to graduate school to continue his studies in English was what he wanted to do. Adrian, however, notes that “writing doesn’t pay very well!” Writing prose, as Adrian tells me and despite his critical acclaim, does not always result in high remuneration. Humorously, Adrian says that “my convictions won out, and my father respected them, actually. But I should have listened to the friend and gone into law. Maybe I’d have savings by now!”

After working all over the world and spending time on his writing, fate would bring Adrian back to Traill College last year for a reading.

“It was amazing to be back at Traill, reading in front of some of



the professors who meant so much to me.” Adrian mentions in particular Professor David Glassco as being present on that special night. Not lost from his thoughts, however, were his “inspirational tutors” Professors Sarah Keefer, Geoffrey Eathorne, and Stephen Brown.

“In fact, it was the incredible personalities I met while I was here that made me want to come back. They changed my life.”

After his reading, Adrian went out to socialize with some of the guests of the evening. “During the course of the night, I vowed to come back to Trent to teach,” Adrian explains, with a grin. And, as of this past fall, that vow has come true.

“It was surreal to drive in to the University as an employee of it. I

“It was amazing to be back at Traill, reading in front of some of the professors who meant so much to me.”

realized my role had changed from student to teacher. But the university had changed too,” Adrian notes.

Adrian speaks with notable passion, and he is a good example of a student who was not highly engaged but who can still retain profound attachments and connections to the college system and to other important aspects of the university. “Some change is inevitable and necessary,” comments Adrian, however he notes his strong attachments to the college system, Traill College, small class sizes at Trent, and the tutorial system.

The English department has worked hard to preserve these four things, as well as keeping the role of the arts as central to a student’s education. “The natural sciences are profoundly important – but the compartmentalization of learning is a thing to be avoided.” Adrian speaks with conviction and passion reminiscent of the best student activist.

Adrian is hoping to become a permanent member of the English

Adrian Kelly continued on page 32

Stay Up To Date on Alumni events and news by visiting www.trentu.c/alumni

Look for old friends, share some thought on the Bulletin Board and join our e-broadcast list by registering on the Online Directory.



Sunshine Sketches

1970

Pamela Willoughby has been promoted to full professor of anthropology at the University of Alberta, effective July 1, 2007. She has published a book, *The Evolution of Modern Humans in Africa: A Comprehensive Guide* (AltaMira Press 2006). She continues to do archaeological field research in southern Tanzania on the origins of modern humans.

1972

Virginia (Ginny) McGowan, mother of Meghan (25, now a doctoral student at U of T in ethnomusicology, following her completion of an M.Phil. at Cambridge) and Laurie (20, who threatens to follow her mother and father's footsteps into anthropology!) was recently re-assigned to the National Headquarters of the Research Branch of Correctional Service Canada as director of Special Populations Research, responsible for research concerning both Aboriginal peoples in federal custody and ethno-cultural issues. One of her key research projects concerns Aboriginal male offenders participating in a traditional healing program for substance abuse. She was also appointed adjunct associate professor in the Department of Community Health and Epidemiology in the Faculty of Medicine at Dalhousie University. Her most recent publication appears in a special issue of the *Canadian Journal of Native Studies*, of which she was also guest editor.

1979

After 11 years at home with the kids (Marlie (12), Jay (8) and Tamara (4)), Anne Francis is studying to become a piano tuner-technician. Husband Eric Goddard is a film editor. They live in Toronto. Anne's email is dmafrancis@sympatico.ca and she would love to hear from other LEC folks from 1979-83.

1987

Michael Jakob is thrilled with the safe arrival of his son, Paul Gustav Jakob, on Feb. 16, 2007 (**photo 1**).

1989

Still friends after all these years! **Lianne (Joice) Gallie '89**, **Gillian (Neufeld) Fintelman '89**, and **Shelly (Tran) Burley '89** of Otonabee College want to let their "C" House friends know that they think of you often! "Here is an update from us to you...Lianne married her husband Todd nine years ago and now has two busy boys, Jordan, 7, and Carter, 4. Lianne is living in London, Ontario, and has recently left an HR Manager position to spend more time at home with the boys. Gillian married her husband Peter five years ago and now has two children, Peter, 4, and Madeline, 2. Gillian is living in Stouffville, Ontario; Peter and Gillian own a Tim Horton's and are keeping very busy as they are getting ready to open their second store. Shelley married her husband Adam five years ago and is now very busy looking after their three daughters, Riley, 5, Avery, 3, and Amy, 9 months old. Shelley is a primary school teacher living in

Trent River, Ontario, and is currently home on maternity leave. Even though we are separated by many miles, we still remain the best of friends - a friendship that started at Trent so many years ago and one that is still going strong! We would love to hear from our '89 Otonabee friends! Drop a line to Lianne at liannegallie@hotmail.com and she will be sure to pass it along to Gillian and Shelley!

