



UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO MAGAZINE

THE SCHOOLS  
WE WANT  
100 YEARS AT  
CON HALL  
A SPY'S STORY  
THE PRISONER  
OF TEHRAN



# WITNESS TO WAR

Doctor  
Samantha  
Nutt's  
Daring  
Mission

AUTUMN 2007 • VOL. 35 NO. 1  
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From

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*Cover photograph of  
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UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO MAGAZINE

AUTUMN 2007 VOLUME 35/NUMBER 1

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All correspondence and undeliverable copies:  
*University of Toronto Magazine*,  
 21 King's College Circle,  
 Toronto, ON M5S 3J3

*University of Toronto Magazine*, with a circulation of 270,000, is published quarterly by the Division of University Advancement. All material is copyright © 2007 Governing Council, University of Toronto, and may be reprinted with written permission. Alumni of the university receive the magazine free of charge. Donations accepted at [www.magazine.utoronto.ca](http://www.magazine.utoronto.ca) under "Support the Magazine," or send a cheque, payable to University of Toronto, at the magazine's address, above.

**Publications Mail sales agreement**  
 No. 40065699

**Return undeliverable Canadian and other addresses to** *University of Toronto Magazine*  
 21 King's College Circle, Toronto, ON M5S 3J3  
 E-mail: [uoft.magazine@utoronto.ca](mailto:uoft.magazine@utoronto.ca)

**Non-profit postage paid Buffalo, NY**  
 Permit No. 3415. U.S. Postmaster send address corrections to P.O. Box 29, Lewiston, NY 14092  
 Printed in Canada  
 by Transcontinental Printing Inc.  
 ISSN 1499-0040

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## Reaching Out

The U ofT community engages in civic life

IN HIS INAUGURAL ADDRESS A CENTURY AGO, FORMER UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO president Robert Falconer emphasized the importance of civic service. "I believe that the nation should look to universities for distinct help in the present social conditions," he said from the Convocation Hall stage, with Prime Minister Wilfrid Laurier in attendance. "It must cause concern to thinking people that there is such an indifference on the part of the well-to-do to take up the burdens of civic and political life."

In his history of U ofT, University Professor and law professor emeritus Martin Friedland notes that, with Falconer at the helm, U ofT became involved in many types of community outreach. In 1910, the university opened a "settlement house" on Adelaide Street West, to integrate university students in a lower-income area of the city. Around the same time, he persuaded the university's board to give 10 Chinese students places at the university, a direct result of U ofT graduates serving as missionaries with the YMCA in China.

Falconer's call for service has become entrenched at U ofT. Not long ago, the university created the Centre for Community Partnerships (CPP) to give students the opportunity to apply their academic knowledge in the community. The centre also supports faculty who incorporate community organizations into their courses or research. Earlier this month, the CPP spearheaded a second annual day of service for students, staff and faculty to volunteer at locations across Toronto.

Many U of T grads, such as Dr. Samantha Nutt (featured on page 20), continue volunteering after finishing their studies. Nutt, now a professor in U of T's department of family and community medicine, is also the founder of War Child Canada, an organization that provides long-term humanitarian support to children and families in war-ravaged countries. Managing editor Stacey Gibson writes about Nutt's high-octane adventures and valuable work in trouble spots in Africa and Asia. Interestingly, Gibson discovers that Nutt studied drama before becoming a doctor. This may not seem like an entirely logical career path, but Nutt explains why it made sense: "I think that drama teaches you the ultimate expression of empathy. It's the complete absorption of another person's life experience." As Nutt points out, why pursue medicine if you have no interest in how other people experience life?

The power of theatre to transform lives is something Professor Kathleen Gallagher understands well. Gallagher is the academic director of U of T's Centre for Urban Schooling and taught high school drama for 10 years. In a feature story about the centre (page 26), Gallagher explains that schools' current emphasis on standards and testing often overlooks the value of theatre class to foster social development among students, especially in diverse classrooms. "The experience of making art has intrinsic value, which is not well understood in the current educational climate," she says. Gallagher has written a book on the subject, and it's a good example of the kind of research the centre is pursuing – collaborations with local schools that seek to address practical problems and enrich the educational experience for everyone. Robert Falconer would have certainly approved.

SCOTT ANDERSON





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## Towards 2030

How will we preserve excellence at U of T?

TWENTY YEARS FROM NOW, THE UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO will mark its second centenary. The progress of the university in recent decades has been phenomenal. However, it is also essential that we take stock and lay the groundwork now for a third century of excellence here at U of T.

Consider our enrolment profile. The University of Toronto is already one of the largest public universities in North America. Over the past 10 years, the number of students at the University of Toronto at Mississauga grew 70 per cent. The University of Toronto at Scarborough grew 96 per cent; and the St. George campus grew 23 per cent. Undergraduates comprise more than 80 per cent of our enrolment today – a percentage that is sharply higher than the norm at other research-intensive universities. Some observers wonder why we have not aligned our proportion of graduate students with our research strengths. Others ask: How much growth is possible on the Scarborough and Mississauga campuses without damaging their special character? Others again wonder if the student experience on the St. George campus could be enhanced by a meaningful reduction in undergraduate enrolment.

Toronto is a remarkably diverse city that easily welcomes people from around the world. Our proportion of international students sits at around 10 per cent. Should we recruit more international students to the university? If so, how many students and from where?

It is also essential for us to re-examine our resource base. Despite recent and welcome provincial investments, Ontario remains dead last among provinces – and nearly all U.S. jurisdictions – in per-capita funding of higher education. Meanwhile, governments around the world have recognized the importance of universities as engines for innovation and have pumped billions of dollars into post-secondary education. To compete successfully, we clearly need to explore new resource strategies.

One idea is for the provincial and federal governments to adopt mission-based funding for universities. Rather than investing in all universities uniformly, the province could create distinct mandates for sets of institutions, as occurs with the California State and University of California systems, in China with its pyramidal system of post-secondary institutions, and

in Germany where intense peer-reviewed competition has led to the allocation of special block funding to a small number of universities that serve as national research engines. Another less popular option would see institutions given greater flexibility in setting tuitions, provided they maintain full accessibility by offering students generous financial assistance.

Any examination of enrolment and finances has to take into account our complex tri-campus system. Our structure has evolved over 40 years to the point that the east and west campuses have developed their own distinctive programs and each serves about 10,000 students. As we look ahead, we must carefully consider roles and responsibilities across the three-campus system. Should Mississauga and Scarborough have more or less autonomy? To what extent should the academic offerings of the three campuses be differentiated?

