

OnManitoba

CONNECTING ALUMNI AND FRIENDS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF MANITOBA

A Pair With Purpose

Winnipeg couple
Arni Thorsteinson
and Susan Glass

Website Designer Hopes
His “Digg” Leads to Paydirt

ONE TO WATCH:
Keep it Cartesian
Design Collective

Reunion
Roundup
for 2009

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\$1,000! ▷ page 8

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ON THE COVER:

Arni Thorsteinson [BComm(Hons)/71]
and Susan Glass [BComm/67]

Photo: Thomas Fricke



She sings, she plays and
she juggles (two careers
and a family). Meet Shelley
Marshall [BSc/92, BN/99]
on page 23.

Photo: Jason Halstead [BPE/92]

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C2050

“I especially enjoy *On Manitoba* since it has had more focus on individual profiles of grads and information on current research.”

The results are in from our April 2008 reader survey.

Opinions were diverse and that's great! We challenge ourselves to deliver content with as broad an appeal as possible in every issue so it's important to know when we've hit or missed the mark. We will also look at ways to better deliver information to our grads via print, e-mail and the Web. Many of you signed up for our e-newsletter Alumni FYI so look forward to that landing in your inbox.

So, what did we learn from the survey? For starters, 52 per cent of respondents say they read every issue of *On Manitoba*. You picked our cover profile as your favourite section and identified Bison News as the area that needs the most improvement. On that note, we're trying something different with Bison News this issue by profiling our athletes. Check out the first one on page 15.

One more thing: don't forget to participate in our alumni engagement survey (see page 8 for details). It only takes about 15 minutes and there's a \$1,000 prize up for grabs.

JEREMY BROOKS
editor

In your words (comments were kept anonymous)

“I am both alumni and student so it's interesting to hear about current events at the university. Pictures always enhance this and I always find a picture of SOMEONE I know in every issue.”

“Without knowing you were making any changes, we both remarked that this last edition was the best in a long time. I prefer magazine format to e-mail or web news.”

“Web only. Recycled paper only when necessary.”

“A bit tiresome to always hear ‘Rah, rah, rah’ and no substantive articles on the changing place of the institution in society.”

“Having graduated over 50 years ago, I am proud to be a U of M grad. The developments across the years have shown the capacity of the U of M to keep up to or advance with the changing societies around us.”

“Maybe develop a dedicated international page and have alums from various regions contributing articles. E.g. Asia, Europe, etc.”

“I enjoy the magazine. I especially enjoy the profiles of well-known and/or successful grads. What I would like to read in the magazine is a full, one-time only, explanation as to why the U of M ends up where it does in each of the Macleans' ratings. How significant is it that the U has fewer library books per student, fewer published professors, fewer award winners etc.? Does the U require its profs to publish, do the students compete for these awards? The ratings irritate me and, unfortunately, I don't know whether I am getting an accurate picture. It would be great to have the other side given.”

President's Message

First Impressions

At the beginning of July I arrived in Winnipeg to take up the role of president. This is a new community and a new institutional home for me, having grown up in northeastern Ontario. I studied at the University of Toronto and UBC before working at Queen's University for 19 years and the University of Regina for an additional 12. But before this latest move, I was already starting to feel at home in Winnipeg. This sense of comfort came from my experiences during several short visits to the city in early 2008.

During those trips, I met members of the university community and the community at large, including those involved in government, business and the arts. When I arrived on campus, I came with the knowledge that Manitobans are proud of this university, recognize its broad mandate (including being the source of most professional education in Manitoba), appreciate its important role in community development (cultural, social and economic) and see the school for what it is: the research engine of the province.

The diverse group of people I met made me feel welcome in the community and inspired me with their encouraging thoughts about the university's future.

In the few months that I've been here, I've already begun to learn the patterns and practices of life at the University of Manitoba. There have been annual retreats with the executive team, the deans, the directors and the administrative management group. During these events, I spoke about how I intend to behave as a leader, and how that has been shaped by my past experience in other leadership roles and as one who has been led. Each group has discussed the university's current situation by doing a SWOT (strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats) analysis, and by focusing on the possible major thematic emphases that can frame the narrative of a plan for the next several years.

While there are certainly constraints on what we can accomplish – and, as we should expect, there are more good ideas than there



David Barnard with Bison Sport's Jennifer Everard [BRS/02] at the Bison Homecoming football game.

are time, expertise or money to allocate to them – there are also substantial resources available to us: talented people, a broad base of support and a budget that can be used for many purposes. The next few years should be very exciting for all of us who love the University of Manitoba and take pride in our involvement.

One of the great fall traditions at the university is Homecoming. This was a wonderful series of events for me and my fiancée Gursh. Those who return for Homecoming are already committed to the university and are aware of its importance in their own lives – how it has exposed them to life-shaping ideas, prepared them for careers, and introduced them to lifelong friends. The stories that alumni tell of their university days and of their experiences since then can be amusing and deeply motivating. It is clear for anyone who participates in Homecoming that education is a transformative experience.

Recently I participated in the university's 41st Annual Fall Convocation Ceremony. The combination of witnessing hundreds of stu-

dents receive parchments following their successful completion of formal programs of study, along with recognizing inspirational individuals from within our own university (those who received special recognitions as students, staff or faculty members) and the broader community (those who received honorary degrees) was another moving experience.

My installation as the 11th president of the University of Manitoba coincided with convocation. During the ceremony, I articulated the hope that we will not be satisfied with anything less than achieving greatness. Based on the enthusiastic support for the university one finds in the community, the strengths of the leadership group involved in planning, and the inspiration that comes from seeing what the university represents to current and former students, I believe we can have a lot of fun working together over the next few years to achieve great things.

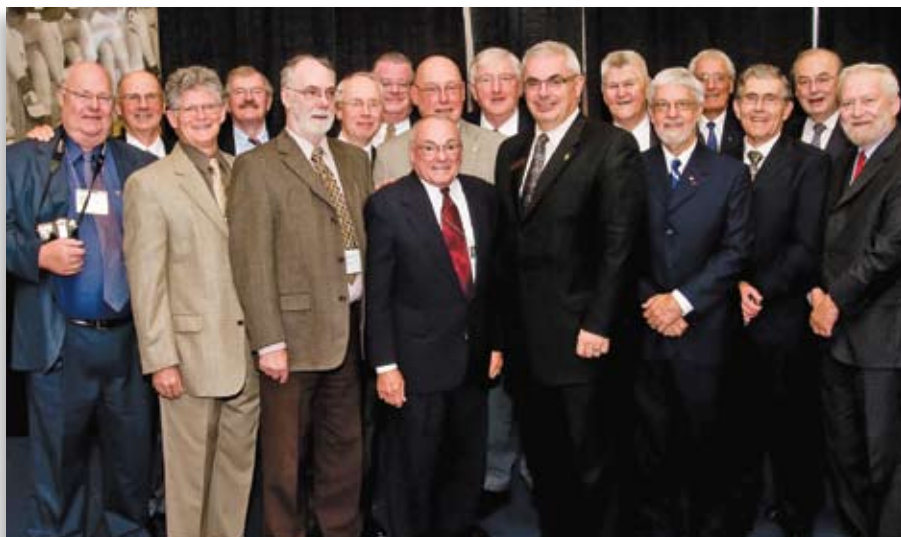
DAVID T. BARNARD
president and vice-chancellor



umanitoba.ca/alumni

Wall Info Photos Boxes +

>> Homecoming 2008 photo album



A friendship 50 years in the making: the Tekes gather for a photo and University of Manitoba president David Barnard join in on the fun.



Spirit Cup revelers drum up support for the Bison football squad.



Shirley Weber[BSchEc/48] raises her fist in salute when the Reunion Dinner roll call gets to Home Ec '48.



Canadian icon Buffy Saint Marie (pictured here with education dean John Wiens [BA/70, BEd/72, MEd/82]) takes part in Homecoming 2008 as a guest speaker.

go

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Getting into the sing of things at the reunion dinner. From left: music student Jessica Strong, Marcel A. Desautels [BA(LatPh)/55, LLB/59, LL.M/65, LL.D/99], Edmund Dawe, dean of the Marcel A. Desautels faculty of music and wife Karla Dawe



Grads, instructors and current students represent the faculty of nursing at Homecoming 2008.



From left: Henry Forrest [LLB/38] shares a laugh with Len Bateman [BSc(EE)/42, MSc/48] and Karen Forrest at the President's Luncheon for the Classes of 1938 and 1948.



Harry Rachlis [BA(Hons)/48] plants a kiss on Clarice Shell [BA/48, BSW/65, MSW/67].

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*If you receive one magazine for more than one graduate in your household, please call the Alumni Association at (204) 474-9946 to obtain your alumni number.

Thanks for your participation.



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The Hanson family from left: Janine, Gregg [BComm(Hons)/76, CA/79], Mary [BA(Hons)/76] and Adam [BComm(Hons)/04, CA/07]

TOP ALUMNI HONOUR

Gregg Hanson, former president and CEO of Wawanesa Insurance, received the 2008 Distinguished Alumni Award at a recent event held in his honour. Hanson was chosen as this year's honoree based on his leadership in the local business community, his ongoing support and involvement with the University of Manitoba and his substantial contributions to local business and charitable boards and causes.

► Visit umanitoba.ca/alumni for more photos from this event.

FastFact: In 2008, the U of M graduated a record-setting 4,956 students. Welcome to all our new alumni.

UPCOMING EVENTS

The December issue of *On Manitoba* went to print as we were on our way to an alumni reception in Ottawa.

► Visit umanitoba.ca/alumni to view images from that event.

| | |
|---|----------------|
| University of Manitoba Day with the Manitoba Moose at MTS Centre | March 6, 2009 |
| Toronto alumni reception* | April 2009 |
| Kuala Lumpur event* | Feb. 13, 2009 |
| All-Canada University Association's 33rd Annual Event in Washington, DC | April 18, 2009 |
| ► Visit dccanadianalumni.com for details | |
| University of Manitoba and the Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra* | TBA 2009 |
| Plan to get involved with Manitoba Homecoming 2010 – a year-long bash like no other | 2010 |
| ► Visit manitobahomecoming2010.com | |

► *Visit umanitoba.ca/alumni for updates.