1990

Rob Cranstone and **Sherry (Handerek) Cranstone '92** are happy to announce the arrival of their third child, Ella Patrice, born July 31, 2006. Big brother Jordan, born Aug. 7, 2002, and big sister Paige, born May 28, 2004 are delighted with their new little sister. The Cranstones currently live in Burlington. Rob teaches high school in Brampton, while Sherry is on maternity leave from teaching elementary school in Mississauga (**photo 2**).

Wendy McConkey co-founded a non-profit ESL and Creative Writing school by and for women and girls. WELLNOK, The Women's English Language Learning Network of Kanata, Inc. (Canada) was incorporated federally by a Letters Patent in June of 1999. At that time, she became the first acting, volunteer "Executive Administrator," since WELLNOK had no funding. In addition to volunteering with WELLNOK, Inc., tutoring international students at Lakefield College School, as well as driving a school and charter bus with Coach Canada, Wendy has become a teacher trainer with ICAL. "Yes, it's true, I do wear many hats and somehow I do manage but I am rarely, if ever, bored with my existence! Thanks for letting me share my ventures since my Trent days. Stay busy!" (**photo 3**).

1991

Lesley Miller married Christopher Henderson in West Chester, Pennsylvania, at the lovely historic Faunbrook Bed and Breakfast on June 3, 2006. After leaving Trent, Lesley pursued two master's degrees at Purdue University on full scholarships—one was an MBA and the other an MSc. Lesley & Christopher are currently employed in the Philadelphia area and spent their honeymoon in Australia in November 2006. Lesley's mother, Joyce Miller, worked at Trent for years, and Ann and Roy Walters also attended the wedding (photo 4).

1992

Nicole Gibeau and her husband, Mike Furlong, welcomed their first child, Elijah Rane, into the world on July 24, 2006, at their home in Halifax. Nicole is working on her Master's in Environmental Studies at Dalhousie University, whenever she finds a spare moment (photo 5).

1993

Jessica Radke and her husband Geoffrey Weston are pleased to announce the birth of their second daughter Iris Lorraine on Dec. 5, 2006. She joins her sister Nina and her parents in Amman, Jordan, where Jessica handles international arbitration matters for the Government of Jordan. Jessica can be reached at jessicaradke@gmail.com.

1994

Sarita (Gautam) Elliott gave birth to Jeevan Bryan Elliott on April 24, 2006. A healthy brother for Jacob and Maya and the happiest and easiest baby in the world for Mom and Dad, Sarita and Jeremy Elliott. To check out our family

website, <http://ca.geocities.com/saritaelliott@rogers.com> or email saritaelliott@rogers.com (photo 6).

Jennifer (Lawrence) and Dave Wright and their sons Cole, 7, and Ben, 5, are moving to Niger, West Africa, for the next four years and would be interested in hearing from their Trent friends at dwright@harmattan.org or you can follow their journeys by visiting their blog at www.niameywrighths.blogspot.com (photo 7).

1995

Catherine (Cubitt) and Paul Switzer are excited to announce the birth of their daughter Abigayle Laura Rose on June 19, 2006. Proud Grandparents are **Garry '67** and **Victoria '69 Cubitt** of Oshawa, and Margaret and Jack Switzer of Scarborough. Catherine and Paul are both currently teachers with the Durham District School Board and living in Oshawa, and can be reached at cubit_catherine@yahoo.ca (photo 8).

Karen (O'Connor) and Kenneth Ritchie announce the birth of their first child, a daughter, Abigail (Abby) Grace Ritchie. Abby was born November 2, 2005. Mommy & Daddy are ecstatic to have her in their lives! Karen and Ken have been married since August 2001, and still reside in their home in Barrie, Ontario. Ken shared the maternity leave with Karen and stayed home June-Sept on a paternity leave. Karen returned to high-school teaching part-time following the birth of Abby (photo 9).

Shelly Steenhorst-Baker and her husband Christian are thrilled to announce the safe arrival of their first child, a boy, on August 15, 2006 (photo 10).

Ryan Durrell '97 and Alexandria (Thom) Durrell are happy to announce the birth of their

daughter Story Selby Durrell, born in Toronto on September 12, 2006. We'd love to hear from friends at alexandriadurrell@gmail.com (photo 11).

1996

Jen (Davidson) Almeida and her husband Lou are ecstatic to announce the arrival of their first-born, Daniel Jorge, in Kitchener, Ontario on October 3, 2006. He is the grandson of the late **Judy (McConnell) Davidson '74**. The proud parents look forward to bringing the little guy up to Trent sometime soon! (photo 12)

Patrick Brown and **Beth Yarzab** are happy to announce the birth of their twin girls—Luba Joleen and Hillary Alexa—on November 4th, 2006. They're settling in as a family in Toronto and looking forward to bringing the girls to Head of the Trent in the upcoming years! (photo 13)

1997

Lori (Smith) and Frank Heffernan are thrilled to announce the arrival of their precious baby girl. Hayleigh Jeanne Heffernan arrived a month early and managed to celebrate Easter with Mommy and Daddy. We are looking forward to celebrating Hayleigh's 1st birthday on April 14th, 2007. It is amazing how quickly time flies! (photo 14)

1998

Daniel Goss '98 and **Michelle (Chartier) Goss '00** were married on October 21, 2006 with friends and family. Their wedding was held at the Ottawa Hunt and Golf Club with a number of former Champlainers in attendance (photo 15).