More generally, at what point does our remarkable breadth become unsustainable, necessitating a sharper focus on specific programs of education and research? If we are going to avoid the usual trap of doing more with less, which programs will be jettisoned? Now is an excellent time to ask fundamental questions about our mission, our size and our balance.

A new report, *Towards 2030*, raises all of these questions and many more. The document (available at [www.towards2030.utoronto.ca](http://www.towards2030.utoronto.ca)) is deliberately designed to encourage engagement by a wide range of readers with the big issues confronting the university for the next 25 years. Over the next few months, we will consult with U of T community members through town hall meetings, electronic forums and conversations. Our goal is to clarify some strategic directions as we approach the university's second centenary. I strongly encourage our alumni and friends to offer their thoughts on these important questions by browsing through the document and sending comments to [towards2030@utoronto.ca](mailto:towards2030@utoronto.ca).

Thank you in advance for your ideas and input!

*Sincerely,*

**DAVID NAYLOR**



“ *Now is an excellent time to ask fundamental questions about our mission, our size and our balance* ”

# EXPLORE THE WORLD

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Prices quoted are in Canadian dollars, per person and based on double occupancy. Dates and prices are subject to change. Individual tour brochures are available approximately 4 - 6 months prior to departure. To request a brochure, please call 416-978-2367 or 1-800-463-6048 or e-mail [alumnitravel@utoronto.ca](mailto:alumnitravel@utoronto.ca) or visit us online at [www.alumnitravel.utoronto.ca](http://www.alumnitravel.utoronto.ca) or mail this coupon to: University of Toronto Alumni Travel, 21 King's College Circle, Toronto, ON M5S 3J3

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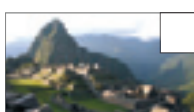





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From \$3065 + air
-  Feb 29 - March 17  
Indochina  
(Vietnam, Cambodia, Thailand)  
\$8966 including air
-  March 6 - 13  
Alumni College in Peru  
\$2545+ air
-  March 7 - 20  
Treasures of Southern Africa (South Africa & Zambia)  
\$6195 + air
-  April 14 - 23  
Alumni College in Andalucia (Spain)  
\$2495 + air
-  April 20 - 28  
Waterways of Holland & Belgium  
From \$2545 + air
-  April 29 - May 12  
Alumni College in Ukraine  
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-  May 9 - 17  
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(Germany, Czech Republic)  
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-  May 13 - 20  
Ennis Escapade (Ireland)  
\$1545 + air
-  May 23 - 31  
Village Life along the Seine River (France)  
From \$3630 + air
-  May 30 - June 12  
Romance of the Blue Danube (Germany to Romania)  
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Alpine Mountains & Lakes (Germany to Liechtenstein)  
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-  June 25 - July 7  
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Alumni College in the Swiss Alps (Switzerland)  
\$2495 + air
-  August 3 - 11  
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From \$3195 US + air
-  Aug 31 - Sept 12  
Passage of Peter the Great (Russia)  
From \$2945 + air
-  Sept 2 - 11  
Alumni College in the French Riviera (France)  
\$2995 + air
-  Sept 9 - 25  
Cruise the Face of Europe (Holland to Hungary)  
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-  Sept 16 - 24  
Island Life in Ancient Greece & Turkey  
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-  Sept 22 - 30  
Dublin in an Irish Castle (Ireland)  
From \$2495 + air
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China Splendour  
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-  Oct 14 - 25  
Alumni College in Italy (Sorrento & Orvieto)  
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\$9899 including air

## Great Adventure

-  Feb 16 - 29  
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## Great Cities

-  March 1 - 9  
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\$2599 including air
-  April 18 - 26  
Paris (France)  
\$2599 including air

## Great Cause

-  Oct 3 - 15  
Building an Alumni School in Kenya  
\$4775 + air



# Celebrating 100 years of studies in education at the University of Toronto 1907-2007

## The 100th Anniversary

During 2007 the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education of the University of Toronto (OISE) hosts the 100th anniversary of studies in education at the University. We are celebrating OISE and its antecedents: Faculty of Education, University of Toronto (FOE); University of Toronto Schools (UTS); Ontario College of Education (OCE); The Institute of Child Study (ICS); College of Education, University of Toronto (CEUT); Faculty of Education, University of Toronto (FEUT); Ontario Institute for Studies in Education (OISE); and Ontario Institute for Studies in Education of the University of Toronto (OISE/UT).



OCE alumnus, Major (Ret'd) Roy Oglesby

### A Century of Inspiring Alumni

OISE celebrates alumni - accomplished leaders who have contributed to the world of education, literature, politics, the arts and communities around the world. The Inspiring Alumni exhibit, located in the main floor library at OISE, features portraits and stories of some of our outstanding alumni, celebrating their excellence. OISE invites you to share your stories of exceptional alumni. Email [100years@oise.utoronto.ca](mailto:100years@oise.utoronto.ca)

### The Centennial Legacy Scholarships

To mark the 100th anniversary celebrations, OISE created the Centennial Legacy Scholarships for both teacher education and graduate students. With our support, a new generation of students will have the opportunity to continue the tradition of excellence in education for the next 100 years and beyond. For more information on how you can make a donation visit [www.100years.oise.utoronto.ca](http://www.100years.oise.utoronto.ca).



OISE alumna Michelle Jenkins



Professor Rosemary Tannock

### The Centennial Lecture Series

Wednesday, November 7, 2007 at 6 pm  
2007 R. W. B. Jackson Lecture  
SPECIAL EDUCATION: PAST, PRESENT, AND FUTURE VIEWS  
Speaker, Professor Rosemary Tannock  
Canada Research Chair, Special Education and Adaptive Technology,  
OISE and Hospital for Sick Children

### The Centennial Celebration Birthday Party

On Friday, November 16, 2007 OISE will host an anniversary party as a wrap-up to the full year of centennial celebrations. RSVP now at [www.100years.oise.utoronto.ca](http://www.100years.oise.utoronto.ca)



Photo: Mary MacDonell

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## Oceans on Mars

*U of T researchers reignite interest in a theory that fell out of favour in the 1980s*

**M**ore than 30 years after Viking spacecraft images originally suggested the red planet might once have been blue, U of T physics professor Jerry Mitrovica and a team of U.S. researchers from Berkeley and Harvard have found evidence that Mars long ago supported two huge oceans. “What the rovers are seeing today, with isolated evidence of water here and there, is just the tip of it,” says Mitrovica.

