

OnManitoba

CONNECTING ALUMNI AND FRIENDS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF MANITOBA

AUGUST 2004

IN THIS ISSUE:

DAA RECIPIENT

MIRIAM TOEWS ON
THE CREATIVE PROCESS

TORONTO REUNION 2004





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Dear Editor:

I enjoyed, as usual, reading the April 2004 edition of *On Manitoba* which has just reached here! In particular, I was interested in the para-

graph on page 8 concerning the gift of documents concerning Margaret Laurence. I have always been interested in her writings, and knew her slightly at United College in 1945-47.

The paragraph noted that Lyall Powers has published a biography, *Alien Heart—The Life and Work of Margaret Laurence*. I have tried and failed to find a bookseller in Melbourne who has this book on their lists. I hope you can assist me in this search by providing the relevant publication details, particularly the ISBN number.

Yours Sincerely,

Allan T. Casey (BSc(Hons)/50, PhD)
Australia

Dear Editor:

I just wanted to let you know about the passing of my father, Brian D. Best (MD/34) on May 30, 2004 in Winnipeg.

Dad was featured in the Winter 1977 edition of the *Alumni Journal* when he was made Professor Emeritus of Obstetrics and Gynaecology at the University of Manitoba. His association with the university lasted over 40 years.

I have enclosed a copy of his obituary which appeared in the *Winnipeg Free Press*, for your information and possible mention in the magazine.

Yours truly,

Robert B. Best (BA/64, MPA/80) (Past-President of the Alumni Association, 1981-82)
Winnipeg

Dear Editor:

Thank you all for your continued faithfulness in the reception this morning of the April 2004 issue of *On Manitoba*. I'm happy to tell you that I recognized, on page 19, Sandy kneeling beside what here in England we call a "wheeley bin." But I hasten to assure you I have an alternative means of disposing of my unwanted but good clothing "surplus." Well done Sandy!

Sincerely,

Rev. Can. Cecil Rothery (BD/53)
England

RHODES SCHOLAR UPDATE

Since the last issue was published, it appears that the University of Manitoba has had more success with the Rhodes Scholarship than reported. We did not include:

Murray Smith, BA/50, BEd/56, MEd/79

Graham Steele, BA/84

Kerry Stirton, BA(Hons)/85, and

Samir Sinha, BScMed/02

THEMES FOR UPCOMING ISSUES

The next issues of *On Manitoba* will focus on the following themes: December 2004 will celebrate Aboriginal Successes while issues in 2005 are scheduled to cover Agriculture/ Rural Issues and the North. If you have any information or story ideas related to these topics, please forward them to the Editor.

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Alumni Association News

AGM 2004



Newly-inducted President Brian Macpherson and Past-President Nick Pizzi

At the Annual General Meeting on June 16, the Alumni Association thanked several volunteers for their contributions and also welcomed new board and committee members. The evening began with President and Vice-Chancellor **Emőke Szathmáry** bringing greetings on behalf of the university.

Alumni Association President **Nick Pizzi** (BSc(Hons)/81, MA/86, MSc/87, PhD/97) recognized accomplishments of the past year and thanked those who are stepping down from the board. **Jim Raftis** (MPAdm/91) completed a full six-year term. Other departing board members were **Rowland Forster** (MNRM/98), **Sonya Janzen Penner** (BA(Hons)/94, MA), **MaryAnn Kempe** (BA/97, MBA) and **Gord Sawatzky** (BScEE/83, MSc/86).

The following new board members were welcomed: **Brian Bowman** (BA(Adv)/96, JD), **David Crawford** (BA/95, ContEd/00), **Aleksander Demko** (BCSc(Hons)/00), **Yuewen Gong** (PhD/93), **Naomi Green** (BA/97), **Christine Hanlon** (BA/85, BEd/89), and **Cheryl Keachie** (BA/97, ContEd/01).

The new executive committee was also introduced with: **Nick Pizzi**, Past-President; **Brian Macpherson** (BSc/60, MSc/63, PhD), President; **Bruce Miller** (BRS/99), Vice-President; **Rennie Zegalski** (BComm(Hons)/95), Treasurer; **Tracy Kozar** (BA(Hons)/96, MA), Board Representative, and **Karen Gamey** (BHEc/78), Secretary, Ex-Officio.



Judy McTaggart, Alumni Association, with Roland Forster

RAISING OUR NATIONAL PROFILE

The University of Manitoba recently launched a strategy to increase its profile nationally. **John Danakas** (BA(Hons)/85, MA/94), director, public affairs, says that this strategy includes a survey of stakeholders including students, parents, guidance counsellors, university administrators, and alumni. The survey is complete and the university is currently running colourful, half-page advertisements in national newspapers and sending promotional materials directly to target audiences. The survey showed that when asked about their impression of the university, "overall favourability has remained high for alumni over the past twenty years making them among the most positive internal audiences."

ANDERSON ELECTED CHAIR

In June, Alumni Association representative to the University of Manitoba Board of Governors **Wayne Anderson** (BSA/63, MBA/68) was re-elected Chair of the university Board of Directors.

WELCOME

Jocelyn Advent (BA/01, BEd/04)



Director with the Association.

started as Alumni Assistant in June 2004 replacing **Holly Campbell** who has assumed the role of Alumni Assistant to the Executive

PROGRAMS RECOGNIZED

At the recent Canadian Council for the Advancement of Education (CCAEE) Prix d'Excellence awards competition, the Alumni Association received two awards. The alumni event in Toronto received a silver medal in the Special Event category and Homecoming 2003 was awarded a bronze in the Alumni Program category.

APPLICATIONS ACCEPTED

The Association will again be offering its entrance bursary for 2004-05 to a Manitoba-born undergraduate student entering University 1. For more details, please contact the Alumni Association.

Community Leader Selected DAA



David Friesen (at right) with Jaroslaw Barwinsky (MD/55) the 2001 DAA recipient.

At the Annual General Meeting on June 16, the Alumni Association announced the selection of **David G. Friesen** (BA/69) as 2004 recipient of its Distinguished Alumni Award.

As Chief Executive Officer of Friesens Corporation, he has significantly grown his family's business, which has operated in Altona since 1907. One of the largest employers in Manitoba, Friesens is the largest independent book manufacturer in Canada, accounting for about 65 per cent of the hardcover titles printed, including over 20 million copies of Robert Munsch's *Love You Forever* and all five Harry Potter titles to date.

For its success, Friesens was named one of Canada's 50 best managed companies in 2003. Friesen was named Prairie Entrepreneur of the Year in 2000 in the competition by Ernst and Young and he was nominated for the National Entrepreneur of the Year Award that same year.

Friesen is active in the leadership of both his own industry and business in Manitoba. Currently, he is on the boards of Manitoba Hydro and The Blue Cross Life Insurance Company of Canada and is a member of the Business Council of Manitoba. He has been a director and member of the Graphic Arts

Industries Association of Canada, the Printing Industries Association of Manitoba, the US-based National Association of Printing Leadership and the Manitoba Branch of the Canadian Manufacturer's Association. He was also a member of the Premier's Economic Advisory Council of Manitoba

As a member of the University Development Council from its inception in 1993, Friesen was involved in the development and maturation of fundraising at the uni-

versity. He is also a member of the Associates of the I.H. Asper School of Business. As Chair of the recent *Building on Strengths: Campaign for the University of Manitoba*, he led the most successful campaign in the university's history and one of the largest university campaigns in Canada with a final total of more than \$237 million.

Friesen's community involvement extends well beyond the university. He was a trustee of the National Arts Centre Board. In addition, his other involvements include the Fort Whyte Centre for Environmental Education, the Altona Community Foundation and Scouts Canada.

Friesen was nominated by Robert O'Kell, former dean, arts, and will be honoured at the Homecoming Banquet in September before receiving his award at the University's fall convocation.

The Distinguished Alumni Award is presented annually to an alumnus who demonstrates outstanding professional achievement, significant service to the University of Manitoba, and significant contributions to the community and to the welfare of others

To nominate a graduate for 2005, check the Alumni Association web site at: www.umanitoba.ca/alumni

Events

MINNEAPOLIS ALUMNI GATHER

The Alumni Association coordinated a Canadian-themed event in Minneapolis at the Consul General's office on March 25. The university was well-represented by **Emőke Szathmáry**, president and vice-chancellor, **Elaine Goldie**, vice-president (external) and **Harold Bjarnason**, dean, agriculture and food sciences. Pictured at the event (l-r): **Gerry Foley**, Consul General's office, **Karen Gamey** (BHEc/78), executive director, Alumni Association, and Chef **Craig Guenther**, Market 520 in Winnipeg.



VANCOUVER AND VICTORIA

The Alumni Association coordinated events in Vancouver on April 28 with approximately 300 alumni and friends and in Victoria on April 29 with approximately 150 attendees. School of Music Chamber performers provided entertainment at the Vancouver reception. Pictured in Vancouver is **Rob McGowan** (BEd/95) saying hello to **Karen**, **Jan** and **Yussef**. Also in Vancouver was **Ralph Crawford** (DMD/64) and wife, **Olga**. Ralph is a former president of the Alumni Association, 1982-83. At the Victoria event, pictured are (l-r): **Elaine Goldie**, **Jacque Mar** (MD/35), his wife **Pamela**, and **Karen Gamey**.

ENGINEERS GATHER

On May 20, the Faculty of Engineering hosted a reception in Winnipeg at the Canad Inn Fort Garry, Tavern United, for graduates. And in June, engineers gathered in Ottawa, ON. Pictured are grads at the Winnipeg event.



MANAGEMENT GRADS MEET IN TORONTO

Alumni gathered in Toronto in June to wish **Dean Jerry Gray**, PhD, well on his recent retirement and to thank him for his contributions to the faculty. Pictured is **Jerry Gray** with Senator **Paul Massicotte**. Also at the event, **Jillian Bauming** (BComm(Hons)/99), was introduced as the new volunteer Asper contact in Toronto. Jillian is pictured with fellow classmates (far right).

ALUMNI ASSOCIATION UPCOMING EVENTS

NOVEMBER 5, 2004 UNIVERSITY OF MANITOBA ALUMNI RECEPTION IN TORONTO

Sheraton Centre Toronto Hotel

Watch for more information at www.umanitoba.ca/alumni

ALL-CANADIAN UNIVERSITIES ALUMNI EVENTS



University of Manitoba alumni are welcome to attend ACU events. Upcoming events are listed below. For more information, please contact the Alumni Association or check the web site, www.ccaecanada.org/ACU/index.htm

September 2004, Chicago, Illinois

October/November 2004, Denver, Colorado

October 8, 2004, Seattle, Washington



ALUMNI MEET IN HONG KONG

At an alumni reception in Hong Kong on April 30, University President and Vice-Chancellor **Emőke Szathmáry**

met with graduates at the Regal Hong Kong Hotel. Pictured are (l-r): **Bryan Leung** (BSc/78), **Emőke Szathmáry**, **Nora Fung** (BSc/77) and **Bart Leung** (BSc(Hons)/80, MSc/81, PhD/99)

NETWORK CANADA ALUMNI EVENT

September 21, 2004

Canada House, 5 Trafalgar Square, London, UK

For more information, call Jana at 204 474-8932

or check www.networkcanada.org.

WINNIPEG ACTIVITIES



UNIVERSITY OF MANITOBA NIGHT AT THE GOLDEYES

September 2, 2004, CanWest Global Park

Check www.umanitoba.ca/alumni for more details.



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UNIVERSITY
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125TH SPRING CONVOCATION



Raymond R. Henault (BA/92, LLD/04)

In May, the University of Manitoba conferred 2,715 degrees, diplomas and certificates, a ten-year high. In addition, the university recognized the contributions of students, staff and members. Honorary degrees were presented to: **Raymond R. Henault** (BA/92, LLD/04), chief of Canada's defence staff and a graduate of the University of Manitoba's Canadian Forces

University Program; **Lloyd Axworthy** (BA/61, LLD/04), president of the University of Winnipeg and former Member of Parliament and senior federal cabinet minister; **Beverley McLachlin** (LLD/04), chief justice of the Supreme Court of Canada; **Clayton H. Riddell** (BSc(Hons)/59, DSc/04), chairman and chief executive officer of Paramount Resources Ltd.

The title Distinguished Professor was conferred on **Digvir S. Jayas** (MSc/82, PhD), biosystems engineering, **Fred Stambrook** (PhD), former dean of arts, received the

title Dean Emeritus. **Donald K. Gordon** (PhD), **Herbert Weil** (PhD), **Hugh C. Williams** (PhD), **Karl T. Riese** (MD/54) and **Robert W. Archambeau** (PhD) were each named Professor Emeritus. **Earle Ferguson** and **Audrey M. Kerr** (BA/53) received the title Librarian Emeritus.