Molly Gaffney, daughter of Chris Gaffney '84



1999

Wei Lynn Eng and her fiancé Anand D'Souza have moved back to Toronto after three and a half years in the US. She is eager to reconnect with her Trent friends and can be reached at weilynn@alumna.uchicago.edu

The following sketches sent by **Jill Coates-Ford '70**:

Dori Gruneau '71 continues to live in Port Carling in the Muskoka area. Dori is a successful entrepreneur of a company called Designs By Dori.

Karen Fagan '69 and **Ted Light '67** are in the Meaford area. Karen is a retired administrator from the Montessori school system. They enjoy their three children and respective families and recently have become grandparents.

Gary Fisher '71 lives in the Huntsville area with his wife Connie and they enjoy their three children. Gary is busy working as a CGA.

Joan Austin '71 and **Fred Von Engelbrechten** continue to live in Calgary. Joan is a teacher, Fred is in the computer industry and continues to dabble in music. They have two sons.

William (Bill) Wray Carney '69 has worked in communications and public relations for more than 20 years. He studied journalism at Carleton University School of Journalism, worked for a national public affairs television show

based in Toronto, and edited urban and rural weekly newspapers in Alberta. Bill is a professional communicator, practising in areas of issues management, marketing/advertising, media relations, and risk communications. He is also adjunct professor at Concordia University College of Alberta, teaching risk communications, and sessional instructor in public relations at the University of Regina. He lives in Regina.

Dr. David Morrison '70, former curator-in-charge and curator of Northwest Territories archeology at the Archaeological Survey of Canada, is now director of archaeology and history. He received his master's and doctoral degrees in anthropology from the University of Toronto. He is the author of numerous books, monographs, and articles on the far north, including the best-seller entitled *Inuit: Glimpses of an Arctic Past*. A veteran of over 20 seasons of Arctic field work, Dr. Morrison is a fellow of the Arctic Institute of North America. David lives outside of Ottawa with his wife Josie and has three children.

Su Edmunds '70 lives and works in the Ottawa area with her husband (Gord Mott) and their two sons.

Rob Ashley '71 and **Sue Wright** are living and working in Toronto. Susan continues to study at York University. They have four children. They enjoy summers in Muskoka.

Penny Goldie '73 and **Brian Bethune '71** are in the Toronto

area working and raising their two children. Brian works for Macleans magazine. His article on the Da Vinci Code drew plenty of attention on the front cover of Macleans. He currently hosts a blog called Bethune on Books.

Dr. Kay Teschke '70 is located at the Department of Health Care and Epidemiology and School of Environmental and Occupational Hygiene at the University of British Columbia.

Stephen Bale '70 and **Joan Armstrong '70** are in the Cobourg area. Stephen practises law in Cobourg and Joan teaches with the Northumberland Board. They have two children.

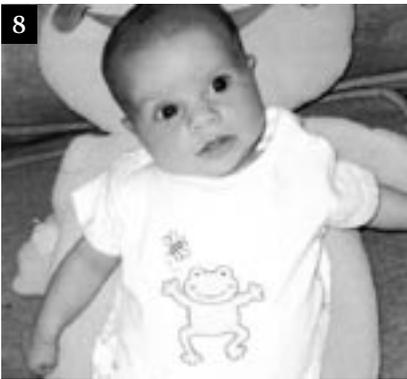
Sanford Long '82, **Margot (Murray) Robinson '80**, **Jill Coates-Ford '70**, **Rob Dennys '85** and **Jan Olsson '77** are all working for the Trillium Lakelands District School Board in the Muskoka area.

Alex Malcolm '76 is with the OPP in the Muskoka area. He and his wife, Marie, have four children.

Frank '72 and **Geraldine McMulkin** live in Toronto with their two children. The family summers in Muskoka, where Frank spends his time as a golf pro.

Donna Brown (Scheven) '83 lives in British Columbia with her husband Todd and their two children.

Gerry Yemensky '75 is living in Ottawa and practising law. He resides there with his wife Peggy and their three children. [\[i\]](#)



Changing Gears and Careers: Meet Alumna Robin (Linn) Dines '76

BY BRITTANY CADENCE '89

Trent was the start of the world opening up for me," explains Robin (Linn) Dines '76 amid the peacefully elegant surroundings that grace the Hillcrest Victorian Inn & Valenova Spa in Port Hope. Reflecting on a remarkable career path that led her from senior banking executive to spa entrepreneur, Robin values Trent's enduring influence on her life.

"I liked being encouraged at Trent to take courses outside my major," she recalls. "That helped me broaden my horizons and allowed me to look beyond where I was for new opportunities and to try new things."