University of Manitoba president David Barnard receives a Bison football jersey (sporting Barnard's favourite number) from Bison athletic director Coleen Dufresne.

A party fit for a president

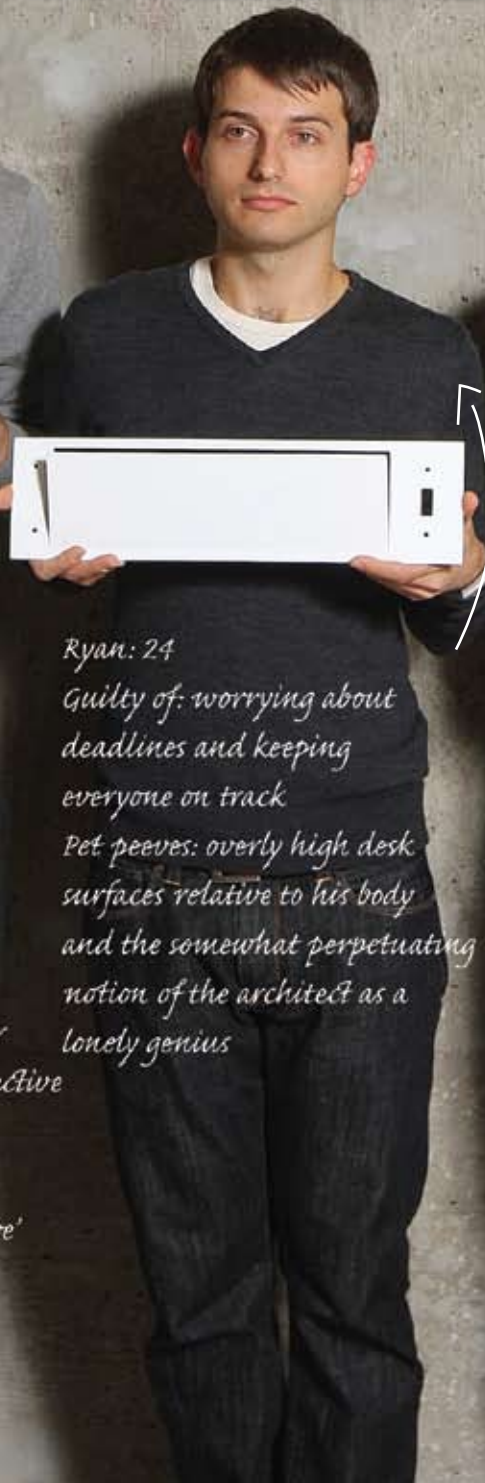
The Alumni Association joined forces with affinity partner Wellington West for an event to welcome the University of Manitoba's new top administrator. Scores of grads converged on the Winnipeg Convention Centre for a casual meet-and-greet with the U of M's president and vice-chancellor **David Barnard**. A concert by faculty and students of the Marcel A. Desautels Faculty of Music followed.

► Visit umanitoba.ca/alumni for more photos from this event.

Keep



*Thom: 21, youngest member
of the Keep it Cartesian collective
Guilty of: witty drawings
and graphics
Pet peeve: the term 'pet peeve'*



*Ryan: 24
Guilty of: worrying about
deadlines and keeping
everyone on track
Pet peeves: overly high desk
surfaces relative to his body
and the somewhat perpetuating
notion of the architect as a
lonely genius*



*Nils: 25
Guilty of: keeping the group
organized and efficient
Pet peeves: mediocrity
and the sound of people
eating chips*

p it

CARTESIAN



Photos and artwork: Courtesy keepitcartesian.com

Their moniker, Keep it Cartesian, begs the question *What's with the name?*

What does the work of this four-member design collective (all students in the University of Manitoba's faculty of architecture) have in common with 16th-century French philosopher Rene Descartes, the man who stripped down the notion of human existence to a basic, famous phrase: "Cogito ergo sum" (in English, I think therefore I am)?

The answer, it turns out, is equal parts clever catchphrase and design creed.

As **Ryan Litovitch** explains, "We liked how the name resonated in our heads, but it also speaks to the notion of taking calculated moves with a design. Essentially, avoiding the tendency to unnecessarily over-design an object."

Applying this minimalist mindset, Keep it Cartesian breathed new life into otherwise ordinary household items. Earlier this year, their series of metallic faceplates for plug outlets and light switches (that double as cell phone cradles, key hooks, letter boxes and cord wraps) garnered the attention of popular online design blogs like Montreal-based mocoloco.com. And they were recently invited to present their prototypes at the Interior Design Show 2009, Canada's largest contemporary design event to be held in Toronto this coming February. Their creations, fabricated from steel, are fashionable yet functional – a hallmark of what they consider to be good design.

"Form and function go hand-in-hand, to make a product successful," says **Kaley Lawrence**. "It must be extremely functional but also pleasing to the eye."

Keep it Cartesian say their work is influenced by, "the stuff around us, problems we see that need to be fixed." With the faceplate series, they've come up with an answer for a twofold interior design dilemma: how to dress up an apartment (without losing your damage deposit) and at the same time create something useful. "Changing faceplates and cupboard handles are one of the few things you can do to change your apartment," says **Nils Vik**. "The sad thing about faceplates is that there aren't any really good options to begin with...I suppose we also wanted to try and get more out of the current options available. We added a function to a functionless object."

Their straightforward but effective solutions could provide a cure for apartment-dweller design apathy and they hope to turn their prototypes into marketable products. That would be some feat for an idea born of a class assignment that challenged them to use a sheet of metal to make a container.

So, where does Keep it Cartesian see itself in 10 years?

"I wish I could see that far ahead," say **Thom Fougere**.

For now, the foursome's focus is on class work – they're on track to earn their undergraduate degrees in spring 2009 – and (hopefully) sharing their wares with the world.

Kaley: 22
Guilty of: being Keep
it Cartesian's voice
of reason
Pet peeve: bumper
stickers

Photo: Jason Halstead [BPE/92]

► On the Web: keepitcartesian.com

JEREMY BROOKS [BA/98]

PUTTING THE 'FUN' IN FUNDRAISER

The University of Manitoba sees its share of new arrivals every fall. Alumni gather for Homecoming and students new and old return to class. But for 27 years, nothing has said September at the U of M like a group of agriculture students – Aggies for short – pushing a bed down the Trans-Canada Highway from Brandon to the Administration Building at Fort Garry Campus.

It's good fun for a good cause; this year's Aggie Bed Push supported the Heart and Stroke Foundation of Manitoba.

The 27th annual Aggie Bed Push crew, comprised of U of M students, arrives outside the Administration Building.



Photo: Crystal Jorgenson



Decorated duo

Both have earned two degrees from the University of Manitoba and both have graced the cover of this magazine. **Nahlah Ayed** and **Gail Asper** (pictured here at the Installation Dinner for David Barnard) celebrated another shared accomplishment as they received honorary degrees from their alma mater during the 41st Fall Convocation Ceremony. Ayed is a Beirut-based foreign correspondent with the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation. Asper, a well-known philanthropist and community leader in Winnipeg, is a driving force behind the construction of the Canadian Museum for Human Rights here in Winnipeg.

From left: Gail Asper [BA/81, LLB/84, LLD/08] and Nahlah Ayed [BSc(Hons)/92, MA/02, LLD/08]

ASTRONAUTS 'N' ARITHMETIC



Photo: Jeremy Brooks

From left: Marek Laskowski [BSc(CE)/02], Chris Wahl, Khal Shariff, Don Fraser [BA/88, MBA/93] and Fred Blair

What do math, robotics and space have in common with modern gaming technology? A lot, say the members of Project Whitecard, one of the start ups in the Eureka Project – Smartpark’s business incubator program here on Fort Garry campus. The small business recently won a large contract from the Canadian Space Agency to develop an out-of-this-world new product to teach math in 60,000 elementary and high school classrooms across Canada.

Project Whitecard are specialists in the field of “serious gaming”. They apply the interactive, multiplayer environment of video games to products for space exploration, health training and education purposes. For their latest endeavour – an international partnership – Project Whitecard will immerse students in the space robotics environment, enabling them to take control of a virtual robotics system while teaching them age-appropriate math concepts. Enhancing the experience will be three-dimensional graphics of the Canadarm, Canadarm2

and the International Space Station. Canadian astronaut Julie Payette – who is the robotics lead for an April 2009 space shuttle mission – will also be featured.

Project Whitecard founder and CEO **Khal Shariff**, a Black Hole Theatre alumnus, and business manager **Don Fraser** are thrilled at the opportunity.

“Students will be able to control their learning environment while taking math education to a whole new dimension,” says Shariff. “Over the next few months the challenge for our team will be to create a specific curriculum-based product that is fun and engaging to students and educators alike.”

Project Whitecard also produces Project Moonwalk, a science education game featuring Apollo and constellation missions. Shariff has participated as a speaker for several NASA outreach projects.

TAMARA BODI [BA/90]

Driver finds winner’s circle off the track

In the August 2008 issue of *On Manitoba*, we profiled commerce grad and race car driver **David Richert** [BComm(Hons)/06] who made the 26-driver roster for the Volkswagen Jetta TDI Cup race series. Richert spoke about the business of racing and how his performance off the track is equally important to his results behind the wheel. He didn’t take home the checkered flag during the eight-race event, but he did capture top prize in the media challenge component of the series. For his efforts, Richert joined the race series champ for a weekend in Germany, ripping around the famed Hockenheimring track in a Volkswagen Polo. Richert piloted his car to a 22nd-place finish in front of 150,000 fans.