The Dr. and Mrs. H.H. Saunderson Award for excellence in teaching was awarded to: **Deborah Court**, microbiology, and **Alan Marshall** (BCSc(Hons)/84), computer science. The Olive Beatrice Stanton Award for excellence in teaching was awarded to **Wayne Serebrin**, education. **Cynthia Coop** (BID/50), received the Peter D. Curry Chancellor's Award. The Board of Governors awarded its Distinguished Service Award to **Helen Hayles** and **Kerry Hawkins**. **Zana Lufiyya**, educational administration, received the Dr. and Mrs. D.R. Campbell Outreach Award. **Christopher Kozier** (BSc/99, LLB/04) received the Robert Charles Armatage Award.

The title of Chancellor Emeritus was conferred for the first time. Three former Chancellors were honoured: **Isabel G. Auld** (LLD/86), **Henry E. Duckworth** (BA/35, BSc/36, LLD/78) and **Arthur V. Mauro** (BA/49, LLB/53, LLM/56, LLD/87).

CFUP PROGRAM RECOGNIZED



Eight of the 46 Canadian Forces University Program (CFUP) students convocating in May 2004 were in attendance to watch CFUP graduate General **Ray Henault**, Chief of the Defence Staff, receive an honorary degree. "This honour illustrates the progress of the program since its inception in 1974," says Kenn Doerksen, CFUP co-ordinator.

The first of its kind, the CFUP was established in partnership with the University and the Department of National Defence to make access to university education easier for armed forces personnel, retired forces personnel, and to civilian workers with the department. Over the past thirty years, approximately 1,300 students have graduated through the program. In addition to Henault, another notable grad is Major-General (Ret) **Lewis Mackenzie** (BA/88).

Doerksen credits the program's success to its ability to reach students around the globe, to provide courses relevant to their careers and to provide student supports that are tailored to individual needs. "We have students from every province in Canada and from around the world and we offer courses in class, by the internet, and by independent study," he says. "I have met many of students and it's particularly gratifying to hear them say that they would not have been able to pursue a degree without this program. You feel you're making a difference." Pictured are General Henault (centre, front) with graduates and CFUP staff

TWO ALUMNI SELECTED AS TOP 40 UNDER 40

This year, **Jamie Brown** and **Prabhat Jha** were selected to receive the pre-eminent business award for young achievers under the age of 40. Brown (BSc/88, LLB) is CEO and executive producer of Frantic Films and Jha (MD/88) is Canada Research Chair of Health and Development, Public Health Sciences and director of the Centre for Global Health Research at the University of Toronto and St. Michael's Hospital. Each year, Canada's Top 40 Under 40® Awards recognize those who are leading Canada into the new global economy.

NORRIE RE-ELECTED CHANCELLOR

William (Bill) Norrie (BA/50, LLB/55, LLD/93) was elected to a second three-year term as University Chancellor for a three-year term ending in 2007. He has served as Chancellor since 2001.



REPORT FROM THE PRESIDENT

Transforming How We See Our World

Marshall McLuhan, one of the 20th century's most innovative thinkers about media and communication, began his academic career at the University of Manitoba. Here he developed his lifelong passion for literature and wide interests across many areas of learning.

McLuhan spent the majority of his career and completed his best-known work at the University of Toronto, but he was at heart a Prairie boy. He was born in Edmonton in 1911, and he grew up in Winnipeg. He studied at the University of Manitoba, graduating in 1933 with a Bachelor of Arts and in 1934 with a Master of Arts. He then went on to England for further study, moved to the United States to teach, and completed his PhD at Cambridge in 1943.

McLuhan called himself a "Westerner." He cited the "vast panoramas" and "tremendous space" of his Prairie heritage as the sources of his intellectual approach – the inclination to avoid specialization, to look broadly at many disciplines, to not take himself too seriously, but engage seriously with other people's ideas. Out of this approach, forged in part by this university, he transformed the way we see our world.

As McLuhan would argue, the advent of electronic communication at the speed of light made it possible for great minds to not only emerge, but to achieve success and notoriety, from anywhere. That may not have been the case for a brilliant young graduate student in 1934, but that world certainly became a reality within his lifetime.

We are eminently proud to know that this startlingly original thinker spent his formative years at this institution, a fact we commemorated this year, the 40th anniversary of his best-known work, *Understanding Media*, with the dedication of Marshall McLuhan Hall in University Centre on June 4.

McLuhan's work reveals to us the possibilities and consequences of the electronic age, but it also points to the enduring potential of humanity in any context. As he wrote in 1967, "Our new environment compels commitment and participation. We have become irrevocably involved with, and responsible for, each other."

Here he reminds us of what the university – as a place for reflection, study and dialogue – offers our society. I hope that the creativity, curiosity and humanity of Marshall McLuhan will continue to inspire all of us at the University of Manitoba to pursue excellence in research, scholarship and outreach with the broadmindedness and determination fitting of a Prairie university.



(l-r): Brian Oleson, William Wilson and Funing Zhong

UNIVERSITY RANKS HIGH IN ARGENTINA

On May, 2004 an "All Wheat Conference" was held in Argentina. With more than 2,000 registered, it was likely the largest wheat conference

ever held. The conference included six international speakers representing views from Canada, the United States, France, Australia, China and the International Grain Council (U.K.). Three of these international speakers are graduates from the University of Manitoba department of agribusiness and agricultural economics: **Brian Oleson** (BA/67, MA/70, PhD) and current professor in the department, represented Canada; **Funing Zhong** (PhD/89) represented China; and **William Wilson** (PhD/80), represented the United States.

ADMINISTRATIVE CHANGES ON CAMPUS

There are many new faces at the University of Manitoba. **Dean Sandham** becomes the new dean of medicine on October 1, 2004. On July 1, 2004 the following new deans assumed their leadership roles: **Glenn Feltham**, I.H. Asper School of Business; **Michael Trevan**, agricultural and food sciences; **Mark Whitmore**, science; and **Richard Sigurdson** (BA/80, MA/83), arts. **Dean Care** (BN/76, MEd/84, PhD) became acting dean of nursing for a one-year term on July 1, 2004. **Brenda O'Neill** was appointed provost of University College. **Christine Blais** was appointed director of University 1. The following have been re-appointed: **David Collins**, dean of pharmacy; **Harvey Sexter**, dean of law; and **Carolynne Presser**, director of the University of Manitoba Libraries. **Gustaaf Sevenhuysen** continues as acting dean of human ecology.

MCLUHAN HONOURED



On June 4, the university honoured **Marshall McLuhan** by renaming the Beausejour Room in University Centre as Marshall McLuhan Hall. Pictured at the dedication are: son **Eric**

McLuhan, at left, daughter **Elizabeth McLuhan**, at right, with Elizabeth's husband, **Don Myers** and daughter **Madeleine**.

BISONS GEAR FOR NEW SEASON



For information on sports news and schedules, check www.umanitoba.ca/bisons.

IMPROVING RESOURCES FOR WOMEN IN CHINA



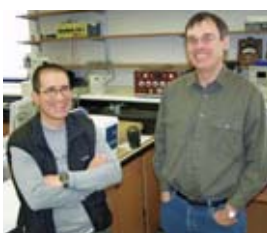
Maria Cheung and Tuula Heinonen

Tuula Heinonen (PhD) and **Maria Cheung** (PhD), social work, launched a pioneering project designed to more effectively address the needs of rural women in China. Rural Chinese women are burdened with high rates of poverty, low literacy, poor health and few opportunities for training or advancement. Research led by Heinonen and Cheung will prioritize working with existing social-service providers in China to improve the resources available to women living in rural areas.

“We thought we should address the situation of rural women,” Heinonen said. “Urban centres provide some social welfare benefits, whereas rural populations had limited resources.” These researchers are helping Chinese educators develop indigenous social work programs and methods for the varying cultures and societies of Inner Mongolia, Sichuan and rural Beijing. Their work is supported by a \$3-million grant from the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA).

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NEW CFI FUNDING



Michael Freund and John Wilkins

Two university teams received more than \$6 million in Canada Foundation for Innovation funding for research into materials and human diseases.

The materials characterization team led by **Michael Freund** (PhD), chemistry, Faculty of Science, received \$2.98 million

from CFI and matching funds from the Manitoba government for instruments that will accelerate research and development in diverse areas ranging from aerospace and

RESEARCH TO INCREASE GROWING OPTIONS



Genyi Li



Peter McVetty

The Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council (NSERC) awarded the University of Manitoba two new Industrial Research Chairs in High Erucic Acid Rapeseed Research and Development. The announcement came with more than \$2.5

million in funding from NSERC, Bunge Canada and the Manitoba Canola Growers Association.

New senior research chair **Peter McVetty** (PhD/78), plant science, has led the university’s High Erucic Acid Rapeseed (HEAR) plant breeding program for more than 15 years. Associate research chair **Genyi Li** (PhD), plant science, spent several years at the University of California as a postgraduate researcher in plant genomics. “This support will definitely lead to more crop growing options for Prairie farmers,” McVetty said. “It will allow the university to expand its expertise in Brassica breeding, genetics and genomics.”

electronics to biotechnology. The instruments will help researchers understand the elemental make up and structure of important materials such as super alloys and conducting polymers. This could lead to development of materials and electronic devices with increased performance.

More than \$3 million from CFI and matching provincial funds supports **John Wilkins** (PhD/79), Medicine, and the systems biology research team. The funds support equipment plus a laboratory at the John Buhler Research Centre in space provided by the Health Sciences Centre Foundation, which is also a funding partner. Systems biology involves learning how molecules interact within cells to produce life. This information could lead to new approaches in diagnosis and treating diseases.

NURSING PROFESSORS RECEIVE NATIONAL FUNDING

Roberta Woodgate (MN/89, MN/93, PhD/01) and **Michelle Lobchuk** (BN/92, MN/95, PhD/01), nursing, were two of four recipients of the Research Scientist Awards recently announced by the National Cancer Institute of Canada. The other two recipients, **Lynda Balneaves** (BSc/90, BN/94, MN/96, PhD) and **Joyce Davison** (BN/90, MN/93, PhD/97), are graduates from the University of Manitoba. Lobchuk has also received a Canadian Institute of Health Research pilot project grant and a Manitoba Health Research Council grant.

Bringing Back Memories

Reading about the Congress of the Humanities and Social Sciences in the December issue of *On Manitoba* and being on campus during the event brought back many happy memories of the 1986 Learned Societies Conference, as Congress was then known, also hosted by the University of Manitoba.

Although the conference ran for only 15 days, planning began in 1984 when I was hired by **Ed Rea** (BA/61, MA/63, PhD) from the Department of History to assist in co-ordinating the conference. In September 1985 we moved from St. Paul's College into our official Secretariat Office in the Tier Building where we added **Marie Bouchard** (MA/86) and **Carole Carlson** (BA/93) to our office staff. Although we used computers for on-line registration, all correspondence was done manually. Since we were paying the relatively high rate of \$6 per hour for student help we had no problem in hiring student assistants from nearly every faculty.

Many of them will remember Boxing Day 1985 as the day we started to stuff and hand sort 35,000 registration packages announcing the May meetings.

As was the case this year, the 1986 conference proved to be a success despite the weather. A heat wave during the first week of the meetings resulted in construction of the new Faculty of Management building starting at 6 a.m. much to the consternation of delegates housed in nearby Tache and Mary Speechley Halls.

The hospitality tent adjacent to Robson Hall and University College was nearly lost in a prairie wind storm. As Ed and his assistants, **Jim Mochoruk** (MA/84, PhD/92) and **Peter Nunoda** (PhD/91), strained on the ropes trying to prevent the large tent from sailing into the Red River, delegates scattered. All but the young cashier from Food Services who stuck to her post at the entrance, refusing to leave it unattended. The storm finally passed, the patrons returned and the cash box remained safe.



At the 1986 Learneds (l-r): Carole Carlson, Ed Rea, Eleanor Stardom and Marie Bouchard

Since many of our student assistants were graduate students, Ed thought it only fitting that a portion of the profits from the conference be set aside to create annual Learned Societies Travelling Scholarships to assist graduate students attending Learned/Congress at other institutions.