This spirit of seeking new challenges and self-discovery has featured significantly in Robin's journey since leaving Trent. Representative of the growing trend to leave the fast-paced city in favour of a quality-filled lifestyle in a small town, Robin decided three years ago to make a profound change in her life. She took the courageous step of trading in her high-ranking executive position with TD Canada Trust for that of Innkeeper/Owner of an elite spa based one hour east of Toronto. Much of what she learned at Trent continues to serve her well through this transition.

Raised on a farm near Stirling, Ontario, Robin was originally drawn to Trent because she liked the intimate learning environment it offered. "I enjoyed the fact that Trent professors were able to give more attention to their students. It felt more like a 'family university,'" she says. "I remember being in tutorials with well-published professors and only six other students. It doesn't get much better than that!"

Majoring in biology, Robin maintained a busy 40-hour per



"Trent was the start of the world opening up for me."

week academic schedule, but still found time to forge strong relationships with several friends, many of whom she still stays in touch with. A highlight of her Trent experience was her trip to Jamaica organized by Professor Michael Berrill to conduct field studies with students in marine biology.

While at Trent, Robin met her former husband, and following graduation they lived in a number of small Ontario towns until they settled in Toronto, where she began working in the banking industry at an entry-level job in the trading room. She says that she "was very fortunate to work at TD. The only limits to your success were your own – the doors kept flying open for me!" Robin quickly worked her way up through the ranks, largely through her ability to build great teams. By the end of

her 22-year career, she had served as senior vice president of human resources, as well as senior vice president of commercial banking and operational risk.

New priorities started to emerge for Robin when she decided to focus on family matters and help care for those close to her who became ill. Her growing interest in health issues inspired her to start Valenova Consulting, a name derived from Latin meaning "wishing you new health, strength and prosperity." With a fresh desire to start something new, she decided to combine her passion for helping others with her business expertise and bought the Hillcrest in 2004.

Moving from running the board room to massage treatment rooms has not been without its challenges, but Robin's incredible people skills have enabled her to build an amazing team and transform the Hillcrest into a successful wellness sanctuary. "We're not here to rescue," she explains. "Our focus is to help our guests achieve strength through wellness by creating a six-sensory experience that renews them externally and from within."

Robin's innate social consciousness, a trait common to many Trent graduates, has factored heavily into the spa's marketing strategy. "We do a lot of charity work, and support causes we feel good about. For example, the Hillcrest sponsored the Toronto Star Nightingale Awards honouring outstanding Ontario nurses." This kind of event sponsorship, along with web optimization and word of mouth, are the primary tools Robin uses to promote the Hillcrest to spa-seekers. "Raising awareness of what we do by supporting worthy causes and those who help others, is a

Robin Dines continued on page 27



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**Richard Morgan at (705) 748-1011 ext.7598
or at richardmorgan@trentu.ca**

Walter Howell '70: A Donor Leaves His Mark

It is said that over the next 20 years over \$1 trillion in bequests will be transferred from the older generation to the baby boomers and their children. There has been a record accumulation of wealth since World War II. So the question is this: what's going to happen with all these funds?

According to a recent Gallup Canada Poll, there will not be any great spending sprees, but rather the inheritance will be spent wisely. It will be primarily re-invested, used to pay off debts or to help cover costs of higher education for children. When people are deciding how to use their parents' hard-earned money, there is a sense of responsibility to use it toward something that has lasting value.

Walter Howell '70, Chair of Trent University's Foundation, believes that this generation is going to be leaving their mark on



society. Realizing that government cutbacks have left our social programs increasingly short of funding, this generation has tended not only to provide for their families but also supported charities in a dedicated way. People are giving deep consideration to what is important to them. Naturally,

family is first. But once they are taken care of, people begin to think about what else has made a difference in their lives and they too want to leave their mark on society.

"My own children received financial help in the form of scholarships and bursaries at schools and universities that they attended," says Mr. Howell. "And I feel an obligation to make that possible for someone else." Mr. Howell has established a new bursary called the Howell Family Bursary to honour his own family's connection to Trent, which started with his own father. Walter Howell Sr., a lawyer in Peterborough for many years, was involved with the establishment of Trent and was an ongoing advocate of legacy gifts to charities.

This bursary will assist students for years to come as the fund will last in perpetuity. When setting up this endowed fund, Mr. Howell took advantage of the Ontario Trust for Student Support (OTSS) Program so that his gift could have twice the impact. The OTSS program provides matching funds to any donation that supports student financial aid.

"Each person cannot support everything, but we all need to make some choices and support institutions that we believe add value to individuals as well as community. For this reason I chose to support Trent," Mr. Howell continued.

Mr. Howell's philanthropy extends beyond his present-day support. He has made arrangements to remember Trent in his will so that he too will leave his own legacy and his own mark on society for the betterment of Trent, its students, and the community.