Bison roam community for good cause

Throughout the year, Bison Sports coordinates programs to connect its athletes with groups in need throughout Manitoba and encourages them to serve as ambassadors in the community. The following is a snapshot of some of the ways our student athletes gave back to their city and province in 2007-08:

Bisons Against Bullying (held annually in fall and winter)

Geared towards students in Grades 4, 5 and 6, Bisons Against Bullying is a one-hour, in-class session where Bison athletes talk with kids about bullying: what it is, why it's wrong and how it can be prevented. There were 25 sessions in 2008.

Running with the Bison (held annually in fall)

For the third consecutive year, the Bison women's basketball team made the 320-kilometre trek north from Winnipeg to Skownan First Nation. There, they continued to build friendships, share in the cultural traditions of their hosts and promote sport among aboriginal youth and their community.

Kait Flett of the Bison women's basketball squad dons her pink 'Drive for the Cure' Bison T-shirt during warm up.
Photo: Courtesy Bison Sports

Bison 'Pink Weekend' for Breast Cancer

(held Oct. 17-18)

Proceeds from the REEBOK Invitational Tournament (men's and women's basketball) went to the Canadian Breast Cancer Research Foundation. Special pink 'Drive for the Cure 2008' Bison T-shirts were sold at the tournament for \$10. All Bison teams playing at home that weekend – men's football, women's hockey, men's and women's basketball – wore pink to raise awareness about breast cancer research.

CancerCare Manitoba Challenge for Life

A six-member team of Bison athletes – dubbed Herd for Hope – took part in CancerCare Manitoba's 2008 Challenge for Life. In addition to participating in the event – a 20-kilometre walk – the group raised more than \$6,000 for cancer research.

Bison Sports at Siloam Mission

For the last three years, Bison Sports has sent volunteers to Siloam Mission to help feed Winnipeg's less fortunate. They're continuing that tradition by sending a group of athletes to the mission this December.

Bison score big in the classroom

For the fourth consecutive year, more than 20 per cent of Bison student athletes earned Academic All-Canadian honours. In 2008, 67 student athletes maintained a grade point average of 3.5 or better in their field of study at the University of Manitoba.





GLOBETROTTERS

On the basketball court, travelling still nets a whistle.

But in the case of **Enna Handan** (pictured at right) and **Diandra Karlsson-Legaspi** – two of the newest recruits to the University of Manitoba's Bison women's team – an exception can surely be made. Especially since the two rookies had to travel quite a distance: All the way from Goteborg, Sweden, where they were first scouted by a former Bison coach doing her post-doctorate overseas.

"I wouldn't say it's a major recruiting tool for the university," quips current head coach Pam Danis. "But they were two athletes who had expressed interest in playing outside of Sweden. And we were a team in need of some size."

Though the players, both 19, found it hard to leave their families behind, they knew a transfer to Winnipeg would enable them to combine their twin passions: high-level basketball and higher education.

"Back in Sweden, we play for club teams," says Handan, a six-foot-one centre. "So I would have been forced to choose between basketball and school if I stayed. I like the whole idea of the two combined."

So far, they've had their work cut out for them. In addition to the busy basketball season, they also have their new coursework to keep them occupied. And while the language barrier has posed a whole new set of challenges, the young women say their teammates have helped make the transition an easy one.

"The other players have been very helpful, on court and off," says Karlsson-Legaspi, a five-foot-five guard. "We can always turn to them if we have questions or need help with certain things. The move would definitely have been much harder if we wouldn't have had any help from them."

Hopefully, that camaraderie continues to warm the pair's spirits as they settle in for their first Winnipeg winter.

"According to me, it is already freezing, because back in Sweden, this is almost as cold as it gets," says Handan. "But I have been told that this is nothing. So I'm not looking forward to the 'real winter' at all!"

DAVID SCHMEICHEL



SLICK NEW DIGS

The new Apotex Centre, which opened recently on Bannatyne Campus, is home to the faculty of pharmacy and the department of immunology. Speaking of immunology, check out our Faculty Faces profile of Kent HayGlass on page 25.

From left: University of Manitoba president David Barnard, Apotex president and COO Jack Kay, Premier Gary Doer, faculty of pharmacy dean David Collins and faculty of pharmacy alumni co-chairs Lyle Silverman [BSc(Pharm)/66] and Marian Kremers [BSc(Pharm)/66, ExtEd/03]
Photo: Tony Nardella

U of M professor earns Canada's highest academic accolade

If you enjoy entering exclusive clubs you may be envious of Prof. Diana Brydon. The University of Manitoba English professor and Canada Research Chair (CRC) in Globalization and Cultural Studies was recently elected as a Fellow of Canada's most prestigious association of scholars and scientists – the Royal Society of Canada (RSC).

The RSC (now known as the RSC: Academies of Arts, Humanities and Sciences of Canada) is the highest academic accolade available to Canadians and only to those “whose intellectual achievements have been exceptional through a body of publications, intellectual endeavours or creative activities,” the society states.

Brydon has written four books, edited three others, authored nearly 40 papers in refereed journals, and contributed dozens



Diana Brydon, English professor and Canada Research Chair in Globalization and Cultural Studies

of chapters for various other publications. Her research as a CRC draws methods and perspectives from the humanities and social sciences to examine globalization and what it means for Canadian culture. Her research provides important new insight into Canada's social, economic, and cultural development.

Brydon's goal is to assess and develop ways in which research into globalization and the analysis of cultural practices can contribute to furthering trans-cultural understanding and interdisciplinary collaboration, both within Canada and abroad. As globalization increases, her work gains even more importance.

Brydon's election raises the total number of RSC Fellows at the U of M to 40.

SEAN MOORE

ResearchLIFE

Read all about it. The office of the vice-president (research) launched the first issue of ResearchLIFE in November. Published twice yearly, the magazine provides a taste of what's happening in the many fields of research conducted at the University of Manitoba. Geared to a wide audience – from high school student to university president – the mandate of ResearchLIFE is to raise awareness about the importance of research to our community and the world at large.

▷ If you are interested in receiving a copy of this exciting new publication, subscription is only an e-mail away: researchlife@umanitoba.ca

Our University

A message from your Alumni Association president



I'm incredibly proud to be a graduate of the University of Manitoba which is why I've chosen to volunteer my time with the Alumni Association; I want to give back to this institution that has provided me with a richness of experience and opportunity. There are many ways that we, as alumni, can ensure the university continues to be an important presence in the

lives of its graduates throughout our province and beyond. One volunteer opportunity that I would like to highlight is with the University of Manitoba Board of Governors.

If you're not already aware, alumni can elect three of the 23 representatives that make up the university's governing body. Working alongside the chancellor and the university's president, the board of governors oversees the administrative and business affairs of the university. They approve the annual budget, and appoint and monitor the performance of the president and vice-chancellor. This is a volunteer opportunity where you can really make a difference. Election to the board of governors automatically includes membership on the Alumni Association board too.

As students, we invested our time and tuition dollars in the University of Manitoba. In return, we expected and received a solid education – one that prepared us for our professional or scholarly endeavours. We also expected that the university's reputation as a centre for excellence, and its importance to the province of Manitoba, would continue to grow. After all, the value of our degree is directly linked to the esteem in which our university is held in the eyes of fellow institutions, employers and citizens.

With recent announcements like the \$100-million campus redevelopment plan (Project Domino), talk of creating a dedicated rapid transit line to the university, a new soccer complex and plans for a new football stadium/community fitness centre, the University of Manitoba is poised to be a hub for education, culture, sports and community activity. It's an exciting time to be involved with the university and now, as much as ever, we need alumni to serve on the board of governors to ensure this positive momentum continues to build and benefit all Manitobans.

The University of Manitoba is our university and we all want what's best for it and for our community. Volunteering on the board of governors is a wonderful opportunity to have a voice and lend your talents to the continued success of our alma mater.

I hope you will consider running.

MAUREEN RODRIGUE [BA/89, MSc/96],

president, Alumni Association Inc. of the University of Manitoba



Photo: Ian McCausland

Represent your alma mater

Serve on the University of Manitoba Board of Governors

Nominations Close **Feb. 2, 2009, 3 P.M.**

Nominations are accepted annually. To nominate a candidate for a position on the board of governors, please submit to the Alumni Association the signatures of 25 graduates and written consent of the nominee. Each graduate must clearly print their name, sign the form and include their alumni number. Alumni numbers should appear on your magazine label.


Voting ballots will appear in the April issue of *On Manitoba*. (Make sure the Alumni Association knows your current address information.) Additional voting information will be provided on the Alumni Association website at **umanitoba.ca/alumni**.

For more information, call the Alumni Association toll-free **1-800-668-4908** or locally at **(204) 474-9946** or contact by e-mail **alumni@umalumni.mb.ca**.

For more information on the board of governors, visit **umalumni.ca** then:

1. Click on the top tab called The University.
2. Select Administration from the drop down menu.
3. From there, select the left menu item University Governance.
4. Choose board of governors in the left menu.

To download a nomination form, go the alumni section of **umanitoba.ca (umanitoba.ca/alumni)**, choose the board of governors link in the left hand menu. Once you are on that page, scroll down past the list of current alumni representatives to the board of governors and you will find a link to the nomination form.

A full-page photograph of a man and a woman standing on a stone path in a park. The man, on the left, is wearing a dark suit and glasses. The woman, on the right, is wearing a bright orange shawl with fringe over a dark dress. They are both smiling. In the background, there are trees with autumn foliage and a large white bridge structure.

“Everything
we do, we do
together,”

- says Susan Glass, pictured here
with husband Arni Thorsteinson.



It Takes Two

Businessman Arni Thorsteinson and his philanthropist wife Susan Glass talk about their shared life – from the big builds to the ballet.

Arni Thorsteinson is a real estate mogul. There's an impressive dollar figure behind that statement: \$2.5 billion. That's the combined value of Thorsteinson's privately owned real estate development company Shelter Canadian Properties Ltd., its U.S. equivalent Shelter American Holdings Inc., and the trio of publicly traded Real Estate Investment Trusts he manages.