Ed Rea passed away last October after forty years of teaching with the Department of History. He was first hired to teach American and European history but, after the 1967

Centennial awakened students' interest in the history of their country, he happily turned to Canadian History in which he had been trained. In time, he came to specialize in Western Canadian History, writing several books including one on the Winnipeg General Strike and an award-winning biography of Manitoba Senator T.A. Crerar. He was instrumental in developing popular courses on the history of Manitoba and of Winnipeg introducing many students to the history of their city. In the wider community he served as Chair of the Historic Sites Board of Manitoba and was a member of the Historic Sites and Monuments Board of Canada which offered him a unique opportunity to visit national historic sites. He held a variety of positions with the Canadian Historical Association and served as President from 1990–91. His two daughters, **Janice** (BA/90, BSW/99, LLB/02) and **Kathy**, were both accomplished Highland dancers and, through them, Ed became one of the founding members of the Scottish pavilion at Folklorama. But what he loved best was to teach. He said it kept him young because the students in his classes never seemed to age.

I know how much Ed would have enjoyed attending this year's Congress. I can see him now in the hospitality tent, cigar in hand (in the smoking section, of course) greeting his many friends who always knew where to find him. His legacy will live on in the Travelling Scholarships as well as a bursary established in his name for graduate students in Canadian History and the J. Edgar Rea History Prize for academic excellence in Winnipeg history.



Congress registration 2004

Eleanor Stardom (Mrs. Ed Rea)

The Road to Suc



Her blue eyes flash as she considers how she feels about the overwhelmingly positive reviews her just released novel, *A Complicated Kindness*, has received.

“I want to allow myself to be excited about the momentum the book has,” says **Miriam Toews** (BA/89). “I mean I would be lying if I said I wasn’t excited. I’m pleased. But at the same time the important thing is I have to get back to work. I guess what I’m trying to say is while I’m trying to appreciate the moment, the excitement, I’m also realizing that there’s tons of work that lies ahead. All of this is exciting—the travel, the positive reviews. But, at the same time I like to be alone in my room writing stories.”

Toews’s response is characteristically understated, and rooted, especially if one considers the context. *A Complicated Kindness*—her third novel and the first of a two package deal with one of the United Kingdom’s most prestigious publishing houses, Faber and Faber—has received glowing reviews from coast to coast in Canada, many proclaiming it as a breakout novel.

And glowing, in itself, is not a strong enough adjective. Noah Richler told his *Toronto Star* audience that *Kindness* is a “truly wonderful novel” and “one of the year’s most exuberant reads” while CBC’s Bill Richardson, writing for the *Globe and Mail*, remarked that even in a country currently experiencing a “superabundance of good writing . . . it’s still rare to find yourself caught, as you are here, by a compelling voice informed as much by the heart as by the head.”

The book has also been received well at home. At her Winnipeg book launch the venue proved too small for the crowd of over 400. Still, Toews remains humble, if somewhat overwhelmed and somewhat skeptical. “You know that it’s nebulous and fleeting” she says. “I mean there are always more books being published and more things for newspapers to write about. So this is your little moment of joy and you don’t want to bank too much on it.”

This is not her first brush with success, however, and it appears the publishing world is ready to bank on her. Her first novel, 1996’s *Summer of My Amazing Luck*, was nominated for the Stephen Leacock Memorial Medal and won her the John Hirsch Award for the Most Promising Manitoba Writer.

Two years later she released *A Boy of Good Breeding* which won the McNally Robinson Book of the Year Award. *Swing Low: A Life* followed in 2000 and in it she delved courageously into her father’s depression and eventual suicide from a first-person perspective. A project that remains brave beyond most both from a personal and a literary sense, but one that Toews later told a reporter was well worth the risks. “I felt I had taken something horrible and tragic and made something good of it.” The literary community agreed, once again awarding her the book of the year award and also the Alexander Kennedy Isbister Award for Non-Fiction.

With all her success, however, her first publication remains her greatest writing thrill. “When I got that letter from Turnstone Press,” she laughs, “and it says we want to publish your novel, I was completely shocked, just blown away. I was dancing around the house and jumping up and down. With everything else that has happened, and there have been some great things and there have been some horrible things that have happened, it’s been a more controlled emotional reaction.”

At 39, Toews, who grew up in the staunchly conservative, Mennonite community of Steinbach, lives with her husband, children’s festival executive producer Neal Rempel, and her kids in Winnipeg, a city she describes as both melancholy (“sort of a rich melancholy”) and imbued with a fighting spirit. A place, she says, that is almost like “a neglected sort of paradise.” Melancholy and spirited could also aptly describe both her writing style and the human fabric of Manitoba.

Like all good writers, Toews recognizes the truth in the

CESS

Small Companies with a Big Reach

It's no coincidence that, as writers like Miriam Toews are celebrating international success, the efforts of smaller book publishing companies are also receiving wider recognition. While *A Complicated Kindness* is gaining acclaim in Canada, the United States and Britain, publishers like Turnstone Press, who published Toews's first novel, have celebrated books that have won the Governor General's award and have been nominated for the Giller Prize.

"Usually these companies start out to fill a local need that isn't being met by a larger publisher and things evolve from that point," says **David Carr**, director, University of Manitoba Press. Like many others in the business, Carr got his start in Manitoba at Turnstone. Today, there are 18 active book publishers in Manitoba spanning topics from children's books to popular history. Last year, says Carr, total sales were approximately \$4 million.

The University of Manitoba is well-represented in this publishing field. In addition to the 18 active book publishers in Manitoba, alumni can be found in other provinces.

Pictured below are **David Carr** and **Sharon Caseburg** (BA/93, MA/99). Caseburg is Editorial Assistant with University of Manitoba Press and Production and Acquisitions Editor at Turnstone Press. She is also chair of the poetry journal *Contemporary Verse 2*.



saying "we come by way of yesterday" and the fact that her past has informed both who she is and how she writes.

As a teenager she says she found Steinbach "rather stifling," but one that "as a kid, before you start questioning, was very nurturing." "It's a very secure environment," she says. "You know who you are, where you belong, who your parents are, who your grandparents are. What congregation you belong to. Everything. But as my friends and I got older we realized that in order to know ourselves, in order to truly know ourselves, we would have to leave the community."

It was at the University of Manitoba that Toews first experienced affirmation for her work. "Starting at university and being able to write, and being able to express yourself exactly as you wanted. This was important. And so was film studies. It's a great program with professors like George Toles, Steve Snyder, and Gene Walz."

She credits the program with allowing her to seriously consider fundamental aspects of writing, such as plotting and the narrative arc, but it was years later at Halifax's King's College where advice from Ian Wiseman convinced her to "forget about journalism and just go home and write stories, write fiction". She says it sounds funny and unencouraging, but it's the best advice she's ever been given, and it's advice she sticks to today.

Even with the success of *A Complicated Kindness*, Toews knows where all this comes from. "When this bit of excitement dies down I'll go back to do the writing," she says. "And that's the most genuine part of the whole process. The rest is sorta' fun and surreal, but I know that the most important thing is my next book."

Although she still says she hasn't come to the full realization that writing is her career, Toews says she can't imagine doing anything else. It goes without saying that there are thousands and thousands of readers who would agree with her, wholeheartedly.

Brian Johnsen

Media Re...lations



DRAKE CENTRE

I.H. ASPER SCHOOL OF BUSINESS



Israel H. Asper
(BA/53, LLB/57, LLM/64, LLD/98)
1932 - 2003

&

Ruth (Babs) Asper (nee Bernstein),
(BA/54)

Gail Asper (BA/81, LLB/84)
Director, **Asper Foundation**

David Asper (BA/80, JD)
Chairman, **National Post**

Leonard Asper (BA, LLB)
President and CEO,
CanWest Global Communications Corp.

With
columnists,

Also in print
media



Morley Walker (BA/77)
&

Shamona Harnett (BA(Adv)/96)

The Winnipeg Free Press,
co-owners **Robert Silver** (BSc/70)
and **Ron Stern**

That
competes with

Eva Kovacs,
Global television anchor in
Winnipeg

Who is
married to



Jeff Major,
(BA/95, BComm(Hons)/99),
Director of Communications,
Manitoba Moose

On whose
Board, sits

Harvey Sexter,
(BComm/67, LLB/92,
LLM, LLD),
Dean, **Faculty of Law**

The Winnipeg Sun,
that features:
Tom Brodbeck (BA/93)

Who works with

Iris Chrol (BComm(Hons)/92)
"Out and About with Iris"



Who worked at



The Alumni Association

Who worked at
The Manitoban
with

Nahlah Ayed (BSc(Hons)/92, MA/02),
Middle East Correspondent,
CBC television



TIER BUILDING

Jennifer Rattray (BA/88),
CBC television anchor in Winnipeg

Who worked at
WTN with

Caroline Hunter (BA/93), morning
co-host on QX-104 fm in Winnipeg,

Who took film classes

Who works
with



Darren Pallen (BA/95), live
event announcer
and audio
production.

Gene Walz, professor of
Film Studies

Who works with

Who collaborates
with

Guy Maddin,
film maker and instructor
in Film Studies

Who worked with

George Toles, professor of English
and Chair, Film Studies

Who is married to



Vonnie Von Helmolt
on the Emmy Award-winning
*Dracula—Pages From a
Virgin's Diary*

Bill Wsiaki,
St. Paul's library,
who has received
awards for his films
predominantly about
the Ukrainian
community.

Melissa Steele (BA/85)

Who is friends with



Miriam Toews (BA/89)



Left to Right:
Mike Bell,
Chris Read,
Gordon Tanner,
Dawn Johnson,
Trish Cooper,
Scott Montgomery,
Sarah Constible.

A Training Ground for Performers

A quick look at the web site of the Royal Liechtenstein Theatre Company (RLTC) at www.rltc.ca is all that is required to see that this is no ordinary assemblage of comedians. Even the choice of the company's grandiose sounding name, a somewhat sarcastic alluding to a tiny country that is a mere "principality," was an indication that these performers were not going to take themselves too seriously. And they let the comedy speak for itself.

Consider the following 30-second sketch that was described by **Gordon Tanner** (BScME/90), one of the seven founding members of the group, and which was a part of their CBC television special two years ago: the scene opens with a family enjoying a picnic together, all seems well in their world when out of nowhere from nearby bushes appear two guys wearing business suits, carrying cell phones and briefcases. They begin to harass the diners and throw food at them. High impact comedy. Exeunt, stage left.

The RLTC was formed in 1995 by seven people who had, apart from their love of the stage and comedy, at least one thing in common: The Black Hole Theatre Company at the University of Manitoba. Of course the Black Hole itself has a history that stretches all the way back to 1915, even if it only took on its present name sometime during the 1970s.

"The Black Hole is unique in that it is both a venue for an academic program in theatre as well as a "campus club" of sorts, where anyone who wishes to get involved can do so," says **Chris Johnson** (PhD), english, one of three full-time faculty members that are assisted by two support staff in the day-to-day operations of the program. The theatre has eight plays during the year, including three mainstage productions, with one of these presented during the Annual Playwrights' Festival that is organized by the Manitoba Theatre Centre at the beginning of each calendar year.

MOVIES AND THEATRE

As for the RLTC, it has seven cast members and all but one attended the University of Manitoba, the lone standout being a University of Winnipeg alumna. They are: **Mike Bell** (BEd/97), **Chris Read** (BA(Hons)/93), **Scott Montgomery** (BA/96, MA/02), **Sarah Constible**, **Tricia Cooper**, **Dawn Johnson** (BEd/98), and **Gordon Tanner**. Their first show was called *Mambo Mambo* and was performed in 1996 at Venue 8, which was located upstairs at the old Mother Tucker's restaurant in downtown Winnipeg. The presentation consisted of a series of sketches written individually by the members of the group, a formula that has for the most part remained the creative *modus operandi* of this gang of seven.

It all began with a democratic writing process wherein each member worked on his or her own and brought ideas to weekly meetings at the university. Their productions are almost always a stringing together of sketches, some that are related to each other, or not. For example, the group is now working on such a production for the fall. "We are taking a somewhat different approach this time," says Tanner. "We decided to go ahead and give a definite order to the presentation of the material in that the creator of a particular piece must use the last line of dialogue from the preceding one and go with that. There will be up to about 20 sketches, so we'll get three chances in the rotation, so to speak."

As is often the case, the members – most of them in their thirties – all come from diverse academic and professional backgrounds, everything from engineering to journalism to waiting tables. But a few have decided to focus their ener-



gies on their craft on a full-time basis, including one who had a recent brush with fame earlier this year on American and Canadian broadcast television. Scott Montgomery appeared on the Conan O'Brien show in Toronto earlier this year in that hilarious sketch of the battle between Toronto's CN Tower and Seattle's Space Needle. The actor has devoted himself to a career with Toronto's famed Second City group – and speaking of famous alumni, we all know how far that kind of commitment can take one if the stars are lined up right. The sky is indeed the limit.