If you are interested in making a legacy gift to Trent University or have already remembered Trent in your will, please contact Sherry Booth, Manager, Planned Giving and Leadership Gifts at (705) 748-1011 ext. 7593 or by e-mail at sbooth@trentu.ca. 

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Trent University, 1600 West Bank Dr. Peterborough, ON K9J 7B8
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Robin at her new spa, the Hillcrest Victorian Inn in Port Hope

feel-good strategy that all of the staff are proud of."

Interestingly, Robin's botany skills learned from Professor Roger Jones have proven invaluable at the spa. Situated on one of the oldest deciduous forests left standing on the north shore of Lake Ontario, the Hillcrest is surrounded by beautiful 300-year-old oak trees and jack-in-the-pulpits reaching two feet in height. "Once I realized what a unique property it was, I wanted to make sure it was properly preserved, so I've registered with the Managed Forest Program through the Ministry of Natural Resources." This program guides property owners on which invading species should be removed to protect natural habitats.

Robin's fondness for her undergraduate experience caused her no hesitation in recommending Trent to her niece, who is now enrolled in the University's nursing program. "I am pleased to see Trent in the health sciences," she says commenting about the recent developments to her alma mater. "Change is a good thing. It enables you to readjust according to what really matters."

Robin's ability to create a new life and business that expresses her core values is certainly admirable. She hopes other members of the Trent community will come visit her at the Hillcrest, and enjoy the peaceful oasis it offers within a changing world. **T**

Philosophy Society Turns 40

BY JOHN MULLIN '03

On March 10, 2007, at Sadleir House, there was a palatable buzz in the air as students at the Trent Philosophy Society colloquium discussed Plato, Kant, and Hegel.

The magic was created by a very special guest, whose return highlighted the 40th anniversary of the Society. That guest was none other than University of Western Ontario professor **John Thorp '66**. Aside from being a major scholar and eminent philosopher himself, Prof. Thorp was also among the founders of the Philosophy Society, which now holds the distinction of being the oldest student society at Trent.

Introduced by Professor David Morris as "the ringleader and head honcho" of the Society, which drew a laugh from the audience, Prof. Thorp presented a compelling and controversial paper entitled "Aristotle's Worst Idea." Prof. Thorp is a noted speaker and one who "is used to provoking thought with the titles of his lectures," and his ability to engage an audience that had sat through five hours of presentations was remarkable. As the last speaker in a day filled with great speakers, Prof. Thorp delivered exactly what his audience wanted: a critical, interesting, and complex argument.

Prof. Thorp's return to Trent was punctuated not only by a huge student turnout (it was standing room only) but also by a visit from local news outlets. The *Peterborough Examiner*



sent a photographer in to capture the event, and the *Arthur* covered it as well.

Prof. Thorp's return to Trent was special for more reasons than just his lecture, especially for two current members of the philosophy department. He was the PhD supervisor of both Professors Byron Stoyles and Moira Howes.

Looming almost as large as him was another alumnus—**David Beattie '68**. Professor Morris reminded us in his introduction of Prof. Thorp that it was Mr. Beattie's endowment fund (the Cockorum Fund) that allowed the Society to operate and provide opportunities to students in philosophy. The impact of his generosity cannot be denied, as his contributions are an important reason why the Philosophy Society still flourishes.

Prof. Thorp himself had some great reminiscences about his Trent days. He fondly describes meeting in the old Champlain Senior Common Room for discussions over "wine, biscuits and cheese." His involvement in the Philosophy Society became "the model for my Trent life," he told me. "It was the mixing of the social and academic worlds that I found most appealing. Those were exciting days, because one had a sense of being a part of something amazing." **T**

Opening the Doors to Student Success: Leigh Facey-Crowther '70

BY JOHN MULLIN '03

After graduating with a degree in geography, former Champlain College student **Leigh Facey-Crowther '70** was faced with a dilemma—what to do after graduation?

His experience at Trent gave him a number of options. A key member of TUGS (Trent University Geography Society) for a number of years, Leigh also worked as a tour guide for Trent.

After graduating, Leigh did what seemed normal—he went to graduate school. After completing his Bachelor of Education and MA in Education at Queen's, Leigh taught for a number of years. He soon became a principal, a post he currently holds at Norwood District High School (NDHS). Located 30 km east of Peterborough, Norwood is a small town facing a challenge common to many rural communities across Ontario: declining student enrolment.

"About three years ago, a series of community forums occurred in Norwood to determine what could be done to ensure Norwood District's ability to sustain programming into the future. The projected enrollment at that time was for Norwood District to be less than 350 students by September 2006," Leigh explains. "It was concluded that Norwood needed to attract new students to the school and to keep in school the ones they had until they graduated".

The community forum provided the school with ideas and the Board of Education provided the resources. It was up to Leigh and his staff to develop the programs, hire the necessary staff, and develop a promotional package to get the word out.