The group’s findings were recently published in the journal *Nature* and have reignited interest in a theory that had fallen out of favour in the 1980s. Although the Viking images revealed

long, linear landforms stretching across the Martian landscape, few accepted the idea that they were the remains of ancient shorelines. This was because the landforms varied in height, ranging between one and three kilometres instead of being mostly flat, as one might expect shorelines to be.

That wasn’t a sticking point for Mitrovica and his colleagues, though. They proposed that the height variation was the result of a gradual shift in the planet’s north-south axis within the past two to three billion years. This shifting axis deformed the land, causing it to buckle. “[The axis] changed on Earth, so

there’s no reason to think it couldn’t have changed on Mars,” says Mitrovica.

Armed with that theory, the researchers studied how the poles could have moved to create the shoreline deformation visible today. They discovered that the poles could have moved along only one path because of the location of Tharsis, a volcano so massive that it could not be budged from its position on the planet’s equator – even by as great a force as a shifting planetary axis. That one path matches the pattern of height variation in the shorelines today. “This all just hangs together so elegantly that there’s simply no way around it,” says Mitro-



## A Bad Wrap?

**A** study led by two University of Toronto chemists has shown that potentially harmful chemicals commonly applied to food wrappers can make their way into the bloodstream.

Earlier research has found that perfluorinated chemicals can migrate from wrappers into food. The new study, by environmental chemists Scott Mabury and Jessica D’eon, establishes that the wrappers are a potential source of these chemicals in human blood.

Professor Mabury, chair of the department of chemistry, and D’eon, a doctoral student, fed the chemicals to rats, whose blood was monitored daily. The chemicals appeared in the rodents’ blood-

stream within four hours, which suggests a similar process could occur in humans.

Researchers have not yet determined the impact of the chemicals on human health, but Mabury says the findings suggest more research is warranted. “I think our results do indicate that a broader look is necessary,” he says, “especially when it comes to the potential for toxicity.”

“I think [regulators] have made three assumptions,” says Mabury. “That the chemicals wouldn’t move off paper into food, they wouldn’t become available to the body and the body wouldn’t process them. They were wrong on all three counts.” – Sarah Treleaven





vica. “It fits what we know about the dynamics of Mars, it fits what we know about the age of the shorelines and it fits what we know about Tharsis.”

He says his team’s findings have provocative implications for future Mars exploration missions. “Water isn’t stable in the current Martian atmosphere, so most conclude that the water just went downward into the subsurface and later froze. So, we still have oceans there, they just aren’t visible to the eye.”

– Bruce Gillespie

## Million Dollar Baby

*A quest for better movie recommendations*

“Well, I’m not really interested in the money,” says Geoffrey Hinton, a U of T computer science professor, standing at a scribbled-upon whiteboard in his office. “But they are,” he adds, jabbing a friendly thumb toward two of his graduate students, Andriy Mnih and Ruslan Salakhutdinov, who both grin sheepishly.

For Mnih and Salakhutdinov, the prospect of advancing the frontiers of machine learning (a branch of artificial intelligence) would be great. But a \$1-million prize? Now we’re talking.

The students are working with Hinton to win a \$1-million competition sponsored by Netflix, an online DVD-rental service based in California. Teams worldwide are trying to devise a set of algorithms that improve the company’s movie-recommenda-

tion software by 10 per cent. “Collaborative filtering is what it’s called, and it has many applications besides movies,” says Hinton.

At the moment, a Netflix user can rank movies out of five stars on the company’s website. The system can estimate (usually within one star) what ranking a user will give a new movie – based on the user’s past rankings, and the rankings of those with similar tastes. If, for example, he or she has given five stars to classic science-fiction movies and low marks to musicals, Netflix will recommend, say, *Forbidden Planet* instead of *My Fair Lady*.

That may seem obvious to a human being, but for a computer, prediction – the ability to examine a large tangle of data, find meaningful patterns and extrapolate what might come next – is a huge and complex

problem. Even small steps toward solving it could yield huge improvements in fields such as data compression, speech recognition and image correction.

More than 20,000 teams have entered the competition. The U of T team started in first place, but has since slipped to third, having achieved a 7.07 per-cent improvement in ranking accuracy. At press time, a mysterious competitor called “BellKor” leads with 7.8 per cent. But Mnih says the U of T group can still catch up. (Teams can refine their algorithms and resubmit results as often as they like.) The competition, which began last October, will run until October 2011 or until the 10 per-cent mark is reached. “It gets more difficult the closer you get to 10 per cent,” says Mnih. “That last two per cent is going to take a while.” – Graham F. Scott

ILLUSTRATIONS: JEREMY BRUNEL/WWW.STOCKOCC

## How to Feel Rich Quick

Those who say “less is more” haven’t been following the work of Professor Dilip Soman.

Soman, who teaches marketing at the Joseph L. Rotman School of Management, has found travellers spend more when they have currencies with high face value. When Canadians, for example, exchange \$100 for a thick wad of 11,500 Japanese yen, they also adjust their price expectations, says Soman. Suddenly, 460 yen (or \$4 at the current exchange rate) seems like a perfectly acceptable price for a newspaper or a pack of gum.

“People believe they are wealthier, therefore they end up spending more,” he says. But when consumers don’t have yen in their pocket and buy with a credit card, they tend to balk at high sticker prices and buy less.

For Soman, these findings are part of his overarching research into how consumers determine value. With currency, he says, it seems to boil down to “if I can count more, I must have more.” The psychological implications could help marketers and retailers refine selling techniques by tapping into the seemingly ingrained human belief that sometimes, more really is more.

– *Graham F. Scott*



Professor Dilip Soman

## What You Eat Says about You

AS if your hairstyle, clothes and car weren’t enough, you are also being judged by how and what you eat, according to a paper in the scientific journal *Appetite*.

The paper, co-written by former U of T grad student Lenny Vartanian and University of Toronto professors Peter Herman and Janet Polivy, is a review of studies that focus on consumption stereotypes.

In one study, conducted several years ago, Vartanian, Herman and Polivy screened a video of a young woman eating a lot of food and very little food. They then asked participants to ascribe attributes to the woman. The woman, when seen eating a lot, was described as heavier than when she was seen eating very little.