Michel Forest (BA(Adv)/85)



Karen Schellenberg & Chris Johnson

While the University of Manitoba and the Black Hole Theatre have served as a springboard for many to stage and film, they have also been a place where many students have gained experience for a career behind the scenes.

"We have been compiling a list of what theatre and film graduates are doing and we've found out that many are, in one way or another, using skills they gained from performing in their current careers," says **Chris Johnson**.

Karen Schellenberg (BEd/97) is one example. She recently returned to Winnipeg after six years in Toronto with Young Peoples Theatre, Second City, The Blyth Festival and CanStage to work as a technician for the University of Manitoba theatre department. Johnson notes that, even former students who are not directly involved with theatre, such as lawyers or teachers, have commented on how invaluable their theatre background has been for the court or classroom."

University of Manitoba graduates can be found in some unexpected places. **Brent Deere** (BComm(Hons)/02) geared his undergraduate program with a goal to work in film. "I took a management degree with film courses so I could work on film production with the goal of being a feature film director." From 2002 to 2004 he worked with Manitoba Film & Sound as a programs analyst. In 2004, he accepted an internship with Film Training Manitoba as assistant director and has worked on various film productions including *The Big White*, starring Robin Williams.

Because show business is unique, sometimes students have to leave their program early in order to take advantage of a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity. "Although we encourage students to finish their degree," says Johnson, "we know that there's no guarantee that some opportunities will come back again and, because our goal is to prepare students to pursue their dream, we are encouraging." **Carol Spier** was only a few courses short of graduating from interior design in the 1970s when she left to take a job as an assistant art director. Since then she has remained in film and counts numerous films on her resume including: *Videodrome*, *Agnes of God*, *The Believers*, *Dead Ringers*, *Crash*, *eXistenZ*, *Blade II*, *The League of Extraordinary Gentleman* and the recently wrapped Samuel L. Jackson film *The Man*. Despite leaving her program early, she often speaks fondly of her formative university years. "It provided a time to experiment with my creativity and prepared me for production and art design. I still think that perhaps one day I will return to finish my degree," says Spier.



Diana McIntosh

MUSIC

On The Local and Global Stage

Diana McIntosh's (LMM/61, BMusPerf/72) most memorable musical compositions and theatrical performances are towering works that take audiences to unimaginable heights.

"I have five works inspired by high places," she says. Her favorite, which was performed in October 2002 by invitation at Aero Club of East Africa in Nairobi, Kenya, was based on the memoirs of Beryl Markham, the first woman to receive a commercial pilot's licence. An Englishwoman residing in Kenya and a member of the club, Markham wrote the book *West With the Night*, which described her experience as the first person to fly (in 1936) solo across the Atlantic from east to west. (Lindbergh flew west to east in 1920). McIntosh used the text of this book to create a one-woman show of spoken text, piano and tape, which she called *Beryl Markham - Flying West with the Night*.

"The Aero Club of Kenya, the oldest flying club in East Africa, heard of it and invited me for their week-long Celebration of Flying 75th anniversary...Aero let two other posh clubs know and they also took on the show," says McIntosh. "As part of the fee they paid me, they included a balloon safari on the Masai Mara, (a Kenyan nature preserve) an experience of a lifetime." The balloon trip and wildlife she observed inspired McIntosh's next work, *Uhuro Kamili* (Swahili for "Complete Freedom") for piano and percussion.

At the forefront of Winnipeg's contemporary music scene for more than 20 years, McIntosh and composer **Ann Southam**

organized Music Inter Alia in 1978. McIntosh served as its artistic director for 14 years, until Music Inter Alia joined Thira and IzMusic to create GroundSwell, of which she is now co-artistic director. She has served as composer-in-residence at the school of music. In addition, she has a catalogue of more than 70 works, most of which were written on commission. She is the recipient of Major Arts Grants from the Manitoba Arts Council, Canada Council Grants and the 1982 YWCA Woman of the Year Award for the Arts.

Born in Alberta, McIntosh came to the University of Manitoba as a mature student and for the first time in her life, she was encouraged to flex her creative muscles. "I had been composing little pieces since I was about nine or ten years old, but creativity wasn't encouraged then by music teachers. At university, professors had us writing our own pieces," she says.

McIntosh especially remembers an assignment in Peggy Sampson's Form in Music classes which required writing arias for voice and piano, and a sonata for piano. Robert Turner awarded perfect marks for her Bagatelle for wind quintet composition in his Contrapuntal Music class. "That got me started. I was very lucky. I studied piano with Leonard Isaacs, a real musicologist," she says.

In recent years she has been acclaimed for many one-woman, inter-disciplinary creations, many of which are based on the texts of well-known authors like Gertrude Stein, Jon Whyte and Diane Ackerman. She has been commissioned for works by the Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra and has performed all over North America. She has recently released two CDs and a video.

Despite international acclaim and opportunity, McIntosh chooses to remain in Winnipeg - "an ideal place to live, a wonderful place to travel from, a city so remarkably active in the arts," she says.

Cheryl Arnold (TC/68)

Piano keys open doors

The 88 keys of the piano have opened at least that many doors for **Jack Cohan** (AMM/56, BA/59, LLM/60, PhD) since he graduated. His talent and his training have taken him from his summer job playing for Rainbow Stage rehearsals and performances to an international career in Indiana, Wisconsin, Connecticut, New York and South Carolina and friendships with Marcel Marceau, Itzhak Perlman, and his mentor Menahem Pressler, the founder of the Beaux Arts Trio.

"I did my masters and doctorate in piano at Indiana University," Cohan says. He had won the Western Board of

Music Travelling Scholarship and had asked some of the string players he knew in the Winnipeg Symphony for advice on who might be a good piano teacher. "They had studied at Indiana University and had heard Pressler play, and were very impressed with him. He had just started teaching at Indiana, which is one of the great music schools in the world, so I chose Indiana and Menahem Pressler."

"Studying with Pressler was a remarkable experience," Jack recalls. "He is certainly one of the great musicians of our time, and he also has an ability to teach at a very high level.

(continued on next page...)



Jack Cohan

He has a wonderful insight into music and into a student's unique abilities, and a wonderful way of developing piano technique. I remember going to recitals back then, and the students of the other piano teachers frequently all sounded the same. But I didn't find that with

Pressler's students. He had a way of encouraging creativity and individual interpretation."

Following his doctorate from Indiana, Cohan started teaching at the University of Wisconsin. "The new chancellor then wanted to have someone in charge of booking concert series for the performing arts centre," he says. One of the performers he booked in 1970 was Marcel Marceau. When Jack moved to the University of Connecticut to be director of Jorgensen Auditorium in 1973, he had many more opportunities to book Marceau, and the two of them became close friends.

"He is a very interesting man. When he formed the Marcel Marceau Foundation to promote mime in America, he was insistent that I chair the foundation because he said I was the only person in America that he trusted," Cohan laughs.

After 16 years at Connecticut, Jack moved to Greenville, South Carolina, to be director of the Peace Centre for the Performing Arts, and in 1998 followed that with an appointment as executive director of the Westhampton Beach Performing Arts Center on Long Island.

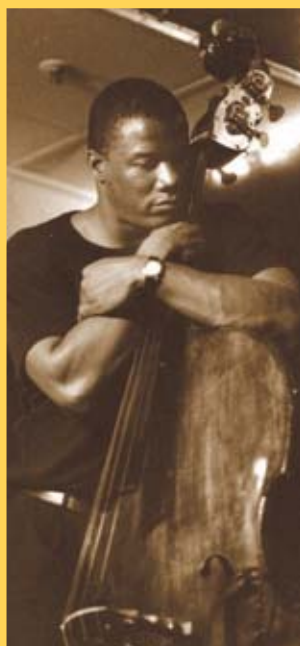
During his tenure at the Peace Centre, he presented scores of performers, including Menahem Pressler and the Beaux Arts Trio. "He is my mentor and has become a very dear friend," Jack says.

Though he hasn't been back to Winnipeg for three decades, he recalls his days at the University of Manitoba fondly. "It was great. I was teaching piano and taking what music courses were offered at the time, and able to live at home. My summer job was playing piano for Rainbow Stage and also for the University Glee Club. Those were wonderful experiences."

Jack is now happily retired in South Carolina with Marcia, his wife of 43 years, spending his days gardening, mowing the lawn, and occasionally playing the piano. "I don't practice as much anymore," he says. It's certainly not the kind of practice schedule you need when you're playing recitals, but I try to keep up."

Wayne Drury (BA/70)

What Canadian university brings great jazz talent to Winnipeg and the world?



The University of Manitoba, of course.

Thanks to the School of Music's Jazz program, marquee jazz musicians now regularly come to Winnipeg to perform and teach, putting the city on the international jazz map. Program Director Steve Kirby – who has collaborated with the finest artists on the jazz scene over his 25-year career – has brought renewed energy to Winnipeg's jazz culture, attracting luminaries to partnerships like Smartpark's Jazz Innovators Series and the International Spotlight on Jazz summer camp. Talents such as trombonist Wycliffe Gordon, violinist Regina Carter, trumpet legend Clark Terry and Wynton Marsalis drummer Herlin Riley share their music with students and jazz aficionados alike.

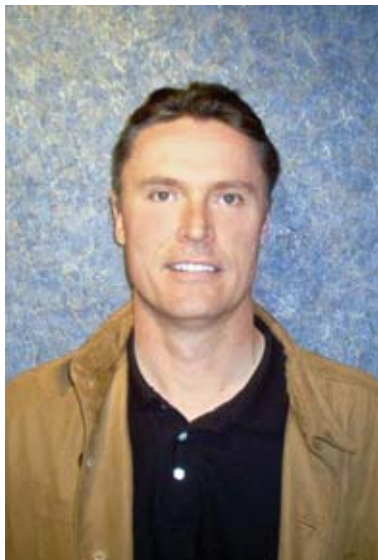
The University of Manitoba is revolutionizing jazz education. Ours is the first truly innovative jazz program in Canada. Students can take advantage of flexible performance study at the Bachelor's and Master's levels, learning the language of jazz through ongoing collaborations with the giants of the jazz world.

Now you know.

To learn more, call 1-204-474-8346 or visit us at umanitoba.ca



UNIVERSITY
OF MANITOBA



Ron Lausman

Amusement By Design

As design director for Amusement Leisure Worldwide, **Ron Lausman** (MLArch/90) is involved in every aspect of the parks that the company creates. From feasibility studies and master plans, he is on hand to see his designs

through to the end of construction, creating vast water parks that are enjoyed around the world.

A landscape architect, Lausman now lives in Calgary, creating water parks in countries as far away as Bolivia, Singapore and Vietnam. He is currently working on parks in St. Petersburg and Minsk, Russia.

Lausman began his career in Winnipeg designing for hotels and resorts. Over the years, he has developed an extensive knowledge and vast experience in the design and master planning of water and amusement parks. In June 1997, he received an offer from Amusement Leisure Worldwide, a firm in Calgary that specializes in amusement parks and is only one of three companies in Canada that compete for projects on a global scale.

Some of the challenges that Lausman faces in his work have to do more with culture than design. The scope of his work and the fact that his company has clients around the world, create the opportunity for him and his coworkers to travel to many different countries. “Many things can be misinterpreted. Language and culture can cause things to be misread. And sometimes things are missing from the master plan.” In addition, other factors that must be considered in the master plan include: the client’s vision, site limitations, geographic and environmental, as well as the client’s budget and future development possibilities.

Lausman chose the field of landscape architecture because he



Auqualand in Bolivia

was interested in the marriage between nature and design. “I was always directly interested in the environment. Initially I went into sciences, mainly geography and biology. I was always creative and the masters program in landscape architecture allowed me the opportunity to combine those interests,” he says.

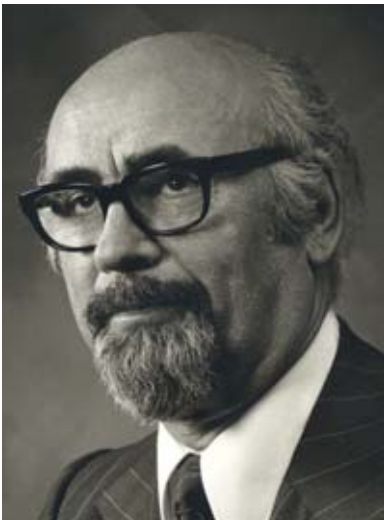
He adds that the staff in the design program is world class and they played an important role in his growth as an architect. “The university provided a very diverse background of projects.” He was encouraged by his professors to present designs that constantly improved upon his previous work. He has learned to be conscious of the quality of his designs as well as the creativity.