For example, NDHS brought in its now famous Hockey Skills



Leigh Facey-Crowther '70

Academy program. Featured on TSN, the *Toronto Star*, and on the CBC program "The National," this program "just keeps getting better and better." The idea is simple — give students of all levels a chance to take part in a skills-based physical education program in hockey. NDHS uses the local arena, and the program features three different skill levels—so maximum participation is ensured. Hockey Canada is also involved with the program, which is one of only four of its kind in the province.

NDHS also features two other unique and interesting programs: the Equine and Agricultural Worker Program and the Norwood Sustainable Forestry Program. Not too many high schools have their own lumber mill—but NDHS does! NDHS is also one of the few schools to offer students a chance to learn about the equine industry while learning how to ride and care for horses. "We are producing incredibly innovative programs that are being recognized provincially and nationally."

All of these programs have two goals—student retention on the

one hand and a better student experience on the other. "Our goal is to give students a broader, practical experience to complement the traditional classroom lessons, expose them to future career opportunities, develop their work skills, and allow them to experience success at school by learning in a different way. Our goal is to leave no student behind.

"And the evidence seems to tell us we are on the right track—the dropout rate is down considerably, and the literacy and mathematics results are up significantly," Leigh explained. Compared with five years ago, when enrollment was actually declining, the school is bursting at the seams with over 500 students. "When you are trying to do something different in a school setting, it can be tough. But if you hope to make a difference, you have to step out of the box."

Leigh has a major part of the turnaround of NDHS, but he is quick to praise others. He speaks glowingly of the teachers and a person well known to Trent students and the Peterborough community—Trent professor emeritus and former MP Peter Adams.

While Leigh was completing his fourth year at Trent and was the TUGS president, he came to know Peter well. Leigh credits Peter with teaching him some important lessons about leadership. "You can't do everything—a good leader doesn't try to. A good leader brings out the best from all of the people he is responsible for by defining the collective vision, allowing people to take risks and make mistakes, supporting them and meeting their needs." This is certainly in evidence at NDHS. To visit Norwood District High School online, go to www.ndhs.ca. 

As Trent alumni have matured and grown...they continue to "make a world of difference."

Bonnie Patterson *cont'd from page 4*

Another highlight was the wonderful return of one of our own from Brock University for the Annual Alumni Lecture featuring **Dr. Fanny Dolansky '93** and her brilliant work on ancient Roman families. Dr. Dolansky's delightful presentation and current scholarship are profiled page 7.

As Trent alumni have matured and grown in greater numbers, they continue to "make a world of difference" in a variety of ways. Shining individual examples of the Trent spirit were honoured in the Annual Alumni Awards dinner hosted in Toronto in early May at the production studios of Epitome Pictures. This event not only recognized six outstanding alumni: Dalal Al-Waheidi, Robert Condon, Richard Johnston, Darren Murphy, Stephen Stohn and Ian Tamblyn, but stood out for me as a remarkable celebration of how Trent graduates from each generation are collectively having a profound impact both now, and for the future.

Alumni both at home and abroad continue to be our best ambassadors as they speak about Trent and support the good work that is happening here. For your ongoing support, I thank you.

As we look to finalizing our strategic directions to 2014 and Trent's 50th anniversary, it will be important to continue building public awareness of our strategic research priorities and committed teaching expertise. We know that Trent will continue to thrive based on its strong traditions, solid base of committed students and accomplished alumni, and a vision that will guide us. **T**

Bonnie Patterson
President & Vice Chancellor
bmpatterson@trentu.ca

Dear Alumni Association

It has been a while since I last checked in with you and my fellow alumni, and so many interesting things happen between times. As a Trent alum in the United States, I'm envious of grads who are able to make it "home" to Peterborough for reunions and special gatherings like the closing of the Commoner, so I try to continue my life as an alumnus vicariously through our beautiful Alumni Association magazine and the grapevine. But I admit it seems harder and harder all the time to remain relevant. This year it will be 25 years since my graduation with BSc Honors in Biology under the tutelage of my dear old mentor and friend, Prof. Percy Powles.

The last time I wrote, I think I sent you a CD produced by my band, Gate Street Blues. We continue to perform all over New England and this year will be our twelfth performance, by invitation, at the internationally acclaimed North Atlantic Blues Festival as featured artists in the Blues Club Crawl in mid-July.

My wife Beth and I recently sold our oceanfront inn here in Maine, and staying coastal, bought a warm and cozy post-and-beam home in historic Wells, Maine. It's much quieter than the hectic life of innkeeping, and we're still settling into our new woodsy environs, with our duck pond and local moose, and with our curious Weimaraner, Macy. Our family is grown and out of the house now: the youngest (my son Mickey) is a freshman at University of Connecticut in the NCAA's "Big East" and doing well. We have two grandchildren, Chloe (six years old) and Casey (four years old), who keep us entertained. Their dad is an Air Force firefighter stationed in the Middle East and mother Julie served eight years as well, but now is safely home with those two cherubs, close to Nanny and their Papa. That's me.