Other studies also demonstrated that we

load food choices with moral connotations. For example, those who eat “good” (i.e., non-fattening) foods are perceived as more tolerant, monogamous, trustworthy and – regardless of gender – more feminine than those who eat “bad” foods. “It shows how judgmental and food-obsessed we are,” says Polivy, a professor of psychology and psychiatry at U of T Mississauga. “If [a woman] eats a hamburger, she’s a lesser person than if she eats a salad.”

Polivy says both men and women utilize these stereotypes in certain situations, such as consuming less in the presence of the opposite sex. “If you’re out on a date with a guy,” she says, “you ask yourself whether you should order spaghetti or salad. When women want to convey thin, fashionable and healthy, they order accordingly.” – *Sarah Treleaven*



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# HELP THE TOWER STAND TALL

## LIKE THE SOLDIERS WE REMEMBER

### Extensive renovations continue on U of T's Soldiers' Tower

The University of Toronto is home to one of Canada's largest war memorials. Built in 1924, the Soldiers' Tower commemorates the lives of students, faculty and staff who made the ultimate sacrifice defending our freedom in the two World Wars.

The years have taken their toll on the memorial, however, as a recent architectural survey revealed. Though renovations have begun, more are required if we're going to preserve our tower — and our memories — for generations to come. Please give what you can to restore the Soldiers' Tower.

*Lest we forget*



**Soldiers' Tower  
Remembrance Day Service  
November 9, 2007  
10:30 a.m.**



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# A Gallery Perspective

The Doris McCarthy Gallery at the University of Toronto Scarborough is a cornerstone venue promoting visual arts from contemporary and historical perspectives. Recently, the gallery hosted *Return, Afghanistan - Photographs* by Zalmay, circulated by the Aperture Foundation.

Manulife Financial is an official Affinity Partner and the Pillar Sponsor of Great Communities at the University of Toronto, proudly supporting a wide range of activities including visual and performing arts.

Other sponsored events in 2007:

Black Alumni Association Gala  
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RECENT DEVELOPMENTS ON CAMPUS

## Green Radio

When U of T doctoral student Jordan Poppenk searched for an environmental radio show after arriving in Toronto, he found the dial empty. Having worked on an environmental program while an undergrad at the University of Western Ontario, Poppenk decided to launch his own. U of T campus radio station CIUT was impressed with his ambitious pitch, and his news-magazine, *The Green Majority*, debuted on September 29, 2006.

The program – which airs Fridays at 10 a.m. – has since attracted such high-profile guests as Green Party leader Elizabeth May, NDP leader Jack Layton and industrial-landscape photographer Edward Bur-

*Continued on page 16*





## Young Pioneers

Eight U of T alumni appear on Caldwell's 'Top 40 under 40' list

Four University of Toronto faculty members and four alumni were named to Canada's "Top 40 under 40" in May. The list, compiled each year by the Caldwell Partners, honours high achievers under the age of 40. Professors **Tom Chau**, **Brendan Frey**, **Vivek Rao** and **Aaron Schimmer** joined the 2007 list.

Chau (BASc 1992, MASc 1994) is a biomedical engineering researcher who holds the Canada Research Chair in pediatric rehabilitation, and develops devices that assist children with disabilities. His groundbreaking research has resulted in therapeutic technologies such as sophisticated prostheses that assist children's mobility, and sensitive touch screens that allow kids to communicate even if they can't speak.

Frey (PhD 1997) is a pioneer in the computer science of "affinity propagation," in which novel algorithms allow computer programs to analyze data more rapidly than ever. Using methods that mimic the human brain, Frey's technology stands to speed up research in areas such as genetics, economics, traffic planning and drug testing.



Tom Chau

At 33, Rao (MD 1992, PhD 1998) became the youngest surgeon appointed to Toronto General Hospital's division of cardiac surgery, for his expertise in artificial hearts. An associate professor of cardiovascular surgery, Rao performs up to 250 heart surgeries a year and is a leading heart-transplant practitioner.

Schimmer's (MD 1993, PhD 2001) cancer research at Princess Margaret Hospital in Toronto is paving the way for improved treatment of acute leukemia. Schimmer leads a team of researchers to find drugs that could exploit weaknesses in cancer cells without harming healthy cells, thus reducing the side-effects of cancer treatment.

Four other U of T alumni made the "Top 40 under 40" list. **Neil Branda** (BSc 1989 Trinity), a chemistry professor at Simon Fraser University, researches the relationship between a molecule's structure and function. Four-time Olympic gold medallist **Johann Koss** (MBA 2004) leads Right to Play International, a humanitarian organization that advocates sport for children. **Kirstine**

**Layfield** (BA 1988 UC) is executive director of network programming for CBC Television. **Mark Wiseman** (MBA 1996, LLB 1996) is senior vice-president, private investments, for the Canada Pension Plan Investment Board. He and his team manage \$10.8 billion in assets. — *G.F.S.*

### Continued from page 15

tynsky. Along with features, interviews and a roundup of environmental news, the show follows stories largely ignored by mainstream media. One example is the proposed landfill near Tiny Township, Ontario, which would sit on top of one of the world's cleanest aquifers (comparable in purity to 4,000-year-old Arctic ice samples).

Poppenk not only wants to inform his audience, but connect listeners with one another. "One of the program's goals is to provide some kind of unity between different environmental groups," he says. "There is a lack of cohesion among them. They're doing great work but if they put their efforts together, they'd do much better."

Poppenk, a second-year PhD student in psychology, doesn't aspire to a full-time environmental position; he'd prefer to emulate linguist and

political activist Noam Chomsky, who works as a full-time researcher and part-time pundit. "I think the healthiest way to make environmental change happen is participating in it with other things on the go," Poppenk says, which fits with the show's mission to be informative without being preachy.

Although *The Green Majority* has featured a wide variety of guests, University of Toronto researchers show up in the visitor's chair with remarkable frequency. Poppenk says it's a result of the university's leadership in environmental research. "It's not that we're specifically looking for U of T professors," he says. "It's just that when we're working on a particular issue, we look at the prominent names that come up and they happen to be from U of T — which certainly makes it easier for us." — *Graham F. Scott*





Louise Cowin

## Appointments

**Louise Cowin**, formerly director of student services and the School-University Partnerships Office at OISE, began her five-year term as Hart House warden on July 1. She took over from Margaret Hancock, who concluded a decade as warden in June. Cowin competed in the 1978 and 1982 Commonwealth Games as a member of Great Britain’s national swim team.