Lausman is constantly impressed with the talent that emerges year after year from the University of Manitoba. “Our grads are leading the design field in countries around the world. Some are competing very successfully with design firms that are stocked with Harvard grads.”

Dawn Bourbonnais



Leaving a Local Legacy



Cecil Blankstein

The Blankstein family's contributions to building and architecture can be witnessed by their projects and also by their long-standing association with the University of Manitoba.

Their grandfather, Meyer, was a stonemason by trade and a contractor from Odessa, Russia. Their father Max was trained as an architect in Russia and practiced in Winnipeg from 1905 designing the Zimmerman Building on Main Street and the

Uptown Theater on Academy Road to name a few, and was likely a charter member of the Manitoba Architects Association at its founding meeting in 1914.

Cecil (BArch/29) was a University of Manitoba graduate. As an architect and a founding partner of Green Blankstein Russell (GBR) Architects, Cecil is known for his work in Winnipeg including Wildwood Park, the City Hall, the airport, Polo Park Shopping Centre, and The Shaarey Zedek Synagogue. Other notable projects include the Lorne Building in Ottawa, Ste. Anne de Bellevue (Veterans Hospital - Montreal) and French Hill in Jerusalem, Israel.

Other family members continued this architectural tradition. Oldest brother Wolfe followed in his grandfather's tradition and was a General Contractor specializing in home building. He was a part

of a GBR / Ladco development of Silver Heights in St. James. These homes built shortly after WWII were designed to include the latest materials and were equipped with the latest appliances available at the time and set a precedence in both urban planning and in a housing design project. Cecil's sister **Evelyn** (BArch/35) worked as



a storefront architect in Winnipeg for Hobbs Glass (later CPI) and was Female Athlete of the Year while in university. Brother **Morley** (BArch/49) was a founding partner of Number 10 Architectural Group in Winnipeg. And Brother **Fred** (MD/52) is not an architect but graduated from the University of Manitoba. Cecil's son **Arthur** (BID/72) continues in private practice in Winnipeg as an interior designer. Cecil's other son Max is a town planner in Jerusalem, Israel.

On campus, the Blankstein family mark can be seen in Fletcher Argue Building, the original UMSU and the new Student Union Building, the Library, the Engineering Building (1949 and 1963), the Duff Roblin Building, the Science Buildings, the Pharmacy Building, the Fisheries Building, and the Frank Kennedy Physical Education Centre.





Nigel Bart

Using Art to Heal

What started out as a method to deal with his own illness has driven **Nigel Bart** (BFA/99) to help others as an advocate and by leading a drive to build a studio with a goal of providing recovery through art for those suffering with a mental illness. His efforts have been recognized recently by the Manitoba Foundation for the Arts who presented him with an honorary artist award and by the Canadian Mental Health Association -Manitoba Branch who presented him with their Exemplary Hero award.

Bart's journey began as undergraduate student in science at the University of Winnipeg. He remembers the first episode vividly—sitting in the library, experiencing delusional thoughts and being unable to move. Terrified, he saw a psychiatrist who diagnosed him with schizophrenia and prescribed medication. “The illness is often misunderstood,” says Bart. “It’s not at all about split personalities but rather a split from reality with thoughts that aren’t real.”

After first year science, Bart paused for reflection and opted to take a year to spend time on his parent’s farm west of Winnipeg. He then completed a tourism course but it was not until he spent time in his mother’s pottery studio did he find purpose. “Pottery provided a powerful medicine and it was very healing,” says Bart. This experience led him to the fine arts program at the University of Manitoba where he “gained the ability to think critically and analytically, socialize with others with similar interest, and gain a venue to express and experiment through art.”

After graduation, Bart volunteered with arts organizations, taught art in Brandon, and began an association with the Manitoba Schizophrenia Society (MSS). It was here that the concept of an art studio was born. “I met others with the same illness within a peer group that I was facilitating at the time. I found that many are tremendous artists so I started a database of artists,” he says. “Art seems to be more accessible to those with a mental illness. There is this unexplored connection.”

Through the MSS, Bart performed in “Starry, Starry Night” a play about a man with schizophrenia that toured high schools in Winnipeg. Also during this time, he rewrote and performed a video with Horst Peters of the Partnership for Consumer Empowerment about his experiences entitled *Inside Out*, created in first year fine arts in 1996 under Diana Thorneycroft’s mentorship. In 2004, his work was part of a Canadian Mental Health Association show at the National Art Gallery in Ottawa.

Today, Bart is a proctor with the Winnipeg Regional Health Authority and also promoter and fundraiser in collaboration with his parents for his pet project, Artbeat Studio, that he hopes will “provide those with mental illness the place to recover and begin to live life to its potential.” After a substantial donation from the Sisters of the Holy Name, Bart says that response has been positive. He plans to have the studio running before the end of 2004. For more information on Artbeat Studio, log on to www.artbeatstudio.ca.

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(includes 1983 and 1985)

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A Conversation With...

GEORGE TOLES (PHD), PROFESSOR, DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH AND CHAIR, FILM STUDIES PROGRAM



Education: Completed PhD at University of Virginia.

Years Teaching at The University of Manitoba: Since 1976.

Areas of Expertise: European and American Literature (19th and 20th century), film and drama.

Before Teaching: I considered becoming an actor or playwright but my grandmother convincingly argued that my real aptitude was for teaching.

Hobbies: Literature, film and theatre, as well as art galleries, long walks, dancing, comedy of all sorts and a variety of music.

Outreach Activities: I am very involved in the local film community. I also direct plays at the university and Fringe Festival and work with local writers and their manuscripts. (Editor's Note: Toles co-wrote the screenplay for the Guy Maddin's most recent motion picture, *The Saddest Music in the World*.)

Something Others May Not Know: I don't have a driver's licence. I became a Canadian citizen in 2002 and I'm addicted to Bread and Circuses (bakery) on Corydon.

What Excites You Most About the Future: A stop-action animation feature, *Edison and Nemo*—but the title will have to change because of another rather famous movie about a fish. It's under Scott Smith's direction and production should start soon. Generally speaking, I try to make it a practice to think no more than five days ahead. The future has always seemed like a carpet about to be yanked out from under me.

Most Rewarding Aspect of Teaching: I love seeing students become passionate about something—and being willing to declare it out loud. I enjoy having to re-think my position on the spot when surprised by a fresh argument. I feel incredibly alive whenever I'm in the classroom. What a privilege it is to teach.

Awards Received:

- Faculty of Arts Professor of the Year Award in 2004.
- University Teaching Service (UTS) Teaching Recognition Award.
- Manitoba Outreach Award
- Received Arts Council Grants with Guy Maddin for development of various scripts.

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What's New In Print

COMPILED WITH THE ASSISTANCE OF TRISTIN TERGESEN (BA/90)



KENNETH STEWART AND DOUGLAS WATKINSON
THE FRESHWATER FISHES OF MANITOBA

2004, University of Manitoba Press

This easy-to-use and comprehensive guide to all of Manitoba's 95 fish species was 30 years in the making.

Kenneth Stewart (PhD) is senior scholar at the University of Manitoba. **Douglas Watkinson** (BSc/98, MSc/01) works with the Department of Fisheries.



ARMIN WIEBE **TATSEA**

2003, Turnstone Press

Winner of the 2003 McNally Robinson book of the year and 2003 Margaret Laurence Award for Fiction, this novel, set in Canada's Subarctic in the early 1700s, is an adventure story of love and survival.

Armin Wiebe's (CertEd/70, BEd/79) novels have also been nominated for the Books in Canada First Novel award and the Stephen Leacock Memorial Medal for Humour.



STEPHANIE PIERCE **BLUE COFFEE**

2004, Pierce Publishing

Blue Coffee is the result of a lifelong quest to find the places where people meet to discuss life and find answers.

Stephanie Pierce (MA/00) grew up in Dayton, Ohio and was transplanted in Winnipeg in 1995.



KARLA WARKENTIN **RESCUE IN THE MAYAN JUNGLE**

2004, Cook Communications

Discover the power source behind the mysterious time stone—and get ready for some of the greatest adventures of all time!

Karla Warkentin (BComm/89) is a student at Providence Theological Seminary and lives with her husband and three children in rural Manitoba.



J.M. BUMSTED
REPORTING THE RESISTANCE

2004, University of Manitoba Press

This well-known historian guides modern readers through newspaper reports, providing commentary and historical context to help us see the events of the Red River Resistance through the eyes of nineteenth century Canadians.

J.M. Bumsted (PhD) has authored many books on Canadian history and is a professor at St. John's College.



STANLEY B. CUNNINGHAM **THE IDEA OF PROPAGANDA**

2002, Praeger Publishing

Cunningham aims to secure a concept of propaganda that reflects the complexity and sophistication of contemporary mass persuasion practices.

Stanley Cunningham (BA/55, PhD) is professor emeritus at the University of Windsor.

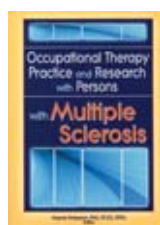


KWAN KAO **DIELECTRIC PHENOMENA IN SOLIDS**

2004, Academic Press

This book, targeted at researchers and students, looks at the mechanisms responsible for different properties.

Kwan Kao (PhD) is professor emeritus in engineering at the University of Manitoba.



MARCIA FINLAYSON, EDITOR
OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY PRACTICE AND RESEARCH WITH PERSONS WITH MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS

2003, The Haworth Press Inc.

This book explores the complex OT issues arising from multiple sclerosis and suggests ways to enhance practice or research.

Marcia Finlayson (BMR/87, MSc/95, PhD/99) is assistant professor of occupational therapy at the University of Illinois at Chicago.

OTHER RECENTLY RELEASED BOOKS INCLUDE: **THE CHICAGO HEALER** by **Paul Boge** (BSc/96), 2004; **INTERNAL BLEEDING: THE TRUTH BEHIND AMERICA'S TERRIFYING EPIDEMIC OF MEDICAL MISTAKES** co-authored by **Kaveh Shojania** (BSc(Hons)/90, MD/94), 2004, **RUGGED LAND; ENGINEER...AROUND THE WORLD IN FIFTY YEARS** by **C.O. Brawner** (BSc/53), 2004, BiTech Publishers; **PAINTED WOOD** translated by **Orysia Tracz**, 2004; **A DAY ON CROCUS HILL WITH SWEETGRASS** by **Sharon Williams Franzin** (BFA/73) and **Firmin G. Michiels** (CertEd/68, BEd/70); 2004; **MOUNTAIN DIARIES: THE ALPINE ADVENTURES OF MARGARET FLEMING, 1929-1980** edited by **Karen Fox** (PhD), 2004; **MANAGING HUMAN RIGHTS AT WORK** by **Stephen Hammond** (BA/81), 2004; and **CHRONIC PAIN, LOSS AND SUFFERING** by **Ranjan Roy** (PhD), 2004.

Dialogue

NURTURING THE CREATIVE

IN THIS DIALOGUE, NICK PIZZI AND KAREN JENSEN DISCUSS

how creativity can be nurtured. **Nick Pizzi** (BSc(Hons)/81, MA/86, MSc/87, PhD/97) is a senior scientist with the National Research Council, Institute for Biodiagnostics in Winnipeg and is an adjunct professor with the Faculties of Science and Engineering. In addition to scientific pursuits, he brings a diverse background with an undergraduate degree in philosophy and interests in opera, t'ai chi and Bob Dylan. He is also past-president of the Alumni Association. **Karen Jensen** (BMus, University of Saskatchewan, Recital Diploma of the Royal Academy of Music, PhD, University of London) is associate director at the School of Music at the University of Manitoba. As a singer she has performed in the major concert halls of Europe and the United Kingdom. Jensen teaches voice and vocal pedagogy, and her musical interests range from folk and early music through to the avant-garde.

WHEN DID YOU REALIZE YOU WERE CREATIVE?

KJ: I think creativity has to do with a point in your life where you sense that you are able to bring together elements from your environment in a way which seems to reveal a new way of looking at things. One of my first experiences that had this kind of quality involved an abandoned lot which was just a mass of tall weeds and prairie grasses. I was very small, and lying down in the middle of it I discovered that I could disappear. Better yet, I could bend the tall grasses together over my head to form a bower and tie them into an arch with dandelions and wild flowers. I remember looking through it to the sky, and sensing a different quality of thinking which connected me to images and stories. This is the world of the creative artist.