They say "you can't go back again", and I suppose that's true. But at least I hope that I will be able to make it back to Peterborough before too long for a visit! I can't wait to tour the fascinating new DNA facility. Though I'm now a small business owner and a working musician, after 20 years of scientific research at University of Massachusetts Medical School (where I went after Trent), I am always a scientist at heart. Kudos to Trent University for the new technology facilities and congratulations to the new classes of Trent-trained scientists who will get to learn in them.

I think so much about my four years at Trent and often try to explain to my American friends how unique and influential that experience was. I'm fascinated by Trent's progress and growth and proud of its stature among Canadian universities, as well as how it is recognized worldwide these days. Times are changing so rapidly now, but Trent's commitment and excellence are steadfast. I'm certain there is no other educational experience like it, and back in those days as a senior in Grade 13 in 1977, I couldn't have predicted how important those four years at Trent would be to me.

Send a shout out to any of my Class of '78 chums if you hear from them or see them....**John Campbell, Gary McConnell, Jake McIsaac, Kevin Kusch, and Paul Charette**, collectively known around Otonabee as "The Pals." All the best! From Trent's own working bluesman, just trying to stay relevant...

Rick "Rico" Miller OC '78
bluesman@maine.rr.com

Trent in Oshawa's Joan Milovick '77: Making A Career Out of Helping People

BY JOHN MULLIN '03

"Iretired on the 1st of March," Joan Milovick '77 tells me, "and as a retirement present, I got to spend three weeks helping my son's family move!"

Joan had just returned from New Brunswick when I spoke with her about her career at Trent in Oshawa. Not surprisingly, she was there to help someone. Joan knows a fair bit about helping people—and she should. She did spend 28 years doing it, after all.

Joan started working for Julian Blackburn College (JBC) in 1986, on a part-time basis. While working for JBC, Joan was completing her degree. At the time, Joan was a bit of an anomaly—a part-time student who went to class at night and worked during the day. Of course, these days that is by no means unusual. But even in the mid-1980s, part-time students at Trent in Oshawa were, Joan tells me with a laugh, "mostly elementary school teachers who were female, taking night classes."

When Joan began working for JBC, her job was that of a part-time representative for Trent. She characterizes her work with JBC in the first few years as "doing everything from registration to general info. What I did then, even full-time, they now have four people to do!"

Joan has seen some major changes to JBC, but more significantly, to the Trent-in-Oshawa program. When she began working, Trent in Oshawa was very different from what it is now. One significant development during her tenure was the establishment of DATE (Durham Alliance of Training and Education). This program had a simple premise,



Joan Milovick '77

which radically altered the relationship between part-time studies in Oshawa and Trent University. DATE's goal was to bring together four universities—Ryerson, York, Wilfrid Laurier, and Trent. "Before DATE, all four schools had classes in the Durham region, but they all avoided each other," Joan notes. "Or rather, they had no mechanism to be brought together."

DATE's significance to Trent was to give Trent the opportunity to provide certain courses to students in those other three schools which were not provided otherwise. "For example" Joan explains, "if you were a York business student, you might need a course in the humanities. If York could not offer this course, Trent in Oshawa would offer it for them. Many students didn't even realize that, as they were sitting in a classroom at Durham College, they were York or Ryerson or Laurier students but actually taking a Trent class!" Joan notes that, in this way, Trent was able to fill a market niche in Durham region.

Throughout our conversation of more than an hour, Joan was insistent on praising other people and

pointing out the great work they had done. But one of Joan's closest work colleagues and friends, Tui Menzies '69, calls Joan "a midwife" of the Trent in Oshawa program. "Joan has nurtured, protected and nourished that fledgling little program into the magnificent bird in full flight that it is today," Tui says. Tui also credits Joan with "helping to create what is essentially a small university of its own."

Joan also tells me about another great memory she has of promoting Trent while working for JBC, and it is one that many alumni can relate to. Part of her job was to act as representative for Trent at booths in malls around the Durham region, especially in the early days. Joan delights in pointing out that, "If a Trent grad walked by and saw the booth, even if they were running late they would stop and tell me about their Trent experience."

Joan's career has been one that happened "by accident," as she characterizes it. And yet, as someone behind the scenes, her influence in developing the Trent in Oshawa program was enormous. Despite her attempts to deflect praise and shine the light on those around her, Joan's dedication to Trent University and its students remained steadfast right up until the time she retired. In fact, Joan did not even have a grad photo of herself until Oshawa students encouraged her to in 2002. It was the enthusiasm of those students that finally convinced Joan to get her photo taken, and it was her affection for them that made it special. **T**



In Memoriam

Celia Franca

It is with great sadness that Trent University mourns the passing of honorary graduate **Celia Franca**. The founder of the National Ballet of Canada and its formidable artistic director for 24 years died in the Ottawa Hospital at the age of 85 on February 19, 2007. Franca received an honorary degree from Trent in 1977 and was appointed to the Order of Canada in 1967.