For further proof of the 60-year-old's real estate savvy look no further than the boomtown of Fort McMurray, Alta., where, Thorsteinson says, Shelter's \$750 million in hotels and apartments makes them the region's largest landlord and developer. He has spent the last three decades in real estate and amassed an empire of investment properties across western Canada and into the United States including notable Winnipeg addresses like CityPlace shopping mall, luxury condominium One Wellington and Club Regent Casino Hotel.

And – he'll tell you – he's quite the bowler.

"I was the junior five-pin champion," Thorsteinson says proudly of his youth title.

"Arni is competitive at everything he does," quips his wife **Susan Glass**.

Married nearly 25 years, together they're one of Winnipeg's finest fundraising and philanthropy teams. They're a power couple without attitude. When asked if he bought himself something fancy (like a Rolex watch or a new car) after closing his first big deal Thorsteinson promptly replied, "Nope. Not my style."

On a white-knuckle cold September morning, he and Glass have no qualms about standing in the biting wind for an hour during an *On Manitoba* photo shoot. They're happy to pose in front of rubble and rebar instead of within the warmth of Shelter's headquarters 26 floors above the banks of the Assiniboine River. This is the future site of the Canadian Museum for Human Rights – a project that's close to their hearts. Thorsteinson, who's chair of the museum's advisory committee, talks in developer's terms about the scope of this project with its \$300

million price tag and its unique position as the largest private/public sector cultural initiative ever undertaken in Canada. He says: "It's the most important opportunity for Winnipeg in my lifetime in my opinion."

Born in Rosetown, Sask., and raised in the tree-lined character neighbourhood of River Heights in Winnipeg, Thorsteinson (who has an older sister, Aldis Hunt) recalls his childhood during the 50s and 60s in simple terms: "It was very pleasant and easy living." His mom Mayme was a schoolteacher; his dad Johann (Joe) worked as a superintendent for Pioneer Grain.

The business bug bit early – at 10 he started delivering newspapers. Next came lawn cutting, which he eventually parlayed into a landscaping firm. Given his affinity for entrepreneurialism, Thorsteinson says his fate was always clear: "There was no question that I wanted to enroll in the school of commerce."

When he did finally arrive at the University of Manitoba's business school (now the Asper School of Business) Thorsteinson immediately looked for ways to get involved, network and take on leadership roles. He joined the Phi Delta Theta fraternity and the Commerce Students Association, and that's how he first met Glass. She was their lady stick and he was senior stick.

A relationship didn't blossom for Thorsteinson and Glass until several years later when they reunited while working on the political campaign of a mutual friend. In the meantime, Thorsteinson graduated in 1971 and took a job with Winnipeg firm Richardson Securities of Canada as a research analyst and securities underwriter. Five years later, he invested in Shelter, a company first started by U of M architecture grad **Graham Lount** [BArch/45]. Thorsteinson eventually purchased Shelter outright in 1990.

Glass too was born in Saskatchewan (Prince Albert). Her parents divorced when she was 13. An only child, she and her mother Helen moved to Winnipeg so her mom could continue her education. (The elder Glass is a renowned

“I’m by nature perennially optimistic.” - Arni Thorsteinson

academic and former dean of the U of M’s faculty of nursing.) They moved to New York while Glass was in high school and there she made a fortuitous discovery. “I had the benefit of...the best of Broadway in the heyday of musicals like *My Fair Lady* and *Camelot* and those kinds of things which piqued my interest in live theatre and live performance.” Today, she and her husband are among the Royal Winnipeg Ballet’s strongest supporters. The ballet company recently nominated the couple for a National Philanthropy Award in the category of outstanding volunteer fundraisers.

Glass’ passion runs so deep she says she can envision a dancer’s movements simply by hearing a melody from a previous performance. And the vanity plate on her car reads ‘BALLET’.

After a 15-year career in computer systems management and marketing with Air Canada in Winnipeg and Montreal, Glass dedicated herself as a community volunteer. Between them, Glass and Thorsteinson have sat on more than two dozen boards and committees affiliated with the arts, their alma mater and businesses such as Onex Corporation and Ben Moss Jewellers Ltd.

Anytime they commit to something, they roll up their sleeves and get involved personally, says Sheila Molloy [BComm(Hons)/05], executive director of the Associates of the Asper School of Business, a group Thorsteinson has been involved with since the early 1980s. “Their support is not just philanthropy. They’re giving their time, their energy, and their voice. We should all take a page out of their book.”

Their motivation to give back is deeply rooted. “Our families have always believed in supporting non-profit institutions – cultural, educational, health, sports,” Thorsteinson says. “There’s a long tradition in Winnipeg of doing that and we’re by no means unique.”

But it’s also a case of striking while the fire is hot. Thorsteinson says the past decade has been the most expansive economic years in the history of western Canada, so now, “There’s an opportunity (for Winnipeg) to achieve things that wouldn’t have been possible maybe 15 years ago but it needs commitment and leadership and support.”

Citing the airport expansion, the inland port project and the Canadian Museum for Human Rights, Thorsteinson says he believes Winnipeg is “in a boom era.” But as far as he’s concerned, a Winnipeg teeming with development opportunities still needs a full complement of attractions like professional sports, entertainment, culture, and services like education and healthcare to retain people and secure a bright future. “You need all of that so they go hand in hand,” he says. “You really can’t separate them.”

Glass, whom Thorsteinson affectionately calls ‘Sunshine’, says she and her husband are a team. “Everything we do, we do together,” the 63-year-old explains. That includes collecting contemporary art glass and taking road trips on their Harley Davidson motorcycles.

Hers sports a leopard-print paint job. She explained the pattern is part of her “persona.” (It makes up much of her wardrobe and their Lake of the Woods cottage is decorated in an African motif.)

The northern Ontario cottage country is the couple’s favourite retreat – it’s also where Thorsteinson says he made his first development deal: a subdivision of 30 cottage lots. They spend their summer weekends there and host Thorsteinson’s niece, nephew and grandnieces. He plays golf as well but admits his forte isn’t on the fairway. When asked if he was a golfer, he replies, “Bad one.”

Glass says her husband has little leisure time but concedes, “I don’t think he’ll ever retire.” His typical workday runs 12 hours and he’ll often work on vacations too. Shelter employs about 800 people and is responsible for 200 multi-unit rental, condominium, commercial and hotel properties – which includes 12,000 suites and about eight million square feet of commercial space.

“The day never ends for him or the week never ends,” says Glass. “He’s constantly on the phone. Even when we do travel, no matter what time zone we’re in, he’s always working on this time zone.”

Not long after Thorsteinson took full ownership of Shelter, the real estate market experienced a massive recession. Then, in 1995, he was named in a vote-rigging scandal that rocked the provincial Progressive Conservative party. For Thorsteinson, that experience is in the past.

“You have to look forward and not backward,” he says. “I don’t think you can be successful and active and involved in many parts of our community whether it’s cultural or business without attracting some adverse publicity at times.”

His ability to shrug off adversity and stay positive is one of the attributes Glass most admires in her husband. While discussing the recent American subprime mortgage fiasco with *On Manitoba* earlier this fall, Thorsteinson said he was bracing for the impact on Canadian soil but he also remained optimistic.

“He’s very, very positive...which is helpful for me because I sometimes tend to focus the other way,” says Glass. Or as Thorsteinson puts it, “Susan thinks it’s going to rain and I think it’s going to be a beautiful sunny day...I’m by nature perennially optimistic.”

Thorsteinson and Glass play off each other’s strengths. In business, where relationship building is paramount, Thorsteinson uses Glass as a sounding board because she’s “a good judge of character.” He also admires her empathy. Adds Glass with a laugh, “I’m always questioning and asking, and I give my opinions pretty freely. He doesn’t ask for them; I just give them.”

Glass says Thorsteinson’s ability to remember peoples’ names, business backgrounds and genealogy is “astounding.” And when it comes to fundraising, she says, his help has been invaluable.

“He can always get me the appointment and I can make the sale.”

JEREMY BROOKS [BA/98]

Opposite page: Thorsteinson and Glass with dancers, staff and students of Canada’s Royal Winnipeg Ballet. Photo: Bruce Monk

Thorsteinson addresses the audience after receiving the prestigious 2008 Negev Award for his efforts with a student exchange program between the Asper School of Business and Israel’s Ben-Gurion University (BGU) of the Negev. The aim of the Arni C. Thorsteinson Exchange Program is to build networks between students and local business leaders, and foster cultural exchanges between Israeli and Canadian youth. Photo: Allen Patterson

Grace Hanley, a recent graduate of the RWB school and an aspirant at the Dutch National Ballet with Thorsteinson and Glass on the canals of Amsterdam. Supplied photo



Multi-tasking



Marshall, centre, with husband Michael and their daughter Sophie.

n' mama

For most moms-to-be, the months and weeks leading up to labour are an endless stream of what-if situations and nightmare scenarios.

But **Shelley Marshall** – one of the founding members of Juno-winning country-folk quartet **Nathan** – is probably the only one whose pre-natal jitters involved an onstage delivery at the MTS Centre, with midwife duties courtesy the front-man of The Guess Who.

“The (first) time we were nominated for a Juno, the Juno Awards were in Winnipeg, so we got to perform as part of this end-of-the-night thing with Burton Cummings, Randy Bachman, The Wailin’ Jennys and The Waking Eyes,” recalls Marshall, 38, from the kitchen of her tidy West End bungalow. “I was due the next day, so I was as pregnant as you can be, really. And I had this image of my water breaking onstage, and somehow not being able to get out of the building, and Burton Cummings having to deliver the baby.”

Thankfully, Marshall made it through the performance without incident, and her daughter **Sophie** – now 3 ½ – was born in a much more conventional setting. But conventional isn’t a term that can be easily applied to life at the Marshall household, where Shelley must juggle her parental responsibilities with her ongoing obligations to the band, or to her day job as an inner city health nurse providing care to at-risk populations.