NP: For me, it was the fascination I had with a toy train set my father had purchased. But rather than play with it in a conventional sense, I took it apart to find out how it worked. I even attached the train motor to a slinky to see if it would go up the stairs.

WHO INFLUENCED YOU CREATIVELY?

KJ: The many teachers in voice, dance, and piano. They gave me the tools and the constructive feedback to be able to create. Most importantly, they cared. I think it's important to have someone who is genuinely interested in you. Powerful storytellers have also had a profound influence in my life, such as my uncle who could create a sense of love, comfort, beauty and truth through the use of words. Later, while in university I was very impressed with a singer named Cathy Berberian who had the courage to develop her musical gifts in



Karen Jensen and Nick Pizzi

an authentic and unconventional way. With regard to creative leadership, I look to people like Tommy Douglas who was a catalyst for positive change and a person of great integrity.

NP: Of course my Jesuit teachers were influences. I was fortunate that my high school teachers didn't mind my attitude. In math, I would often find unorthodox methods to solve problems and I must admit that I was sometimes less than modest when celebrating the result. Luckily my math teacher was encouraging and let me experiment. Others influences are Bob Dylan's introspective poetry concerning the relationship of self to the other and Pierre Trudeau's sense of vision and integrity and counterpoint. Two philosophers have also deeply influenced me. David Hume and Paul Feyerabend taught me to doubt existing conventions. So today when I'm approaching a research problem I try to seek the best pragmatic solution and try to resist the urge of holding on to strategies due to convenience or ideology. Finally, the Taoist sage, Lao-Tze, has shown me that it's not as important to seek the truth as it is to avoid cherishing opinions. To this day, they have influenced the guiding principles to which I adhere.

KJ: Nick, you've come a long way from the Jesuits to the empiricism of David Hume! (laughter) I wonder if you believe that there are some opinions and assumptions that can be held onto because they are self-evident or because they can be proven through logic, like the existence of God, for example. I think that there is a part of our creativity that reflects that divine spark from...hm.. the Creator?

SPIRIT



NP: Hume and Feyerabend spoke on reasoning based on first principles, axioms that cannot be externally justified or validated. For me, I think it's important to define these principles and use them as a basis to move forward in a coherent fashion and see where they lead. If you are asking if I think an extranatural symmetry exists that is scientifically inexplicable, I would have to say yes.

DO YOU THINK THAT CREATIVITY CAN BE TAUGHT?

KJ: I think that creativity is something that we all have as human beings, but we just use different materials and means to express it. It's the basic desire to make something, or to develop patterns that can be seen to have meaning or usefulness. Look at how a leaf or a frond is organized. Aesthetically it is beautiful on its own, with colour and patterns running through it. Yet amazingly these patterns can be identified as corresponding to the pattern of prime numbers in mathematics.

NP: A teacher can nurture this creativity. How do you do it? One way is by example, especially by not being afraid to make mistakes and having the audacity to imagine. You often hear of the "eureka" moment but I think it's the preceding questions that are more important. I find the "That's odd!" moment the more exciting part of research, for example when a set of results do not match your hypothesis. You have to think about other possibilities.

KJ: In music, the essential thing is to empower the student. It's a kind of "dance" where the teacher brings certain stimuli into the environment to see what the student's response will be. Then the teacher responds, and both teacher and student move together toward where the essence of the music is leading. At a certain point, something new is discovered and you both know it. You stop and talk to create a 'snapshot' of what happened, and this is a powerful tool in helping the student to recreate the discovery or apply it to a new situation.

NP: It's interesting because Jung said that the "play instinct" is important in creativity. As an adjunct I work with graduate students and my approach is to ask open-ended questions and give them latitude in the lab so they can try different approaches, make their mistakes and grow as a scientist. It's an interesting blend of being focused but not too focused.

KJ: That's a good point. We can teach the mechanics of technique through stimulating thought control over muscles in the body linked to the voluntary nervous system, but we also have to find a way to tap into what is involuntary and perhaps subconscious, and synchronize that with the rest.

So it's tricky. Although you have to focus, a part of you has to stay "open" to the unexpected. In music we deal with so many factors: physiology, mental flexibility and personality. With personalities being so unique, each student needs a different approach, but a major component is always the interplay between conscious control and intuitive response.

NP: Hadamard in *The Psychology of Invention in the Mathematical Field* identified four stages to creativity: preparation; incubation; illumination and refinement. As a teacher, I can help students with stages one, two, and four but the third, illumination, is achieved, and I think this is what Karen is getting at, through osmosis by incorporating the foundations, experiences and passion.

KJ: That's interesting, because I met a biologist who argued that some disciplines have it all backwards if the preparation stage involves only the basic terms, definitions, and building-blocks of the discipline. If students can't pursue even the tiniest trickle of personal curiosity and creative interest, there's a danger they'll find another field. Choosing a discipline as a life-long pursuit is rather like a romance, and I think that the 'seduction' phase involves the joy of experiencing the creative impulse.

YOU ARE BOTH INVOLVED WITH ADMINISTRATIVE DUTIES, HOW DO YOU STAY CREATIVE?

KJ: Administration has helped expand creativity in the sense that it is challenging but, with a vision, it's exciting to be part of change that will move people and create a more positive environment.

NP: I agree with Karen, There's also a level of creativity when dealing with people issues, such as conflict resolution. I sometimes find that while working on other administrative tasks, it gives me time to subconsciously reflect on whatever research problem I'm currently working tossing around in my head. This kind of lateral thinking is often useful, a part of the incubation stage of creativity.

WHAT DOES WORKING WITH STUDENTS DO FOR YOU?

KJ: It's character-building. Like parenthood, teaching enlarges you as a person because it challenges you to grow. It is also a unique window into the world of another generation.

NP: I agree. Students keep you honest, both as a person and in terms of research. In fact, what may seem as a small question to them could cause you to question a basic premise of your methodology. Their imagination, energy and enthusiasm provide a level of excitement in the lab where the teacher becomes the student.

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Bursary Benefits Home Ec Students



Betty Christian

At the beginning of the Carol Shields novel *Republic of Love*, readers learn of a man named Tom Avery, who as a baby had 27 mothers. While her account of Tom's life is fictional, his character is based on infants who played the role of "practice babies" in the Faculty of Home Economics Home Management Program. **Betty M. Christian** (HomEc/42) was a "practice mother".

"About six or eight of us at time would occupy what is now the Alumni House for a month, and we would take turns caring for the baby, changing him, feeding him," said Christian of the program that ran from 1939 to 1971. "We also learned to operate a household through cooking, cleaning and planning meals."

Born in Wawanesa, Christian moved to Winnipeg on Overdale Street when she was only a year old. As a successful clothing manufacturer, her father J. L. Morton soon moved his three girls and wife to an

upscale neighbourhood in Tuxedo, where the girls were encouraged to attend university and "go as far as they wanted to go." For Christian, this meant pursuing a career in child development (now called early childhood education). From Winnipeg, she attained a Masters degree from Iowa State University.

After attaining her Masters degree, Christian married and remained in the United States to raise her family and begin her career. She worked with children in various capacities including developing the Head Start Program—a federal program dedicated to helping preschool-aged underprivileged children.

Christian credits the University of Manitoba and one special professor in Home Economics—Florence McLaughlin—as starting her on a career path she loved. An active student, Christian was part of the rifle club, bowling team and a member of the Varsity swim team, for which she won athletic awards. In 2000, Christian decided to recognize the role the University of Manitoba played in her life by establishing the Betty Morton Christian Scholarship and Bursary in Human Ecology.

"I am very grateful to the University of Manitoba," she explained of the two awards, which support students pursuing Child Studies. "I was thrilled that I could set up an award that helped students in financial need as well as those with high academic standing. When I found out the government would match my gift through the MSBI program, I realized I could do a lot more good for the University of Manitoba than I originally thought!"

Christian lives in Wichita, Kansas and is 82. She can be found at the pool five days a week and actively competes in Masters swimming and diving competitions.

Donors Want Strong University and Community

Mark Evans (BCSc(Hons)/84, MSc/86, PhD/88), entrepreneur and former faculty member, together with his wife Sharon have pledged \$250,000 to the Engineering and Information Technology Complex (EITC), the university's new home for engineering and computer science.

The couple's pledge follows a \$125,000 gift made previously by Mark Evan's company, EISI, a developer of financial planning software.

"From the perspective of my company, the university provides us with an ongoing resource for our workforce," said Evans. Born, raised and educated in Winnipeg, he said the recent gift was equally inspired by a desire to support his community.

"I was able to go to a computer science department that was competitive on a national level without leaving home," said Evans. "Will the next generation have the same opportunities? We'd like them to. But the only way you're going to be able to ensure that is by helping build the kind of city we want to live in."

After completing his doctorate, Evans joined the department of computer science as an associate professor, a job he held for 10 years. In 1990, he started EISI as a side project. He left the university in 1997, when it was clear the business was taking off. Recently, the company was recognized by Deloitte & Touche as one of the fastest growing technology companies in North America.

EISI maintains strong ties with the university, including hosting sev-



Sharon and Mark Evans

eral co-op students each term, and drawing about three-quarters of its technology employees from the University of Manitoba.

With his many years of experience at the university, Evans said "it was a natural" for him to volunteer as a co-chair of the EITC campaign. He is confident that improved facilities and a good faculty research group can keep top faculty at the university and in the city.

"The university allows us to find enough staff to stay in Winnipeg," said Evans. "The co-op students and grads we've seen in the last couple of years are getting even stronger, and that's without a new building," he said.

Through the Years

COMPILED BY HOLLY CAMPBELL (BA/85)



Submissions from readers, including photos, are encouraged. The Alumni Association reserves the right to edit material, as appropriate.

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSIONS IN THE DECEMBER EDITION IS SEPT. 30

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE FOLLOWING ALUMNI WHO RECENTLY RECEIVED THE PROVINCE'S HIGHEST HONOR, THE ORDER OF MANITOBA:

Sister Therese Champagne, BESA/77

Harvey Max Chochinov, MD/83, PhD/98

Henry G. Friesen, MD/58, BScMed/58, DSc/98. Friesen, Distinguished Professor Emeritus, Faculty of Medicine, University of Manitoba, also received the 2004 **Distinguished Leadership Award** from the Canadian Institutes of Health Research.

Benjamin Hewak, BA/56, LLB/60, LLD/03

June Marion James, BSc/63, MD/67, BScMed/67

Samuel M. Katz, BA/73. Katz was also elected Mayor of Winnipeg in June 2004.

Arthur V. Mauro, BA/49, LLB/53, LLM/56, LLD/87



Jeff O'Driscoll, BScCE/90, **Ken Anderson**, BScCE/96, **Bill Brant**, BScCE/73 and **Kelly Braden**, BScCE/88, received the 2004 **Environmental Award of Excellence**, from the Consulting Engineers of Manitoba. The team, all of Cochrane Engineering, was recognized for the innovative engineering work incorporated in the upgrading and expansion of the City of Portage la Prairie water treatment plant.

1940-49

Weir (nee Sherman), Joan, BA/48, received an honorary doctorate for her contribution to Canadian Literature by the University College of the Cariboo on June 11, 2004. Joan is the author of several novels and Canadian historical books.

1950-59



Lysack, Allan, BA/56, MD/60, DipSurg/65, was inducted into the Order of Canada on September 19, 2003.



Miller, Patrick J., MD/54, DipPsych/65, is retired and lives in Calgary but spends five months a year at their cabin in northern

Saskatchewan where he is pictured with his wife and two of his eight grandchildren.

Norrie, Helen I., BA/53, BPed/54, BEd/73, MEd/86, was honoured in June 2004 with a national award for her volunteer work for UNICEF.

Peebles, P. James E., BSc(Hons)/58, DSc/89, was elected to the American Philosophical Society, the oldest learned society in the United States, on April 24, 2004.

Peters, Peter Jacob, BSA/54, gold medal winner, turned 90 years old on April 21, 2004. Peters was employed by the Province of Manitoba Department of Agriculture for 24 years as a potato and strawberry specialist. He is the author of *Fifty-Year History of Horticulture in Manitoba* and several poetry books.

1960-69

Arkin, Harold J., BA/69, LLB/72, is a member of both the Ontario and Manitoba Bars. He is associated with the Winnipeg law firm of Duboff Edwards Haight & Schachter and has been full time with the Financial Services Commission of Ontario since February 2000. Arkin obtained his Chartered Mediator designation in January 2002 and a Masters of Law Degree from Osgoode Hall in June 2002.

Ciastko, Allen R., MD/67, received the 2004 Distinguished Community Pediatrician Award from the Canadian Pediatric Society in June 2004.