Miss Franca, as she was known in the ballet world, was a gift to Canada, an artist with an immense vision for ballet in this country. Born in London in 1921, young Celia Franca (born Celia Francks) had an early start in dance, earning scholarships to the Guild Hall School of Music and Drama and the Royal Academy of Dancing.

At the Metropolitan Ballet, where she was hired in 1947 as a soloist and ballet mistress, Franca began choreographing for TV. The BBC commissioned its first two original ballets from her. She arrived in Toronto in 1951. Not quite 30, she had been persuaded to leave London, where she had been a star dramatic ballerina, to establish a Canadian company.

In 1964, Franca brought Erik Bruhn to the company as a guest artist. He choreographed *Swan Lake* for the company and his connection to Rudolf Nureyev led to the biggest gamble of Franca's artistic life: commissioning Nureyev's lavish and expensive production of *The Sleeping Beauty*.

A dancer, teacher, rehearsal director, and budding choreographer, Franca had the requisite skills to run a company. She had earned the respect of major artists in the U.K. and Europe, and those contacts paid off handsomely for the

National Ballet. Franca also had the qualities to sustain a fledgling ballet troupe in a country with almost no classically trained dancers and slim financial support for the arts: sheer gall and an unshakable determination. With an eye for a dancer's potential, Franca gave career-making opportunities to her young dancers. After her departure from the National Ballet, Franca settled in Ottawa, where her husband, James Morton, was a clarinetist with the National Arts Centre Orchestra. He died in 1997.

With files from the Toronto Star



Elyse Ann (Bloemink) Schultz '71

It is with great sadness that we announce the sudden passing of

Elyse Ann Schultz '71 on Monday, March 5, 2007, at Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre as a result of injuries sustained in a motor-vehicle accident while acting as a good Samaritan. She will be deeply missed by her loving husband Michael and her children David and Jennifer. She is predeceased by her brother Michael and is survived by her brother David and sisters Linda and Arlene. Elyse was born in the Dutch West Indies (Curaçao) and grew up in the Scarborough area.

Elyse was affiliated with Lady Eaton College. She met her husband Michael when they were both in their third year at Trent. She learned to drive a car that year – Mike taught her in his '66 VW. She took her first canoe trip that year. When Elyse graduated in 1974, she joined the Bank of Montreal in the management program and worked

for over 25 years with the bank. She always had fond memories of her Trent years.

Elyse was a devoted wife and mother. Son David was born in 1977 and is now a successful web master for a financial software company. Jennifer was born in 1981 and is now with a pharmaceutical company in sales. Her husband Mike has spent 10 years in the Canadian educational publishing field and 20 years with the Peel District School Board.

Elyse was a lover of nature and loved to hike and bike in and around the north Halton Hills area. She also held a deep fascination for art, music, literature, and the world around her. Elyse was an individual who always put others first and was there for others through good times and bad.



Nathan Salomon Theo (Ted) De Jager '64

The Trent University Alumni Association was saddened to hear of the death of a member of the original class of 1964.

Nathan Salomon Theo (Ted) De Jager '64 died on February 15, 2007, at the age of 63. Born in Amsterdam, he was the devoted and beloved husband of the late Henderika (Ria) Wiersema, and is survived by his children Peter Salomon Christopher de Jager, Theo Hendrick Simon de Jager, and Femma Miriam Anna de Jager. Those of you who knew him well know him by his devotion to his family, his selfless acts of generosity and honesty, and his unflinching willingness to help others. In recognition of his lifetime contribution to medicine, donations may be made to The Heart and Stroke Foundation or the Kidney Foundation. **T**

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featured in the mini-series *Hockey: A People's History*, and he has attended forums around the country to discuss hockey and how he sees it. It may seem odd, of course, that a philosopher and poet is interested in hockey, but his book of poetry, *Hero of the Play*, is a critically acclaimed look at the role hockey has played as a national myth for Canadians. As Trent alumnus **Paul Delaney '64** noted after the reading, "When he read from *Hero of the Play*, no one knew what to do—whether to burst into applause or stay quiet. It was so beautiful that it made everyone awkward." It did not help that this occurred during the first poem Richard read. Needless to say, the applause came—and it was heartfelt.

Professor Hodgson noted that, in light of Richard's connection to hockey, "his best poem was about making love after going to a Petes game." Richard explains, and not without a twinkle in his eye, that "the game, which was during the Memorial Cup, really inspired me."

Clearly, Prof. Hodgson did not exaggerate when he said that where philosophy had lost, poetry had gained. **T**

Adrian Kelly continued from page 19

department for reasons that transcend money. He favours the sorts of things Trent stood – and stands – for: "A Trent education is all about a liberal education. The arts and humanities have a tremendous role to play, and there can and needs to be a connection between them and the sciences. It's amazing that, on one side of the river, someone could be working on life-saving technology while on the other, someone could be writing a literary masterpiece."

Indeed, Adrian's ability to follow his passions in many ways is the living embodiment of the rich interdisciplinary spirit at Trent, and will undoubtedly benefit his future students. **T**

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