So far, she’s managed to keep all the balls in the air – no easy feat, considering the ever-evolving state of the music industry. But it helps that she’s got a confidante in fellow musical mom **Keri Latimer** (with whom she launched **Nathan** in 1998; later additions **Devin Latimer** – Keri’s husband – and **Damon Mitchell** round out the roster), whose similar status as a mother of two makes the band a real family affair.

Though Marshall sometimes downplays her prowess as both a singer and a songwriter (she also plays accordion, banjo and guitar), her modesty belies **Nathan**’s position as a critically acclaimed genre favourite – one whose third disc, **Key Principles**, nabbed a 2008 Juno for roots & traditional album of the year.

The band’s trademark sound – Marshall and Latimer’s honey-sweet harmonies, juxtaposed with lyrics that skew towards the darker end of the spectrum – has earned them a reputation as a must-see live draw. But Marshall admits the logistics of touring can often pose challenges, especially with three small children in tow.

“They’re great when they’re babies, but there’s nothing good about touring with kids when they’re older,” she says. “There’s nothing for them to do. It’s hard to give them good nutrition, let alone positive playtime, and you’re stuck in a van trying to keep them happy so they don’t annoy everyone else.”



Nathan from left: Marshall, Devin Latimer, Keri Latimer and Damon Mitchell Photo: George Douklias

To that end, the bandmates now choose their touring engagements carefully, travelling in separate vans and employing a full-time nanny during recent swings through Western Canada and the U.S. But so far, little **Sophie** has had no problem adjusting to life on the road.

“She loves it,” says Marshall, whose proficiency with a needle and thread provided **Nathan** with its own unique visual stamp back when she and Latimer were churning out homemade stage uniforms and quilted liner notes. “She always talks about the ‘big bus,’ and when she talks about her family, she includes all the band members.”

One would think the two careers would be enough for Marshall, but she’s also got a third to occupy what little time she has left. Having earned degrees in science (1992) and nursing (1999) from the University of Manitoba, she’s spent much of the past decade tending to new mothers, HIV patients and IV drug users under the employ of core area health clinics and **Street Connections**, a mobile outreach resource.

“You hear the most interesting stories and meet the most interesting people ... it’s a privilege to get a glimpse into that lifestyle,” she says. “Some people have such resilience, to have been brought up in these terrible situations, and still pull themselves out of it.”

As for her own lifestyle plans, Marshall hopes **Sophie** gets to enjoy the same balance as mom – a progressive upbringing, a challenging career, plus some sort of creative outlet – though she admits her family’s unconventional set-up may require an above-average degree of learning-by-doing.

“I wish there was a book,” quips Marshall, whose most recent music-minded endeavor saw her performing as children’s act **The Aunts and Uncles**, along with husband, Michael, and another pair of music scene parents. “I’ve thought about (writing one), but I just don’t have the time. Too busy doing it, I guess.”

DAVID SCHMEICHEL

▷ Take a listen at: www.nathanmusic.ca/listen.html



Kent HayGlass

WHO HE IS:

Director of the multidisciplinary
Canadian Institutes of Health
Research National Training Program
in Allergy and Asthma;

Canada Research Chair in Immune
Regulation;

Professor in the department of
immunology, which he headed for
one decade (from 1997-2007).

WHY HIS RESEARCH IS IMPORTANT:

Without a functioning immune system none of us would be long for this world. But sometimes our internal protector gets tricked and reacts to something that doesn't pose a threat to our health – like a peanut, pet dander or pollen. The result? Allergic diseases like asthma, hay fever and chronic inflammation, which represent the most common immune disorders in the developed world.

Using this allergic disease model, HayGlass has spent 22 years at the University of Manitoba attempting to answer an important question surrounding immune regulation: if we're all exposed to these same environmental triggers, why do some people's immune systems initiate strong allergic reactions while others develop an appropriate and protective response?

To tackle this conundrum and possibly find a way to disarm the allergy alarm button, HayGlass says he and his colleagues are focused on understanding how the human body works, right down to the molecular level. If this research can identify all the component parts of the immune system and how these cells communicate with each other, the better his chances of figuring out how to switch off or prevent development of allergic reactions. Here's

how he explains his approach: "If your car is making a funny noise and it doesn't run very well when you accelerate and if you don't understand how the internal combustion engine works, you can fiddle around an awful lot but you're never really going to get it fixed."

HayGlass, 54, and his colleagues have identified many of the parts that make the motor hum, but a complete understanding of immune regulation remains elusive.

While working to solve his research riddle, HayGlass got first-hand exposure to the life-saving benefits his fellow immunological investigators have already discovered. In 2007, he required a kidney transplant. "My research is basic," he says. "I'm not a physician. And so all of a sudden I got to see the benefits of research other immunologists have done...and I'm a big beneficiary of that." When asked what he was most proud of, the happily married father of two boys (Cameron, 23, and Peter, 21) gave the nod to his family. "I'm most proud of how our family has worked out and how cohesive and happy we are." And for good reason, his donor kidney came from his wife of 29 years, Sandy.

JEREMY BROOKS [BA/98]

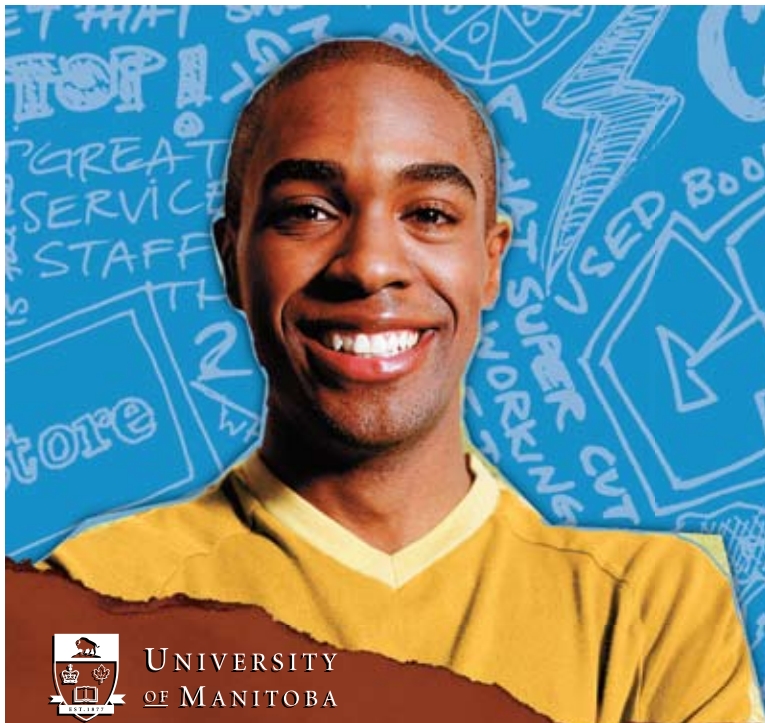
In search of skating scholars

Nearly a century ago at Oxford University – one of England's most prestigious institutions – a group of 11 Rhodes Scholars from Canada formed a hockey team to tour Europe during the month-long Christmas vacation. A member of this inaugural squad was University of Manitoba alumnus and Manitoba Rhodes Scholar **Howard Henry** [BA/1908], who later served as private secretary to then-Prime Minister William Lyon Mackenzie King. Author Michael Talbot, who is writing several books on the history of the Oxford University Ice Hockey Club, is looking for information on Henry and other U of M alumni who played for the squad during its almost 100-year history. Back in 1910, the team Henry played for called themselves the Oxford Canadians and wore the red maple leaf on their jerseys. These skating scholars won the first European Championships at Les Avants, Switzerland, in January of that same year. The group was then invited to join what became the International Ice Hockey Federation and influenced Europe to adopt “Canadian Rules” hockey. Talbot's first book will document this premier pack of players – a group he claims was the first Team Canada – to commemorate the Club's centenary in 2010.



The 1909-10 Oxford Canadians with Howard Henry seated far right
Supplied photo

▷ Talbot, who can be reached at mzbtalbot@yahoo.co.uk, says he is “enormously grateful” for any information alumni can provide in support of his research. To learn more about the Club visit their website at users.ox.ac.uk/~ouihc/history.html.




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Former student ‘digg’s’ Paris Hilton and the U of M

You won’t catch Owen Byrne vilifying Paris Hilton for her lack of talent beyond the ability to get into the tabloids.

In fact, the former University of Manitoba student appreciates the hotel heiress’s knack for getting noticed and even suggests some of his success as a web developer is indirectly tied to her.

In 2005, Byrne and his business partner Kevin Rose were fine-tuning a small social news startup called Digg when the notorious socialite’s cell phone was hacked.

“Images and celebrity phone numbers from Paris Hilton’s phone were posted on a website and a link to the site was posted on Digg,” explains Byrne, who attended the U of M’s faculty of management (now the Asper School of Business) from 1994 to 1997. “Soon after we found ourselves at the top of Yahoo search results for ‘Paris Hilton cell phone.’ Our traffic instantly doubled and then doubled again within a week.”

After the Hilton incident, some timely funding by investors, and a server upgrade in the summer of 2005, digg.com went on to become one of the most popular websites in the world. Today, Digg is considered to be the premiere social news site on the Web.

The site works by having users ‘digg’ or ‘bury’ stories to reflect what news is relevant to them. In essence, it is the democratization of news, where users choose the day’s most important stories based on their votes.

Byrne, who no longer works for the California-based Digg, lives in Ottawa where he heads up the research and development department of community-driven travel blog TravelPod [travelpod.com]. He sees the career move as a perfect fit because it pairs two of his passions: website development and travel.

Born in Ireland but raised in Canada, Byrne has seen his fair share of the world including, of course, Manitoba; though he admits that much of his “sight-seeing” here was within the university’s walls.

“I was working on my PhD, so I didn’t get out as much as I would have liked but I really enjoyed my time there,” he says. “And I came away having learned a lot.”