The Varsity Blues men’s volleyball team has recruited an Olympian talent: **Ed Drakich** (BSc 1985), a member of the Canadian beach volleyball team at the 1996 Summer Games, has been named the team’s first full-time head coach. He will also work as an instructor in the Faculty of Physical Education and Health. Drakich was a member of Canada’s indoor volleyball team from 1985 to 1989, and competed in the 1987 Pan-American Games.

Professor **R. Paul Young** will begin his role as vice-president, research, on Nov. 1. He is currently



R. Paul Young

the chair of U of T’s department of civil engineering and holds the Keck Chair of Seismology and Rock Mechanics.

Professor **Joseph Desloges**, chair of the department of geography, will take up the post of principal of Woodsworth College on July 1, 2008. Desloges is a physical geographer whose research centres on understanding Earth surface processes.

Professor **Cheryl Misak** began a one-year term as deputy provost on July 1. Misak was formerly acting vice-president and principal at U of T Mississauga.

Professor Emeritus **Jonathan Freedman** began his role as vice-provost (student life) on July 1. He will serve for one year, or until an assistant vice-president of student life is appointed. Freedman was formerly acting vice-president and principal at U of T Scarborough.

**Joan Foley**, a professor emeritus of psychology, is U of T’s new ombudsperson. Foley began her part-time position on July 1, and will serve a three-year term. – *G.F.S.*

## New Places

The government of France and U of T have jointly announced the founding of Centre d’études de la France et du monde francophone – the Centre for the Study of France and the Francophone World. The centre, a collaboration between University of Toronto’s French and history departments, is the first one France has designated a “centre d’excellence” in Canada.

Construction will begin soon on the St. George Campus Examination Centre. The facility will be located on McCaul Street in a renovated warehouse, and will accommodate up to 1,000 test-takers. Set to open in January, it will solve space and scheduling problems caused by increased enrolment, campus redevelopment and changes in course delivery.

U of T’s Aboriginal Studies program took up official residence last spring in its new Centre for Aboriginal Initiatives and Aboriginal Studies, a dedicated space for students, faculty and elders to meet and work together. The space is in the North Borden Building on Spadina Crescent; it is one floor below First Nations House, which offers aboriginal-focused resources and student services.

Hart House Farm in Caledon Hills has a new log cabin, replacing the farmhouse used as the caretakers’ residence. Hart House worked with Caledon Log Homes to modify a traditional log-cabin design to include an office, improved sightlines for better property views and accessibility improvements for visitors with disabilities. – *G.F.S.*

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*Julie Saunders*

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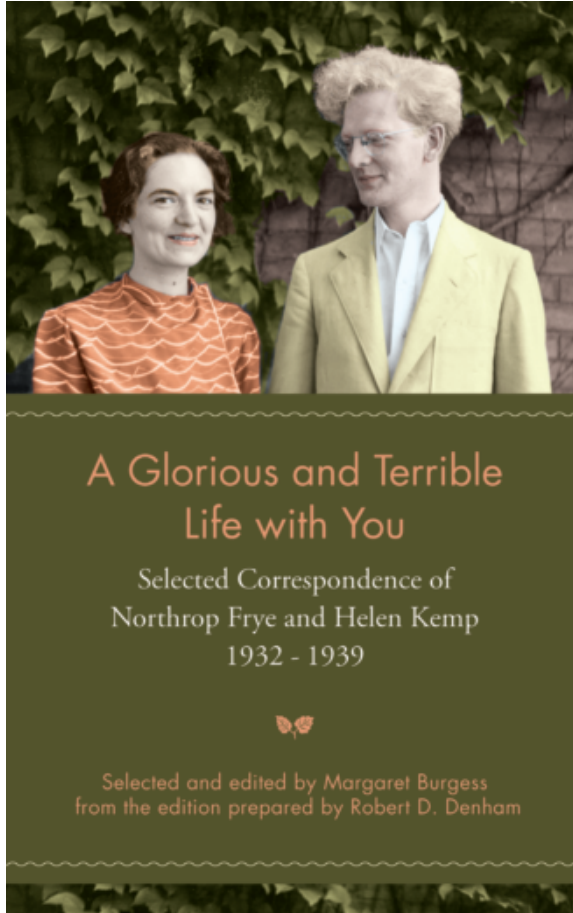


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## The Northrop Frye You Never Knew

While working on a Gilbert and Sullivan production at Hart House Theatre in the early 1930s, a shy, brilliant undergrad named Northrop Frye (BA 1933 VIC) became enamoured of fellow Victoria College student Helen Kemp (BA 1933 VIC). The two would marry in August 1937. Frye, who went on to become one of the most influential literary critics of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, published such books as *Fearful Symmetry* and *Anatomy of Criticism* and worked for 52 years as a professor at U of T. But the reserved, erudite writer was not known for expounding on his personal life. This side is explored in *A Glorious and Terrible Life with You: Selected Correspondence of Northrop Frye and Helen Kemp 1932-1939* (University of Toronto Press), edited by Margaret Burgess. The collected letters are an abridged version of Robert D. Denham's two-volume



edition published in 1996 and cover the pair's last two years at Victoria College, their marriage and Frye's time at the University of Oxford.

The young, itinerant couple rarely occupied the same city, and Frye revealed his insecurities in a letter from May 1935. He pined for Kemp while she was on vacation in Europe: "Do you love Helen as she deserves? Can you do so, you snuffy snivelling pot-bellied hay-haired old friar? And thus I stand more or less paralysed, wanting badly to commit myself to something, communism, Catholicism, pedantry in any line, and realizing that I can't; that the only thing I can commit myself to is my religion and my wife, one being in the clouds and the other in Europe. So I rush around squealing, like a pig in a fire, or sit around with large ideas and not doing anything about them, like a eunuch with an erection." – *Stacey Gibson*

## Accolades

Professor **Miriam Diamond** (BSc 1976 Innis, PhD 1990) of the department of geography was named Environmental Scientist of the Year by *Canadian Geographic* magazine in June. Diamond's Environmental Chemistry Research Group at U of T brings together graduate students of geography and chemical engineering to investigate environmental contaminants in air, water and soil. With Diamond's research focus on urban areas, the lab's findings are important to understanding how humans can protect themselves and their environment from toxins.