Lasko, Michael A., DMD/67, received the Distinguished Service Award of the Canadian Dental Association in April 2004.

Lemon, C. Diane, DipPhysio/63, one of only four Canadian Level A International Synchronized Swim Officials, was invited to officiate at the Olympic Qualification meet in Athens, Greece in April 2004. Lemon was awarded a life membership from the Canadian Physiotherapy Association in May 2004.

Pankiw (nee Hrenchuk), Mary, BA/65, BEd/69, MEd/72, (PhD, Ukrainian Free University, Munich, Germany) was one of six contenders in *The Winnipeg Apprentice* produced by CBC Radio One 990. She was recently re-elected as president of the Council of Women of Winnipeg, for a second term.



Rankin, Laird F., BA/62, BComm/64, stepped down in August 2004, as publisher of *The Beaver* magazine after seven years to pursue other professional opportunities.

During his time with Canada's history magazine, circulation grew from 37,000 to 50,000 subscribers. Prior to joining the magazine, he served as executive director of the University of Manitoba Alumni Association and editor of what is now *On Manitoba*.

Render, Shirley L., BA/64, MA/84 was the kick-off speaker for the March 2004 luncheon series of "Inspiring Women". In May 2003, she was awarded the YWCA-YMCA Woman of Distinction Award for her contributions to Canada's aviation heritage and work with the Western Canada Aviation Museum. She was appointed executive director of the museum in 2002.

Sitar, Daniel Samuel, BScPharm/66, MSc/68, PhD/72, professor and head, pharmacology and therapeutics, University of Manitoba was recognized with the Senior Investigator Award from the Canadian Society for Clinical Pharmacology in 2004.

Woodsworth, Anne, BFA/62, joined the Brooklyn Public Library (BPL) as Learning Systems Advisor on April 1, 2004. Woodsworth's primary responsibility is to coordinate BPL's Learning in Libraries project

to support and expand core programs that help New York City's libraries serve as learning places for youth during non-school hours.

1970-79

Dauids, Olivia S., BHEc/70, CertEd/78, MSc/80, has been appointed as head (Director) of the Consumer Education Department of the Financial Services Board (FSB) of South Africa. Dauids works on several international partnerships and collaborations including the New Partnerships for Africa's Development. She also has been appointed to the Consumer Affairs Committee and Board.

Debideen, Wesley, BSc/70, returned to Trinidad in 1971, occupied several senior positions with various companies and is a consultant for his own company, Cactus Caribbean Ltd. He since obtained a PhD in 1982 and received a LLB(Hons) in 2000 from University of Wolverhampton, UK. He is currently at the Sir Hugh Wooding Law School in Trinidad completing the L.E.C certification that would permit him to practice as an Attorney-At-Law.

Edmunds, Charles C., MA/71, PhD/73, is the 2004 recipient of the Mount Saint Vincent University Alumni Award in Teaching. Edmunds also won this award 22 years ago. Edmunds has worked in the math department at Mount Saint Vincent University in Halifax, NS for the past 29 years.

McAndless, Michael J., BSc/70, was appointed Chief Risk Officer of Agricore United. During his tenure with Agricore United and United Grain Growers, he worked with a team that has developed widely-recognized risk management programs - winning a Treasury Management International award in 2000. He also served on the board of directors of the Alumni Association in the 1980's.

Newman (nee Sedun), Doreen BSW/72, is now retired and enjoying life in beautiful White Rock, B.C.

Paterson, Barbara L., BN/71, MEd/81, PhD/91, joined the University of New Brunswick's faculty of nursing as the Canada Research Chair in Chronic Illness on July 1, 2004. She will develop health-care strategies for Canadian's with chronic illnesses that have limited access to health services.

1980-1989

Collins, Donna L., BComm(Hons)/86, a Winnipeg trustee-in-bankruptcy, has been appointed to the board of the Canadian Insolvency Foundation, a not-for-profit multi-disciplinary organization dedicated to research and education related to insolvency and bankruptcy legislation and practices.



James Govatsos.

BComm(Hons)/83, and wife Tammy, started Karta House, a greeting card company, two years ago. Their cards are being sold in Canada and the United States



Lother, Carla, BMusPerf/89, a singer, pianist, and songwriter based in New York, just released her sophomore album, *100 Lovers*, on Chesky Records.

In addition, she performs extensively including opening for Joan Osborne and working with Richie Stotts, the lead guitarist who fronted The Plasmatics. She can also be heard on numerous jingles for Maxwell House, Ikea, Kit Kat and MasterCard.

Sedun, Gregg, LLB/82 has become the President and CEO of Diamond Fields International and operates out of the company office in Vancouver, BC.

1990-99

Durrie, Jacqueline M., BEnvD/98 graduated from the University of Calgary, faculty of environmental design, with a masters degree in architecture in November 2003. She is currently working at the University of Calgary in the department of materials management overseeing the delivery and acquisition of furniture services on campus.

Falk, Duane P.M., BScCE/97, and his wife Christina are beginning a three-year Mennonite Central Committee (MCC) assignment in Brazil. He will serve as a water resources and technology worker. Falk has worked as an engineering assistant in Winkler, MB and has previously served with MCC in Congo from 1998-99.



Kostick, Alexandra M.P., MD/90, BSc/90 is currently the director and founder of the Atlantic Eye Center in Palm Coast, FL. She completed an

ophthalmology residency at the University of Saskatchewan, a fellowship in ocular pathology and lens research at the Storm Eye Institute in Charleston, SC and a fellowship in corneal disease and transplant surgery at the University of Missouri, in Columbia, MO. She is the vice-chair on the managed care committee for the Florida Medical Association and serves as "Doctor of the Day" for the Florida Legislature. Kostick was recently an invited speaker for the American Society of Cataract and Refractive Surgery Symposium in San Diego in May 2004.

Manegre, Raymond L.J., CertPBE/95, is currently teaching English and a video production course at St. Theresa Point High School, St. Theresa Point First Nation.

Thorkelson, Tory S., MEd/96, was recently elected president of the largest chapter of Korea TESOL in Seoul, Korea.

2000 to Current



Giesbrecht (nee Minami), Masami, BA/02, is beginning a 2-year Mennonite Central Committee assignment as coordinator at a pregnancy and family support service.

Engagements



Wiens, Teresa L., BEd/99, PBCertEd/02, and Christopher M. Wilson were engaged on April 17, 2004, and will marry on September 4, 2004. Teri is currently

a rehabilitation counselor with the Addictions Foundation of Manitoba and Chris is a property assessor with the Province of Manitoba.

Marriages

Bond, Heather, BA(Adv)/93, MNRM/96, and Jeff Braun were married on August 9, 2003 in Charlevoix, MI. They live in Ann Arbor, MI where Heather works as a biologist for Ducks Unlimited.

Hodel, Beatrice, BA/96, and David Lee, BScME/95, were married on April 10, 2004 at the Hoodoo Viewpoint in Banff, AB. Beatrice and David met 10 years ago at the Tache residence.

Births



Baird (nee Zinter), Lynette, DipDHg/01, and Jason Baird are proud to announce the birth of Nathan Ronald Duncan Baird, born on Valentine's Day 2004,

weighing 7 lbs., 10 oz. Jason and Lynette were married in Calgary and currently reside in their newly-built home in Calgary, AB.

Hildebrand, Rowan Carter was welcomed into the world on May 25, 2004 at the home of his parents Barbara Ann Hildebrand, BA/99, and Myles Shane Hildebrand, BA/92, to join his 2-year old sister Mylea Prairie Rose Hildebrand.

Martens (nee Macklem), Sheri, BN/98, and Les Martens welcomed Cambree Jade on February 17, 2004. Cambree was born at Boundary Trails Health Center and weighed 7 lbs., 2 oz.



Martin, Shelley, BA/97, and Joseph Braid are pleased to announce the birth of Jordan Mackenzie Martin-Braid, born October 2, 2003. Jordan was born at St.

Boniface Hospital weighed 7 lbs. 1 oz., and measured 21 1/2" long.

Moore, Nicole, BEd/94, LLB/98, and Cory Moore, LLB/98, are pleased to announce the birth of their son, Jack Douglas Moore, on November 14, 2003 at the IWK Health Centre in Halifax, NS. He weighed 7 lbs. and measured 21" long.

Pankratz Wieler, Sonia L., MSc/95, ContEd/98, and her husband Dion Wieler are the proud parents of chosen daughter Megan Joanne Yu-jie Wieler, born in China on February 23, 2003. Megan is their second child, sister to Lindsay. Sonia is currently a business analyst with Manitoba Public Insurance in Winnipeg, MB.



Pfeifer, Karl, BA(Hons)/70, married to Melbourne engineer Dhayanthi Manickarajah in Melbourne in 2001, and honeymooned on the Gold Coast. Dhayanthi gave birth to

son, Ilya Geethan Pfeifer, in Saskatoon on June 17, 2003. Karl spent the 2003-04 academic year on administrative leave at the



school of philosophy & bioethics at Monash University, after having served for 5 years as head of the philosophy department at the University of Saskatchewan, where he

will be resuming regular teaching duties in September.

Singer, Sheryl, BMROT/96, and Kevin Segall, BSc(Hons)/92, MSc/95, (PhD University of Guelph) are thrilled to announce the arrival of their son Justin Phillip on January 9, 2004.

Justin weighed 7 lbs., 14 oz., and measured 21" long.



Uddoh, Ada, BSW/03, and Brad Esslinger are pleased to announce the birth of their daughter, Emily Ann

Sophia Uddoh-Esslinger, born on September 12, 2003 at St. Boniface General Hospital in Winnipeg, MB. Emily weighed 7 lbs, 3 oz., and was 19 1/2" long. She joins brother Matthew as one of daddy's little angels!

Warren, Kirk, BFA(Hons)/92, (MA Illustration, Syracuse) and Rhonda Morden BEd/91, PBCertEd/01, are pleased to announce the safe arrival of Liam Ash Morden Warren on December 31, 2003.

In Memoriam

The Alumni Association Inc. of the University of Manitoba extends their condolences to the family and friends of the following alumni:

1920-29

Beckman (nee Levin), Lottie, BA/26, on May 9, 2002.

Brigden (nee Harrison), Urla Marguerite, BA/29, on November 19, 2003.

Deacon, Alfred E., MD/29, on February 19, 2004.

Giesinger, Adam, BA/29, MSc/51, PhD/57, on June 5, 2004.

MacDonell, Gordon, BA/27, BEd/52, MEd/59, on May 17, 2004.

Mitchell (nee Sirluck), Gertrude, BA/29, on April 24, 2004.

Wheeler Slater, Ella, BA/29, on November 19, 2001.

1930-39

Ashley, Margaret Henrietta Gray, BA/32, on April 1, 2004.

Best, Brian D., MD/34, on May 30, 2004.

Chivers, John A., BArch/31, on January 19, 2004.

Cubine, P. Harold, BA/38, LLB/42, on March 18, 2004.

Curtis (nee Boyd), Mary Ramage, BA/33, on March 16, 2004.

Douglas, Lloyd Robert, BScEE/38, on February 6, 2004.

Findlay, Minnie Evelyn, BA/35, on May 4, 2004.

Hecht, Archie, BSc/32, on January 29, 2004.

Isa, Jacob Mayer, BSA/30, MSc/36, on February 24, 2004.

Laidlaw, Gordon Creelman, BSc/38, on February 15, 2004.

Lawson (nee Morrow), Eileen Sara, BSCEc/39, on May 13, 2004.

Malby, Arthur L., BScEE/34, on April 21, 2004.

Malcolm (nee Lush), Erma Nadine, BA/33, BEd/48, MEd/56 on October 24, 2000.

Meighen (nee McLeod), Anna Muriel, BA/34, on February 16, 2004.

Munnich (nee Simpson), Jeanne Catherine, BHEc/38, on May 23, 2004.

Neufeld, Abram H., BSc(Hons)/34, MSc/35, PhD/37, on February 19, 2004.

Sackston, Waldemar E., BSA/38, on May 15, 2004.

Seifred, Edward John, BA/39, CA/51, on May 16, 2004.

Shafer, Kathleen D., BSc/36, on May 7, 2004.

Sheps, Cecil G., MD/36, DSc/85 on February 1, 2004.

1940-49

Burnes, John S.D., MD/45, on January 24, 2004.

Cannell, Douglas John, BArch/49, on April 29, 2004.

Fredrickson, Homer J., BSA/49
on March 12, 2004.

Fryer, Leonard C., BA/40, BD/47,
on May 9, 2004.