Byrne points to an exhaustive research methods course taught by Prof. Sue Bruning as one of his stand-out memories from his time at the U of M. “It was very intense, but I really valued the skills that it gave me,” he says.

Byrne applied those skills to pursuits like the “Internet stuff” while working on his doctoral thesis. He completed all the requirements for his PhD except his doctoral dissertation and now holds an ABD (All But Dissertation) from the university.

Rumours swirling around the Web suggest Digg may be in a profitable position to sell to another Internet giant such as Google. Current estimates of its value run as high as \$175 million. Although Byrne no longer works directly with Digg, he still has founder’s shares in the company.

“Let’s just say that if Digg gets sold, I’ll be a happy man.”

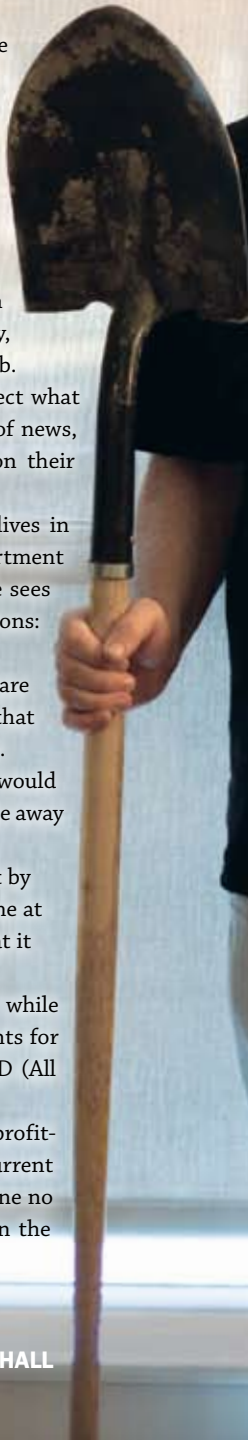


Photo courtesy Owen Byrne



Taren Gesell [BComm(Hons)/08]

Young alumni lead the way

Taren Gesell has been out of school for only a few months and already he's made a commitment to support his alma mater. Before graduating, the I.H. Asper School of Business finance and entrepreneurship student spearheaded a campaign to get his class involved through the Parting Pledge program.

During his time at the University of Manitoba, Gesell was president of the Commerce Students Association (CSA) and part of a Stu Clark Centre for Entrepreneurship's Business Plan Competition Team. These activities opened up a number of doors, he says, including the chance to travel across Canada and abroad, and meet successful entrepreneurs.

"The reason I had these opportunities is because people that have come before me have created them," Gesell says. "Being CSA president, I felt it was my duty to start creating those opportunities for other people."

Gesell hopes his efforts will inspire other young U of M alumni to follow his class's example. "Students don't think about giving back until they're older and they start reminiscing about their college days," he says. "This was a way of getting it in the minds of alumni that even though they aren't taking classes, they are still a part of the school."

STEPHANIE FEHR

Music faculty becomes a school of *cool*

Jazz. It's the music that brought Babs and Izzy Asper together. And thanks to a gift from their philanthropic family, the University of Manitoba will soon become a hotbed for hepcats.

The Asper Foundation recently made a \$1 million gift to start a Professorship in Jazz Studies in the new bachelor of jazz program. Their donation marks the second major gift for the **Marcel A. Desautels** Faculty of Music in 2008.

Babs Asper [BA/54] says she and her late husband, prominent Winnipeg businessman **Israel Asper** [BA/53, LLB/57, LLM/64, LLD/98], were always fond of the multifaceted musical style. "I really think Izzy first asked me out because I had a Dave Brubeck record he wanted to hear that was not available in Winnipeg yet," she jokes.

"Jazz is a fast growing genre here in Winnipeg, and we wanted to help make our music faculty become a go-to place for students," explains Asper. With this gift, the Aspers will share their passion for jazz with generations of young musicians and expose them to the expert tutelage of renowned instructors. And their timing couldn't be better.

"It is a very attractive professorship and it's important because the field is really expanding," says **Steve Kirby**, director of jazz studies.

Asper attributes much of the success local musicians are experiencing to growth within the **Marcel A. Desautels** Faculty of Music. She credits Kirby's efforts to build up Winnipeg's jazz scene by strengthening and promoting university-based programs and musicians. She also lauds the strong vision of faculty dean **Edmund Dawe** and the incredible \$20-million donation made by U of M graduate **Marcel Desautels** to fund student and faculty support, and help the faculty relocate to a new state-of-the-art facility in Tache Hall under the Project Domino campus redevelopment program. In addition, a volunteer committee led by **Don Aronovitch** [BComm/66] rallied the support of many other donors to help the professorship take shape. Asper sees this team approach reflected in how well the many parts of the jazz program jive.

"Everyone really seems to be working together on the same

page," she says of the synergy created by the new undergraduate degree, the visiting artists program, the summer jazz camp and the professorship.

Asper is confident the new professorship will further enhance Winnipeg's reputation as a vibrant music community.

"It will bring more students to the community," she says. "We want to make the **Marcel A. Desautels** Faculty of Music one of the centres of excellence at the university. I am really happy with what is happening; and I know my husband would be too."

RENEE BARCLAY



Carrying on the family tradition



Kathleen Birchall [BA/41]

Generosity runs deep in Kathleen Birchall's family. Growing up in the rural Manitoba town of Dauphin during the Great Depression, she remembers a Grade 12 classmate whose cash-strapped family struggled to send him to school. She also recalls her parents' reaction when she told them about the boy's plight: "They started a fund to help him complete his senior year."

That early lesson in giving stuck. To date, Birchall has set up five scholarships, most recently the Ernest & Elizabeth McGirr Award for Academic Excellence at the University of Manitoba. This latest prize honours her parents – who were both teachers – and the sacrifices they made to send her and her sister to university. Aimed at helping students from her hometown attend the U of M, Birchall's goal is to grow the award so that it can support a student with full tuition, books and accommodation.

"I feel for rural students. It's expensive to leave home for university," she says. "If there are bright students, it's up to us to help them."

Education played an important role in Birchall's own life. She first developed a flair for writing as a teenager, when she penned a weekly column for the local Dauphin paper. But it was after graduation from United College (where she was a member of the English Club) that Birchall made a name for herself as a book reviewer for the *Globe and Mail* and the *Regina Leader-Post*.

Birchall's connections to her hometown remain strong and she describes her youth in Dauphin with fondness. "It was a childhood of freedom," she says, recalling hiking and snowshoeing in winter and summers spent at Dauphin Lake.

Every year Birchall hosts a dinner for her scholarship winners, and she's looking forward to meeting the recipient of this new award. "It will be one of the proudest moments of my life when I have my Dauphin student at that dinner," she says.

STEPHANIE FEHR

A gift to improve health care

From left: Babs Asper, Marcel A. Desautels Faculty of Music dean Edmund Dawe and Prof. Steve Kirby unveil the Babs Asper Professorship in Jazz Performance. Photo: Bob Talbot



Dr. George Yee forged a path from Winnipeg's rough inner city to a career as a well-respected pathologist. And he credits the University of Manitoba for starting him on the road to success.

Yee grew up on Henry Avenue and says that despite tough times, his parents put a lot of stock in a university education – a luxury they themselves never had. "I was a struggling medicine student and I know how hard it was, not just with studies but also financial concerns," he says. "I was always grateful for the help I got when I was going through medical school. Education enabled me to achieve success and that's why I wanted to give back."

Now living in Windsor, Ont., Yee remains connected to the U of M. He established the Charles and Pauline Yee Bursary in Medicine several years ago to help other struggling students and also to honour his parents.

And just this year, he made a \$2.5 million gift to support two of the faculty of medicine's priorities – the Centre for Healthcare Innovation and a Fellowship in Health Service Design and Quality Improvement. Both the centre and fellowship have been named in honour of Yee and his wife Fay.



George Yee [MD/60]

STEPHANIE FEHR



MARRIAGES

Eklund, Scott [BSc(ME)/07] and **Meisner, Averie** [BA/04, BEd/06]

As retold by Averie: Scott and I met during first year university (2001-02 school year) at St. Paul's college. It wasn't love at first sight, but we later rediscovered each other in the summer of 2007 while living in Alberta. After a brief courtship, Scott proposed. Neither of us being overly religious, we decided to skip a church service and pay homage to our original meeting place by getting married in the Quad at the U of M. We were quite upset to learn that an outdoor wedding in the Quad was not possible. Scott convinced me that the engineering atrium (in the EITC complex) was a close and excellent alternative. I was skeptical. Being an education grad, I had no connection with the space. Scott gave me a tour of the building and explained how he saw a potential setup. I was sold. Soon the big day arrived (July 11, 2008) and it turned out perfect. I was elated to make my entrance down the grand staircase in the center of the atrium. Never have I been so nervous.



Walley, Raegen Michelle [BA/03] and **Bauch, Jonathan Paul** [B.Mus.Perf/03] were married in a glorious cathedral ceremony on August 3, 2007, surrounded by family and friends. The musical couple met two years ago while performing, she on the piano and he on the cello; and they are still enjoying making beautiful music together just one year after their marriage!

FOR OUR APRIL ISSUE, THE DEADLINE FOR TTY SUBMISSIONS IS FRIDAY, JAN. 9, 2009.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

1940-49

Darlington, Robert [BA/49]

published and co-authored *Three Princes Armed*. This historiography of three CN Steamships liners converted first in 1940 to Armed Merchant Cruisers and later to a pair of Landing Ships Infantry and an *Anti Aircraft Cruiser* is Darlington's second book. His first, *The Canadian Naval Chronicle 1939-1945*, was published in 1996 and 1998 by Vanwell Publishers.

Rachlis, Harry [BA(Hons)/48]

is wondering if anyone would be willing to part with a spare copy of the 1948 Brown and Gold. Rachlis lost his copy in a recent move. If you do, please contact Jeremy Brooks at the Alumni Association (474-9597) and he will put you in touch with Rachlis.