Professor **Thomas Homer-Dixon's** book *The Upside of Down: Catastrophe, Creativity, and the Renewal of Civilization* won the

\$20,000 National Business Book Award in May. Homer-Dixon's book diagnoses the social, environmental and economic stresses that are threatening societies, and suggests action that can limit our risk of collapse and help rejuvenate global civilization. Homer-Dixon is director of U of T's Trudeau Centre for Peace and Conflict Studies and a Governor General's Literary Award winner for non-fiction.

The Pierre Elliott Trudeau Foundation has awarded two U of T doctoral students \$150,000 each to support their research. **Myles Leslie**, a PhD student in criminology, is studying how coroners and investigators determine which deaths require investigation, public inquest or remedial legislation,



and the risks surrounding those decisions.

**Kate Parizeau**, a PhD student in geography, is investigating the environmental and health risks facing waste-collection workers in Buenos Aires during such tasks as curbside waste-gathering and recycling. Fifteen Trudeau Scholar prizes were awarded this year; they are Canada's largest doctoral scholarships in the social sciences and humanities. – *GFS*.



# WITNESS TO WAR

While visiting Somalia in 1995, doctor and U ofT professor Samantha Nutt experienced the hardship and rawness of bloodshed. Now, the founder of War Child Canada says she's "driven every day" to help children harmed by conflict

BY STACEY GIBSON

**IN THE EARLY 1990S, WESTERN JOURNALISTS DUBBED BAIDOA, SOMALIA,** the "City of Death." The city, like the rest of Somalia, had been ravaged by ongoing civil war, exhausted by drought and crippled by a famine that killed hundreds of thousands.

It was just outside Baidoa in 1995 that Dr. Samantha Nutt made her first descent into a war zone. Touching down in a six-seat plane, she and other UNICEF volunteers landed on a desert airstrip teeming with men armed with machine guns, AK-47s and rocket-propelled grenades. The aid workers exited the plane in flak jackets and helmets, and were driven into the city in a Land Cruiser protected by four teenagers with guns. The cruiser also carried munitions; on one sharp turn, grenades rolled out from under the back seat, then back and forth under Nutt's feet. "That was my first experience in a war zone. I went from zero to 100 in five seconds flat," says Nutt, who was 25 at the time.

As a member of UNICEF's maternal and children's health team, Nutt – who now holds post-graduate degrees in both community medicine and family medicine from U ofT – visited clinics throughout Somalia. The landscape was riddled with signs of despair: crumbling buildings were punctured with bullet holes; women stood in line at feeding clinics cradling children, many near death and some of whom had died during the wait; and guns were ubiquitous, slung from the shoulders of both national soldiers and civilians. "War is always an unfathomable hardship to bear witness to," says Nutt, now 37 and an assistant professor in U ofT's department of family and community medicine. "And it's everything about it: it's the stories that you hear compounded with



PHOTOGRAPHY: LIAM SHARP





## “Anyone who has experienced **war** and the **rawness** of it, and the absolute horror of it, can’t ever go back to being the same person”

the devastation that you’re witnessing and the hardships. Anyone who has experienced war and the *rawness* of it, and the absolute horror of it, can’t ever go back to being the same person. You’re driven every day to do something about what you’ve seen.”

What Nutt was driven to do was start War Child Canada. The non-profit organization, which she founded in 1999 and now runs with her husband, Dr. Eric Hoskins, offers long-term humanitarian support to children and families in a dozen war-ravaged countries including the Congo, northern Uganda, Iraq, Sri Lanka and Darfur. The programs foster independence, and emotional and financial security, in adolescents and their families.

One of War Child Canada’s programs is the Ethiopian Development Project, for which Nutt is travelling to Ethiopia in October. The beleaguered country has about three million people living with HIV-AIDS and the world’s third-highest rate of infection. The crisis filters down to the youngest generation: about 1.5 million children have lost their parents to AIDS. Typically, the eldest child of the orphaned family is

raise funds and awareness and can be stadium-sized events; a 2000 concert in Winnipeg featuring The Tragically Hip and rapper Maestro drew 80,000, the largest audience the city has ever seen. Small-scale Keep the Beat music marathons typically feature local groups at bars and concert halls. In 2003, War Child Canada released the *Peace Songs* CD, which features artists such as Avril Lavigne, David Bowie, the Barenaked Ladies and Elvis Costello. Rock stars, perennial lodestones to the young, have an unrivalled ability to make youth stop and listen – and when their message is legitimate, to foster action. “Music is the root of activism,” says Nutt. “It inspires and agitates. It speaks to people, it motivates people. And it’s a creative vehicle that reaches a broad audience.”

One of War Child Canada’s most successful projects is *Musicians in the War Zone*, a documentary that first aired on MuchMusic in 2001 and featured Canadian musicians exploring human-rights issues in Iraq and Sierra Leone, and at the Thai-Burmese border. Denise Donlon – a former president of Sony Music Canada – first met Nutt and Hoskins in

**Left:**  
Dr. Samantha  
Nutt and other  
doctors receive  
medical supplies  
in Iraq

**Right:** Nutt and  
Dr. Eric Hoskins  
with children  
in Iraq



PHOTOGRAPHY: LEFT AND CENTRE/WAR CHILD CANADA; TOP RIGHT: SABRINA USHER

thrust into the role of financial provider, taking on responsibility for supporting several younger siblings. To buy food, he or she is often forced to beg on the street or engage in prostitution – putting the adolescent at risk of contracting HIV. Nutt and her organization, along with a local partner, work with 300 AIDS orphans from 53 families. They provide all of the children’s basic needs, and offer schooling and counselling while ensuring that the eldest child also receives job training. Once the eldest child has secured employment, they put the next-eldest through job training in an effort to break the cycle of poverty and disease.

Singer/songwriter Chantal Kreviazuk is giving the Ethiopian project a boost by filing field reports with *Entertainment Tonight Canada*. Partnerships with musicians are a common anthem in War Child Canada projects. Concerts

1998, when she was MuchMusic’s vice-president and general manager. The couple came in to discuss Sierra Leone’s civil war and its impact on children. (While the war ended in 2002, conflicts fuelled by the illegal trade of blood diamonds still cause much turmoil in the country.) Nutt and Hoskins proposed working on a project to galvanize support for the country’s children. “I think Sam had this magical, hypnotic power over me,” says Donlon. “Before I knew it, I was in Sierra Leone wondering, ‘What in heaven’s name am I doing here? I should be editing a Madonna special.’”