Harvey, William A., BA/43, on April 12, 2004.

Hunter, Bruce H., MD/40,
on February 23rd, 2004.

Janzen, David, BA/49, MA/52,
on March 17, 2004.

King (nee Plews), Joan, BHEc/43
on March 3, 2004.

Kippen, Duncan Lloyd, MD/42,
on February 19, 2004.

McPhail, Donald M., MD/45, on May 15, 2004.

Metcalfe, Ferris Cameron, BA/40, BEd/44,
on March 3, 2004.

Pearson, Gordon Victor, CA/49,
on February 24, 2004.

Penner, Donald Willis, MD/42, on March 26,
2004.

Ring, Edward D., MD/46,
on February 12, 2004.

Squires, Franklin John, BA/40, MD/45,
on March 14, 2004.

Stephenson, Una M., BScHEc/44,
on March 17, 2004.

Sunde, John, BA(Hons)/49, MA/50,
on November 5, 2003.

Tivy, Robert H., BScEE/43, on April 27, 2004.

Vann, Earl Kitchener, MD/46,
on May 12, 2004.

Waddell, A. Duff, BScEE/40 on May 1, 2004.

Walkden, Raymond William, BA(Hons)/40,
on April 18, 2004.

Willner, Gideon, BSc/41, on April 18, 2004.

Woytko, Roy, DipAgric/43, on May 24, 2004.

1950-59

Arnott, S. Douglas, BComm/50,
on July 11, 2003.

Bourke, James T., LLB/51, on July 27, 2003.

Bryce, Robert C., BSA/55, on March 10, 2004.

Campbell (nee Johanson), Eha, BSc/50,
on May 8, 2004.

Colpitts, Martin J., BScEE/51,
on March 2, 2004.

Cowie, Victor S., BA/50, BA(Hons)/51,
on March 8, 2004.

Debusschere, Edward, BScEE/56,
CertBusM/83, on April 29, 2004.

Earley, William Glen, BScPharm/50
on February 13, 2004.

Edmonds, Harold M., BSc/53,
on January 12, 2003.

Everett, Ronald Morgan, BScEE/51,
on May 11, 2004.



The university and St. John's College lost a dear friend when **Rev. Canon Laurence Frank Wilmot** (BA/31, BD/52, MA/63, MA/79) passed away in December 2003. Wilmot served the university in various capacities including warden of St. John's College and on the Alumni Association board. In total he was involved with the institution for 73 of his 96 years. In addition to these activities, he was also active in the community and a noted author.

Fraser, Ian W., BScCE/50, on May 11, 2004.

Green, Walter Alvin Smith, BA/55, BEd/55,
MEd/59, on March 27, 2004.

Hunter, Robert G., BScME/53,
on March 12, 2004.

Locke, Charles Edmund, BScCE/50,
on January 18, 2004.

Manser (nee Mackay), Donald Heather,
BA/50, AMM/54, in January, 2004

Marshall (nee Paul), Janet Carolyn,
BScHEc/51, on May 16, 2004.

Moore, Donald A., BScEE/54, on May 6, 2003.

Nicholson, Raymond C., BSA/50, MSc/57,
on January 30, 2004.

O'Donnell (nee Wilcox), Elizabeth (Betty) Marion Adair, AMM/50, BA/51, BPed/52,
on May 11, 2004.

Rettie, Donald Elrick, CA/56,
on April 30, 2004.

Robbins, Herb F., BArch/50,
on December 28, 2003.

Rodewald, Walter, BSc/50, BPed/53, MSc/59,
on May 9, 2004.

Secter, John J., MD/52, on April 18, 2004.

Setter (nee Aitkens), Idella Jane, BA/58,
CertEd/60, BEd/74, on May 7, 2004.

Siemens, Tena, DipSW/50,
on March 24, 2004.

Skinner, George A., BScCE/53,
on April 22, 2004.

Tempest, Ronald J. L., BA/56,
on February 17, 2004.

Towler, A.R., BScEE/51 on August 15, 2003.

1960-69

Bowman, Claudia Myrna, LLB/65,
on March 25, 2004.

Christie, J. David, BComm/67,
on December 27, 2003.

Collins, Jeffery, BPE/69, CertED/71, BEd/76,
on March 31, 2004.

Currie, Mary, BA/64, CertEd/66,
on February 16, 2004.

Dueck, Ben B., BA/62, BEd/64, MEd/72,
on May 9, 2004.

Erickson, Bruce Marcus, BSc/62,
on April 23, 2004.

Foster, James Andrew, BEd/64,
on March 8, 2004.

Friedman, Reva J., BA/62, BA(Hons)/63,
on December 9, 2002.

Friesen, Mabel J.E., BA/69, on April 22, 2004.

Hansen, Eric Thomas, BA/69, MA/78,
on January 7, 2004.

Koch-Schulte, F.W., BSc/67, on May 21, 2004.

Lee, Richmond James, MD/63,
on April 8, 2004.

Lemon, David Armstrong, BA/67, MA/69,
on March 16, 2004.

Through the Years

Morrison, George W., CA/62
on March 9, 2004.

Zubrycki, Richard Michael, BA/65, MSW/69,
on May 5, 2004.

1970-79

Anderson, Edwin O., MA/71, LLD/04,
on February 15, 2004.

Brooks (nee Deyman), Barbara Judith Scott,
BA/73, on May 28, 2004.

Gainer, Raymond Michael, MCP/77,
on August 22, 2003.

Hemingway, Michael J., MA/76,
on May 4, 2003.

Henders, Lloyd Graham, DipAgric/72,
on April 1, 2004.

Jast, Kathryn Mary Elizabeth (Kate), BA/73,
CertEd/78, on February 28, 2004.

Jorgenson, Alexina Ellen, BEd/76,
on May 3, 2004.

Lacombe, Lorna A., BPed/75,
on March 4, 2004.

The arts community suffered a significant loss when **Vic Cowie** (BA/51, BA(Hons)/51) died in March at the age of 74. He retired from teaching theatre at the University of Manitoba in 1997 after 41 years where he opened generations of student minds to Shakespeare. In addition, he was active locally through filmmaking and performing.

Lanthier, Lucille R.A., BPed/76
on February 5, 2004.

M'Lot, Michael John, BEd/79, BA/81,
on March 1, 2004.

MacKay, Walter J., BEd/74, MEd/78,
on March 8, 2004.

McLeod, Graham D., BA/78,
on April 28, 2004.

Mohamed, Ajmal, BArch/70, MCP/80,
on February 8, 2004.

O'Staff, Ronald G., BA/73, on March 1, 2004.

Oberman, Sheldon, CertEd/74,
on March 26, 2004.

Purtill, Jeanne Therese, BEd/77, BA/87,
on May 11, 2004.

Radonich, Ljubica, BEd/73, on May 4, 2004.

Skrumeda, Olga Anne Margaret Lobur, BA/77,
on February 7, 2004.

1980-89

Caplap, Helen M., LLB/86, on March 17, 2004.

Cohen, Howard Joel, BA/80,
on March 28, 2004.

Gervino (nee Fiorino), Elvira, BA/80,
on March 29, 2004

Goodrich, Albert Kweku, BSc/82,
on April 17, 2004.

Kaban (nee Slobodzian), Leona Anne, BA/80,
MEd/88, on April 8, 2004.

Lane, David Thomas, ContEd/87,
on July 27, 2003.

Levesque, Raymond, BScME/80,
on February 14, 2004.

McKenzie, Walter, DipArt/87,
on May 25, 2004.

ATTENTION ALL ENGINEERING ALUMNI

**ALL Engineering grads are invited to the
Homecoming 2004 Wine & Cheese with the Dean**

Friday October 1, 2004, 2 PM
Come visit with old friends, make new friends,
find out what is happening at YOUR faculty

Also, join us for a tour of the
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University**



**The sign of a great
Faculty**



**The sign of a great
Time**

Milejszo, Witold Jan, BSc(Hons)/89,
on February 11, 2004.

Morrice, Charles D., BA/80,
on February 29, 2004.

Thomlinson, Elizabeth Helen, BN/87, MN/90,
on March 31, 2004.

Turner, Barbara Ely, BN/81, on March 9, 2004.

Wallis (nee Sheppard), Marjorie Anne,
BComm(Hons)/81, on March 21, 2004.

1990-99

Chu, Ching Yin Terence, MSc/90,
on December 3, 2003.

Fraser (nee Bonsel), Ursula H., BA/95,
on March 20, 2004.

Nye, Victor Charles, ContEd/94,
on April 1, 2004.

Skinkoway, Orest Walter, ContEd/90,
on May 15, 2002.

Stechishin, Marilyn Gale, ContEd/90,
on December 23, 2002.

Thomlinson (nee Lundy), Elizabeth Helen,
BN/87, MN/90, on March 31, 2004.

Corrections:

Father Joseph Driscoll was 87 years old when he passed away in December 2003. **Chiu-Hin Thomas Tsang**, BScEE/82, passed away on December 11, 2003 and not December 3, as reported. **Sandy Helman**, BScEE/61, PhD, is "alive and well" and not deceased as reported in the April issue.

FIND A FRIEND IT'S AS EASY AS 1-2-3...

The Alumni Association is pleased to help graduates reconnect with former friends and classmates. Please fill in the form located on our website at:
www.umanitoba.ca/alumni/find_a_friend/

PROTECTING YOUR PRIVACY

For more information on how the Alumni Association is protecting your personal information, please check our web site, www.umanitoba.ca/alumni

UPCOMING EVENTS

The Winnipeg Art Gallery is featuring the work of former University of Manitoba art professor **Robert Bruce** from June 12 to October 14.

An Engineering '46 reunion will be held in Seattle, WA on September 15-19, 2004. For more information, contact Ralph Jones at prjones@cvnet.net, by phone, 250 743-5560 or by fax 250 743-1965

KEEP IN TOUCH

We welcome your news and photographs (high-resolution digital images also acceptable jpg or tif file at minimum 300 dpi preferred)

Email: holly_campbell@umanitoba.ca

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FROM ARCHITECTURE TO COMEDY

IN 1991, I GRADUATED FROM THE FACULTY OF ARCHITECTURE with an undergraduate degree in environmental studies. Since that time, I've worked as a standup comic and comedy writer. I hope your career planning went better.

I entered university straight out of high school without really knowing what I wanted to be when I grew up. Architecture seemed like a nice balance of the creative and the analytical, but I found that it wasn't my "calling." Watching me tackle a design project was like watching the proverbial thousand monkeys at the thousand typewriters, only without the inevitability of success.

I never did pursue work in architecture – not even getting coffee in a firm as a summer job – and I often wondered how I would use my university degree. Sure, I now receive alumni rates at the recreation facilities, which saves me a few bucks every time I renew. But I have done the math and if I keep my membership active for the next 157 years, I'll eventually make back all the tuition I paid. And, okay, I wrote some funny Mies Van Der Rohe jokes for my comedy act. I tried them once out on the road in Weyburn but found that rural Saskatchewan bar crowds are decidedly anti-Bauhaus.

Today, most of what I learned in class is either gone, or stored in part of my brain that can only be accessed by hypnosis. I can remember enough art history to answer maybe three of five questions when the category appears on Jeopardy. When I visit other cities I can recognize buildings I saw in slides or in textbooks, and recall that I misidentified them on the exam. "Hey, that's that building!" I'll say, "The one that's definitely *not* the Wainwright Building!"

Friends will often point at something and ask me, Dean, you took architecture, what's that style called? Not wanting to admit I don't remember, I always say the same thing: Roman. My friends are increasingly impressed with the versatility of those Romans.

Truth be told, I remember my time at university as initially uncertain and very frightening. It was the first time I'd felt entirely in over my head. And it's only more than a decade later when I can really start to recognize the value

of *being* in over my head. It grows and matures you quickly. Thomas Edison said something about every failed attempt being an encouragement because it brought him closer to success. Alanis Morissette recommended biting off more than you can chew – you live you learn. (Then again, she also said a lot of things were ironic when really they weren't.)

So here's to all us alumni who aren't practicing in their field of study. Even though we are in a different profession, our university experience still provided a solid base of knowledge and a different perspective to viewing the world. I've heard it

said that my field--comedy--requires a deep appreciation of irony, tragedy, and futility. I certainly learned all those things during my time at university.

And to the friends I graduated with who did become architects, cheers. Your success is evidence that the Faculty is excellent. Your success, and the lovely buildings you design. All in the Roman style.

Dean Jenkinson (BES/91) is a comedian and writer who has appeared on Royal Canadian Air Farce, at comedy festivals, and appears regularly on CBC Radio.



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