Russell, Wilbert A. [BSc/42]

will have Iowa State University's first endowed department chair named in his honour. A \$2-million bequest from Iowa State alumnus G. Richard "Dick" Johnson will be used to establish the Wilbert A. Russell Endowed Department Chair in Agronomy in the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences.

Swick, Lloyd [BSc/49]

wrote *Stories from Veterans Village* in honour of Village comrades following Second World War. Copies of the book are available for \$18 plus postage. Call Jeremy Brooks (474-9597) for Swick's contact information.

1950-59



Bilash, Borislav N.

[BA/56, BEd/57, MEd/60] was honoured at the 2008 Osvita Foundation Testimonial Dinner in support of Manitoba Parents for Ukrainian Education for his promotion and maintenance of Ukrainian language and culture. Bilash,

the son of pioneer teachers Nicholas and Mary Bilash (nee Waroway), served as the assistant coordinator of languages and later consultant for second languages and multiculturalism for the Winnipeg School Division. In a testimonial, Ukraine's Ambassador to Canada characterized Bilash as "the father of the Ukrainian language in Canada".

Thompson (Abel), Mary Ethelyn (Lyn)

[BScHEC/51] was recently honoured with a Lifetime Membership in the Writers Guild of Alberta.

1960-69

Guyda, Dr. Harvey [BSc(Med)/62, MD/62] is the 2008 recipient of the Canadian Pediatric Society's highest honour – the Ross Award. Guyda also recently accepted the role of executive director for the Montreal Children's Hospital. He held the position on an interim basis since May 2007.

Toews, Eddie [BPE/68, BEd/69] was recently inducted into the Manitoba Sports Hall of Fame.

Webb, Brian [BA/65] retired recently after a 38-year teaching career. Webb taught sociology at Bishop's University (three years) and then at Marianapolis College in Montreal (35 years).

1970-79

Butler (Livingstone), Barb [BEd/78] was recently named the Brain Injury Association of Canada's (BIAC) Volunteer of the Year for 2008 for her outstanding contribution to promoting and advancing the cause of acquired brain injury in Canada. Barb had previously received the 2006 Communications Award for her achievement in networking and communications. Barb serves on the BIAC board executive and is the past president of the Saskatchewan Brain Injury Association.

DeLisle, Ken [MA/75] was co-recipient of the 2008 Companion of the Centre Award from the Centre for Christian Studies (CCS). CCS is a joint United-Anglican Theological School in Winnipeg that prepares women and men for diaconal ministry - education, social justice and pastoral care. DeLisle was recognized for his work on social justice and equality, particularly with sexual orientation and deaf issues. DeLisle and his spouse John Robertson were also recognized for their role of foster parents to seven foster sons.

Harder, Valerie [BHEc/70, AssocEd/71, BEd/74] closed the books on a 37-year career in education recently when she retired from teaching home economics at Elmwood High School.



Ternovetsky, Patricia [CertEd/74] recently wrote the children's book *Who Wants this Puppy?* which is available now at McNally Robinson Booksellers.

1980-89

Jones, Glen A. [BA/83, BEd/85] was recently appointed as the first Ontario Research Chair in Postsecondary Education Policy and Measurement which is one of eight endowed

Chairs created by the Ontario government. Jones is professor of higher education and associate dean, academic, at the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education of the University of Toronto.

Joubert, J. Guy [BA/83, LLB/87] will serve as president of the Canadian Bar Association for 2008-09. Joubert is a partner in the firm of Aikins MacAuley and Thorvaldson.

Sims, Ted [BComm(Hons)/87] was recently appointed retail sales & services manager at Cambrian Credit Union's 735 Pembina Hwy location.

1990-99



Agger, Helen [BHEc/93, MPAdm/97] recently had her book, *Following Nimishoomis: the Oral History of Dedibaayaanima-nook Sarah Keesick Olsen*, published. Agger will give a Colloquium Series presentation to the native studies department at the U of M on Jan. 14, 2009 from 12:30 p.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Kunkel, Jeremy [BSc(Maj)/93, PhD/02] has accepted a research scientist position in the Centre for Biologics Research of the Biologics and Genetic Therapies Directorate at Health Canada (Tunney's Pasture, Ottawa). Here he will build a pure and applied research lab in glycobiology. This follows four years of postdoctoral work with the New York State Department of Health in Albany, NY, and two years as a research scientist for Can-gene Corporation in the University of Manitoba Smartpark.

Matwischyna, Mike [BMR(PT) / 92] is now CEO of Radiology Associates Inc. in Honolulu, Hawaii.

Medvedev, Russ [MA/95] is the new director of communications and member services with The Association of Science and Engineering Technology Professionals of Alberta (ASET) in Edmonton. Prior to joining ASET, Medvedev was director of communications at Concordia University College of Alberta.



Salamon, Daria [BEd/95] has a new novel out. *The Prairie Bridesmaid* was recently released through Key Porter books. Learn more about the book and its author at theprairiebridesmaid.com.

Shinewald, Benjamin [BA(Hons)/94] recently left the Privy Council Office to become the national executive director and general counsel of the Canadian Jewish Congress.

He has also been selected to participate in the federal government's Canada @ 150 program and in the European Union Visitors Program. Currently, Shinewald lives with his wife Marice Hart and their daughter Orly in Ottawa. In mid-2009 they will move to Toronto.



Toews, Jeff [MED/90] was recently appointed education director of the Office of Continuing Medical Education in the faculty of medicine at the University of Manitoba. He was seconded from the faculty of education where he developed and directed the Office of Professional Learning Opportunities for Educators. Toews is married to Clea Schmidt, an assistant professor in the faculty of education.

2000 to present



Heinrichs, Jane [BA/05] is author and illustrator of the recently published children's book *Magic at the Museum*. For more

information on Heinrichs and her work visit janeheinrichs.com.



Penner, Christina [MA/03] recently published the novel *Widows of Hamilton House*. The book is set in Winnipeg's historical Hamilton House, where Dr. Thomas Glendenning (T.G.) Hamilton and his wife, Lillian, conducted famous séances during the 1920s. T. G. Hamilton was the first president of the University of Manitoba's Alumni Association in 1921. The Hamilton Family archives are held at the U of M's Archives and Special Collections.

BIRTHS



Deneka, Debra [BHEc/98] and **Stansell, Armond** [BScGSc(Hons)/06] along with big sister Ksenia are pleased to announce the birth of their son Torin Kael. Born in Thompson, Man., Torin weighed eight pounds and measured 22 inches.

BIRTHS



Kehler, Charles [DipAgric/02] and **Sabrina** [DipAgric/07] are pleased to announce the birth of their first baby girl Marin Ladawn Kehler

on Sept. 20, 2008. Marin weighed seven pounds, three ounces and measured 20 inches.



Martin, Robert [BSc(Hons)/88] and **Brigitt** (nee Norlander) [BA/89] along with big sister Zena are proud to announce the

birth of Roman Gregory Martin on June 28, 2008 in Burnsville, Minn.



Penner, Sara [BRS/99] and James Gordon welcomed son Jackson Fredrick Gordon on July 22. Jackson weighed five pounds and measured 18 inches. He came a little early (33 weeks) which explains his small size.

He is doing wonderfully and growing like a weed. Dad and Mom are doing great and loving the new addition to the family.