Donlon, who was a field producer of *Musicians in the War Zone*, recalls a day in Sierra Leone when the group, which included hip-hop band Rascalz, visited a camp for amputees. (Revolutionary United Front rebels often severed their victims’ limbs, and the camp was filled with close to a thousand



casualties.) She remembers seeing Nutt with a mother – an amputee and rape victim – holding her baby on her lap. The baby had a distended belly, and Nutt quickly discerned that he had a parasite and sought the requisite antibiotic. “Sam went immediately into medical mode,” says Donlon. “It’s one thing to be a humanitarian and another to have that ability to shift gears and immediately be hands-on with the baby, comforting the mother, trying to assess the baby’s condition.... It gave me a perspective on her that I hadn’t seen before. I knew that she was an activist, I knew that she was just full of vigour and passion and commitment and experience, and yet, she was able to wander through both those worlds and back into being a practising medical doctor. You know, it was amazing.”

Nutt also effectively shatters the hackneyed image of the war-zone doctor as a strapping, Hemingwayesque type. Donlon says, “Here she is having spent time in some of the most dangerous places on the planet, like the Sudan, and she’s 5 foot 4, has blonde hair and I constantly have to introduce her to people as *Doctor Samantha Nutt* because most people think she’s my children’s babysitter. She looks like she’s 16 and has the experience of someone who may be 600.”

**B**orn in Toronto, Nutt lived near the town of Durban, South Africa, from the ages one through six, before she and her family returned to the city. Her father was a children’s shoe designer, and his work took the family to Brazil for six months when Nutt was in her early teens. Her experiences in different countries fostered an independent streak. “I grew up with a strong sense of different people and different cultures, and possibly a little sense of adventure,” she says. “Not afraid to travel, not afraid to move. Not afraid to get by in a foreign environment.”

After finishing high school, Nutt studied drama in England, although she says, “I can’t sing and I can’t dance.” She adds: “I know it sounds like it’s a real departure to go from studying drama to attending medical school, but here’s my reasoning for why it’s not: I think that drama teaches you the ultimate expression of empathy. It’s the complete absorption of another person’s life experience, to the point where you’re trying to emulate that person. And medicine to me is about empathy. If you’re not interested in understanding someone else’s experience, and how that manifests itself in terms of illness and in the interpretation of illness, then I think you’re going to be severely limited in terms of your ability to practise, and to be a compassionate human being. And, you know, every actor likes a soapbox, and I found mine.”

Nutt returned to Canada to pursue an undergraduate degree in the Special Arts and Science Program, with an emphasis on international studies, at McMaster University in Hamilton. She also earned a degree in medicine there. Dur-

**Dr. Samantha Nutt with a young friend at a refugee camp on the Myanmar-Thai border**



ing those years – with the fall of the Berlin Wall and the end of the Cold War – Nutt became intensely engaged in social and political issues. The 1991 Gulf War profoundly affected her, and she participated in peace marches on campus.

In her final year of medical school, Nutt applied for a Rhodes Scholarship in the hope of pursuing a doctorate in international human-rights issues. Throughout the application process, people kept marvelling over how much she had in common with Dr. Eric Hoskins. A physician, humanitarian and former Rhodes Scholar, Hoskins had worked in war zones in Sudan and Iraq. “At one point someone said to me, ‘You have to meet Dr. Eric Hoskins because you are the female version of him.’ And I was *so* annoyed,” says Nutt. “I’ve always been kind of feisty, so I was like, What do you mean? I have all these ideas, all these things I want to do, and some guy I’ve never met apparently has already done them.”

But Nutt was curious about Hoskins, so she attended a slide show he was giving on his work in Iraq. Hoskins had been the co-ordinator of the International Study Team, and helped produce the first comprehensive assessment of the impact of the 1991 Gulf War and sanctions on Iraqi children. “He walked into the room, and I looked over and I was like, Oh, *there* he is,” she says, with mock gruffness. “And then I thought, Oh, he’s really cute.”

“I approached him afterwards, and we just had an instant connection. It was like some cheesy Nora Ephron movie. As soon as I met him, I just knew. That was it. And that was 14 years ago.” The couple now has a two-year-old son, Rhys.

While Nutt was a runner-up for a Rhodes Scholarship, the British Council did award her a prestigious Chevening Scholarship that enabled her to study at the London School of



**Dr. Samantha Nutt with musician David Usher at a refugee camp on the Myanmar-Thai border**

North Americans about global justice issues and help get them involved. While most organizations focus on either advocacy or program implementation, War Child Canada does both.

The philosophy appeals to Nike Adebawale (BA 2007 UTM), who entered U of T's master's program in international relations this year. As a summer youth outreach officer at War Child Canada, she led presentations and workshops for young people, educating them about the financial and human costs of war, and how they can make a difference. Adebawale, 23, lived in Nigeria until the age of 11. She remembers well her parents picking her up at school because riots, stemming from widespread poverty and political unrest, were

Hygiene and Tropical Medicine. There, she earned a master's in public health in developing countries – which led to the opportunity to work with UNICEF in Somalia. Nutt went on to earn two postgraduate degrees in community medicine and family medicine, with a sub-specialty in women's health, from the University of Toronto.

Nutt started War Child Canada because she wanted to work directly with local people and organizations in war-ravaged countries, empowering them to create long-term change in their communities. She also wanted to create a model that had a strong domestic component, which would educate

flaring up. "I always feel like, 'Oh my God, how can we not do anything?'" You realize how privileged you are once you see a different side of things."

In May 2004, Nutt set out to do a second documentary, this one with rock group Sum 41 in the Democratic Republic of Congo. The Congo's civil war was considered to be the worst in African history, resulting in more than three million deaths. Nutt wanted to educate young people about the impact of civil war on the Congo's citizens and North America's connection to it. The war had been financed almost

PHOTOGRAPHY: SABRINA USHER

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exclusively through the Congo's natural resources – particularly coltan, an element used in the manufacture of electronics devices such as computers, cellphones and video game consoles. Rebel groups and foreign armies still control many of the mines and are implicated in creating much of the country's instability.

A tenuous UN-brokered peace accord had been in place in the Democratic Republic of Congo for almost two years, leading the group to believe it was safe to visit. They stayed in Bukavu, near the Rwandan border. The trip started off as planned: the rock group talked to a coltan dealer – “the best-dressed man in the Congo,” according to one band member – who hired children to work in his mines. They visited a rehabilitation centre for war-affected youth, including former child soldiers, as well as a shelter for girls cast out of their homes by their families who deemed them witches, responsible for the hardships suffered during the war.