MEMORIAM

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

1920-29

Dagg, Frank A. [BSc(CE)/29] Aug. 16, 2008

Wallis, John Braithwaite [BA/23, MA/29] Sept. 20, 2008

1930-39

Britton (McCalpin), Mabel E. [BScHEc/36] June 10, 2008

Collins, Dr. Donald R. [BA/36, MD/43] July 30, 2008

Ehrlich, Edythe M. [BScHEc/36, BEd/63] Sept. 13, 2008

Graham, Alice Mabel [BA/35, BEd/56] Sept. 24, 2008

Sinclair, Kathleen M. [BA/33] July 2008

Smith (Fahrni), A. Madalen [BScHEc/39] Aug. 7, 2008

1940-49

Bergh (Booth), Patricia Ruth [BSc/45, Cert Ed/77] Aug. 26, 2008

Berry, Mary Doreen [BScHEc/48] June 21, 2008

Blonar, Nicholas [BSc/49] July 6, 2008

Bowsfield, Hartwell W. [BA(Hons)/48] Aug. 10, 2008

Boyko, Josephine [BSc(Pharm)/48] June 25, 2008

Clake, John [BA/49] Aug. 3, 2008

Dahl, Florence Leona [AMM/41] Aug. 14, 2008

Dempsey, William Alexander [BA/42] Aug. 15, 2008

Finkelstein (Wilder), Dorothy [BSc(Pharm)/46] Sept. 24, 2008

Goodman, M. E. [BA/49, BSW/51] July 5, 2008

Hall, Florence T. [BScHEc/43] July 2, 2008

Hersom, Naomi L. [BA/47, DipEd/48, BEd/55, MEd/62, LLD/89] June 27, 2008

Kettner, Maxwell E. [BSc(Hons)/42] July 8, 2008

Manning, H. W. Barry [BA/47, LLB/50] July 7, 2008

Marcus, Robert J. [BA/47, DipSW/48] June 10, 2008

McGlenen, Edmund [BA/49, BEd/52, MEd/72] July 10, 2008

Miller, Sidney J. [BSc(Pharm)/45] Sept. 21, 2008

Osborne, Dr. James C. [MD/46] Aug. 30, 2008

Pollard, Earle B. [BComm/47] Sept. 7, 2008

Riehl, Lily V.A.B. [BA/40] Aug. 17, 2008

Rosner, Myra [BA/45] July 13, 2008

Sair, Allan L [BSc(Pharm)/47] Sept. 21, 2008

Siddall, Dr. Edward R. [MD/49] July 6, 2008

Siemens, Nettie J. [BA/47] Aug. 21, 2008

Watson, Sr. Philippa [BA/44] Sept. 1, 2008

Wolch, Marvin E. [BSc/46] Aug. 2008

Wright, Morgan Wilkes [BA/43] Sept. 2008

1950-59

Archer, Allan K. [BComm(Hons)/50] July 22, 2008

Batchelor, T. John [CA/50] June 14, 2008

Braker, Samuel B. [LLB/57] July 15, 2008

Dickman, Irene [BA/54, BEd/58] September 2008

Ebbeling, Reginald A. [BSc(Pharm)/53, MBA/70] Aug. 4, 2008

Fraser, Barbara Edwina E [BScHEc/53] Sept. 3, 2008

Goldie Sr., C. Ross [BArch/50] June 9, 2008

Grogan, George S. [BSA/51] Aug. 10, 2008

Hykawy, Orest H. [BSc(Pharm)/55] June 11, 2008

Kain, Charles A. [BSc(EE)/50] Sept. 26, 2008

Kaluzniak, Dr. Nicholas J. [BSc(Hons)/51, MD/56] Sept. 7, 2008

Kettner, Ruth [BA/52] Sept. 10, 2008

Korn, David [CA/51] Aug. 21, 2008

Levenstein, R. A. [CA/52] July 21, 2008

Lussier, Sr. Dolores C. [BA/57, BEd/62] Aug. 3, 2008

Minor, Morley J. [BSc(EE)/58] Sept. 22, 2008

Paquin, Fernand L. [BSA/50, MSC/63] Sept. 13, 2008

Robinson, Howard W. [CA/50] Aug. 4, 2008

Speers, Margaret H. [BEd/54] Sept. 26, 2008

Spratt, Henry P. [CA/55] June 17, 2008

Toews, Ruth Maynard Dawn [BSA(Hons)/52] Sept. 29, 2008

1960-69

Biblow, Ivan [BA/67, BEd/68, MEd/85] June 12, 2008

Borger, J. Henry [BSc(CE)/64] July 17, 2008

Bristol, Calvert C. [MSc/62, PhD/66] July 15, 2008

Clancy, Frank J. [BSc(ME)/62] July 17, 2008

Dutka, William J. [BSc/64, BEd/67] Aug. 2, 2008

Dyck, George E. [BSc/64, MSc/80] June 27, 2008

Dzikowski, Hillary P. [BSc/65, MSc/67] July 15, 2008

Firman, Joan Julia [CertNurs(PH)/60] June 23, 2008

Frechette, Andre G. [BA(LatPh)/60, BSc/63, Cert Ed/66, BEd/66] Sept. 10, 2008

Harvey, John Gurzon [BA/68] July 21, 2008

Hinds, Robert S. [BA/64] June 18, 2008

Horsman, Raymond John [BSc(CE)/69] July 31, 2008
Jagger, Robert C. [CA/66] Sept. 22, 2008
Lapointe, Dr. Leon R. [MD/65] Sept. 6, 2008
Lucas, Suzanne I. [BSc/60] Sept. 12, 2008
Madden, Leo M. [BA/64] June 29, 2008
Marshall (Malazdrewich), Larry [BA/67] Sept. 8, 2008
Maybee, Charles Barry [BA/64] July 5, 2008
Moroz, Henry [BA/66, BEd/70] Sept. 5, 2008
Murphy, Vera [BHEc/69] July 2008
Phangureh, Partap S. [BEEd/61] Sept. 10, 2008
Plaxton, Rob G. [CA/66] Sept. 13, 2008
Prejet, Lorraine L [BA(LatPh)/62, BEd/65] June 21, 2008
Sawyer, Linda K. [BSc(Pharm)/65] Sept. 18, 2008
Young, Jeanette H. [CertNurs(T&S)/61] Aug. 29, 2008

1970-79

Bean (Pout), Deborah Ann [BHEc/77, ExtEd/92] July 4, 2008
Brown, Michael Russell [BA/76] July 18, 2008
Butchard, Pamela I. [BPed/75, MEd/89] July 12, 2008
Carriere, Alfred J. [BSc/71] July 11, 2008
Caven, Neil F. [BEEd/76] June 22, 2008
Choy, Dorothy [CertNurs(T&S)/71] July 11, 2008

Dagleish, Robert J S [BA/79] Aug. 2, 2008
Doyle (Vermette), Raymonde [Bes A/71] Sept. 17, 2008
Giesbrecht, Heidi Dora [LLB/79] Sept. 16, 2008
Gould, Allan W [BA/73] Aug. 1, 2008
Holden, W. Blake [BA/71, Cert Ed/72, BEd/78] June 30, 2008
Ipsics, Eleonora [BEEd/79] Aug. 5, 2008
Irvine, Wayne Gordon [DipAgric/74] Aug. 28, 2008
Khanuja, Surendra Singh [LLB/79] July 19, 2008
Kowalski, Robert C. [BA/76, BSW/84] June 26, 2008
Mitchell, Melva Joan [BEEd/76] Aug. 27, 2008
Morden, Gregg Wayne [BSc/71, BA/79, MSC/86] June 24, 2008
Murray, Keith Porter [BComm(Hons)/71] June 26, 2008

Sitter, Louise A. [BA/74] Aug. 24, 2008
Smith, Gladys E. [BPed/71] July 8, 2008
Sutton, Richard J. [BEEd/72] July 18, 2008
Winkless, Jocelyn C. [BEEd/73] Aug. 7, 2008
Zelenski, Audrey M. [BA/70, Cert Ed/71] July 21, 2008
Zinman, Soni Martin [BA/71, BSc/75] June 26, 2008

1980-89

Bowey, Bernard Paul Anton [BA/87] July 13, 2008

Brabant, Maurice Joseph Leo [BA/88] July 23, 2008
Kiely, Garnet J. [ExtEd/86] Aug. 13, 2008
Paisley, Jared William [MBA/85, ExtEd/93] June 26, 2008

1990-99

Desnoyers, Owen [ExtEd/91] Sept. 27, 2008
Grapentine, Dora-Kristin [BFA/91] Sept. 21, 2008
Hansen, Kristian Guy [BA(Adv)/91, BSW/01] Aug. 4, 2008
Klassen, Ian William [BA/95] June 8, 2008
Owens, Jake L J [ExtEd/91] July 29, 2008
Pyl, Darlene [ExtEd/92, ExtEd/93] July 13, 2008
Trtnik, Lee Leopold [BSc(Pharm)/93] Aug. 19, 2008

2000-present

Big George, Pauline Sheila [BA/03] Aug. 13, 2008
Klassen, Katherine Anne [BN/00] July 14, 2008
Porteous, Erin Lynn [BComm(Hons)/04] June 19, 2008
Reyes, Grace M. [ExtEd/02, ExtEd/04] July 21, 2008
Spittal, Edith [BSW/03] Aug. 19, 2008

Distinguished Alumni Award

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

Deadline is **Feb. 17, 2009**

For more info or to download a nomination form, visit www.umanitoba.ca/alumni/daa or call toll-free **1-800-668-4908** or locally **(204) 474-9946**

You can nominate a University of Manitoba graduate (from 1984 or earlier).

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or Significant contributions to the community and welfare of others

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| | | Dark Wood | \$35.00 | |
| | | Briarwood | \$45.00 | |
| | | Diplomat | \$55.00 | |
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| | | Value Black (landscape) | \$24.00 | |
| | | Frosted Gold | \$40.00 | |
| | | Brass (not shown) | \$40.00 | |
| | | Dark Wood | \$45.00 | |
| | | Briarwood | \$55.00 | |
| | | Diplomat | \$65.00 | |
| SUBTOTAL = \$ | | | | |
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| Handling = \$ | | | 5.00 | |
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REUNIONS

2009 REUNIONS TO DATE

| GROUP | TIMEFRAME | CONTACT |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------------|--|
| Arts 1959 | TBA | James Arnett |
| Commerce 1954 | Homecoming | John Mundie |
| Commerce 1979 | Homecoming | Ted Moorhouse |
| Engineering 1949 | Homecoming | Brice Wightman |
| Law 1949 | Homecoming | Julian Toole |
| Electrical Engineering 1959 | Homecoming | Graham Campbell |
| Civil Engineering 1959 | Homecoming | Oskar Sigvaldson |
| Mechanical Engineering 1959 | Homecoming | Ken Bailey |
| Engineering 1969 | Homecoming | Bill Kennedy John Kaye Peter Giesbrecht |
| Home Economics 1969 | September 2009 in Vancouver | Gwen Bartnik, Nancy Meyer, Lori Metcalfe, Marian Lowery |
| Interior Design 1958 | Homecoming | Doris Hasell |
| Nursing 1969 | Homecoming | Lynn Baker |



Hi Tammy,

Our Aggie reunion in Vancouver was a big success. With the help of the Association we were able to get a copy of the old Aggie crest and the committee had it for their shirts. This was our 13th reunion (the first was in 1960). Our next one is planned for Edmonton in 2010.

Thanks to everyone in your office for helping us make this a great success.

Mike Warwick [BSA/55]



Law 1958

Can't thank you enough for all of your wonderful help. Sixteen out of twenty-one at this stage of our lives was wonderful. Thank you again for all your help.

Naida Rubin, wife of Charles Rubin [BA/54, LLB/58]

Home Ec '58

Dear Tammy

Our reunion was a smashing success. The highlight was the PJ and pizza party. We each had to give a five-minute talk on what had happened in our lives in the past 50 years and how Home Ec had helped.

Thanks again for all you help.

Peggy Venables [BSc/Hec/58, PBCertEd/93] and Carole Flanigan [BSc/Hec/58]



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REUNIONS!

Would you like
to plan a reunion?

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Study buddies

Vanessa Monkman, Sue Tian and Sherry Reboya – all students in the University of Manitoba's Inner City Social Work ACCESS Program – hit the books together at the William Norrie Centre, Oct. 16, 2008

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