It was on the sixth night that, as bass guitarist Cone McCaslin says in the documentary, “All hell broke loose.” At the Orchid hotel, around midnight, the four bandmates were chatting outside when gunfire erupted. The shocked McCaslin looked over at drummer Steve Jocz, and the group, in near silence, made its way inside. Soon, the air became heavy with the crackle of gunfire, followed by the deep baritone of a rocket-propelled grenade detonating.

A skirmish had broken out at the Congolese-Rwandan border, about one kilometre from the hotel. Nutt, Hoskins, Sum 41 and the other hotel residents listened fearfully as the fighting, between Rwandan-backed rebels and the Congolese military, drew closer. Over the next day-and-a-half, 100,000 rounds of bullets were fired and rocket-propelled grenades were lobbed about 30 to 40 metres from the hotel.

When the gunfire erupted, all of the hotel residents – which included 15 foreigners and 35 Congolese – enclosed themselves in two rooms. Later, they hunkered down in the basement. “I wasn't concerned about bullets flying through windows. I wasn't even all that concerned about a mortar hitting our location, although that was a possibility,” says Nutt. “I was more concerned that Mai-Mai Congolese [child] soldiers or Rwandan rebel [child] soldiers were going to show up in the hotel armed to the teeth with their semi-automatic weapons and start killing people or raping people... That's what you worry about. Because you don't want to be stuck with a 12-year-old pointing a gun at you. You just don't.”

The gunfire flared up, then stopped – giving the group hope that the fighting had abated. Then it erupted again, at closer range. Then came the mortars: one landing so close that the building shook and the ceiling began to crumble. Chuck Pelletier, a United Nations peacekeeper who had made his way to the hotel, said, “We've all got to get out.” He contacted UN headquarters on his walkie-talkie and stated, “We need an evacuation. We need tanks to come.”

“We were all scared,” says Hoskins, “and you'd be lying if you said you weren't scared, but despite that I remember Sam

saying we were there with a rock band who had never been to Africa, nor had their management, nor had the film crew that we brought with us, and we were responsible for them.”

Nutt used her conflict-zone experience to help prepare the group for the escape to the tanks. She primed them to run in a zigzag, for example, because it's harder to hit a target that's moving erratically rather than in a predictable straight line. “She's gathered a lot of street smarts along the way,” says Hoskins. “And surviving in a war zone is more about street smarts than it is about anything else.” As the hotel residents evacuated the building and ran toward the tanks, two mortar rounds exploded.

In the documentary, lead singer Deryck Whibley admits that when the first mortar hit near the hotel and Pelletier called for evacuation, he thought: “Now it's over. *This* is how we're going to die.”

In fact, Whibley and the other Orchid hotel residents reached the armoured personnel carriers safely. They were driven to Manuak, a UN compound, five minutes away. The next day, the group, including Nutt and Hoskins, took a chartered plane to neighbouring Uganda. They paid for their commercial airline tickets, showed their Canadian passports and boarded their flight. They landed in Toronto, and went home to their families.

In Bukavu, thousands of Congolese fled their homes due to the fighting. Homes were looted. Families were separated. And 350 civilians *did* die.

“There are times when you can feel, in those situations, extremely afraid because of what's happening,” says Nutt. “But at the end of the day, I always think it's really indulgent for me as a Canadian with a Canadian passport to say, ‘Oh my God, I was almost killed and that was really horrible,’ because I still have the luxury – and it is a luxury – of getting on a plane and coming home, and having a period that's determined by me of normalcy. And that's the guilt I feel very much.”

What keeps Nutt using her Canadian passport to enter war zones is, perhaps, the very fact that she has one. She fights to make people understand that what happens here, affects what happens there – in Somalia, Sierra Leone and the Congo. Those vague, indistinct regions *over there* may be out of our sightlines, yet they're acutely visible in our video game consoles and cellphones. “Whether you're looking at conflict diamonds, whether you're looking at oil, whether you're looking at coltan, whether it's our policies or our arms exports, *we are implicated in war*,” says Nutt. “In addition to that, we have, I think, as human beings an ethical and moral responsibility to protect the vulnerable, and to protect civilians, in warfare. And so for me, it's really about creating a climate that will support involvement in global issues.”

“Because Lord knows, I don't want to hear another person say to me, ‘War has nothing to do with me.’” ■

*Stacey Gibson is the managing editor of U of T Magazine.*





Prince Peprah (right) graduated from Scarborough's David and Mary Thomson Collegiate in June. Omar Peters just entered Grade 12. Both young men want to become actors.

# THE SCHOOLS WE WANT

U ofT's Centre for Urban Schooling aims to help inner-city youths succeed BY SCOTT ANDERSON

**BY HIS OWN ADMISSION, 20-YEAR-OLD PRINCE PEPAH WAS NOT A** model high school student. He cut classes, got into trouble and once received a month-long suspension for fighting. "I was on the verge of dropping out. I didn't really know what I wanted to do," he says. Then, in Grade 11, Peprah signed up for a media class. With a group of fellow students, he wrote a script and shot a five-minute movie using one of the school's video cameras.

The experience was a revelation for him and sparked an interest in acting. "I just started liking what I was doing," he says. "I realized that to pursue this I've got to go through school." In June, Peprah graduated from David and Mary Thomson Collegiate in Scarborough.

I met Peprah, a compact youth with square shoulders and a broad smile, on a muggy July day in Toronto's Distillery District, steps from the Young Centre for the Performing Arts where he and his former schoolmate Omar Peters, a lanky 17-year-old with a kid-like grin, and several other youth were taking a drama workshop sponsored by Soulpepper Theatre Company.

Neither Peprah nor Peters had much previous experience on stage, but earlier this year they performed in *The Housing Project*, a play they helped write as part of the Toronto District School Board's theatre-in-education co-op program. Now, both youth want to become actors. "I'm really good at it," says Peters, confidently. "And I enjoy it."

Each year, the theatre-in-education program draws about a dozen students from across Toronto – some having difficulty in school, others not – to work together for a full term to write and rehearse a play that they tour to elementary schools in the spring. In June, the students performed at the Lorraine Kimsa Theatre for Young People and brought down the house.

Billed as a remix of *The Three Little Pigs*, the play comprises three linked stories about students' home lives. In *House of Sticks*, Peters' character lives with his grandmother and younger brother. Other students tease him for wearing the same clothes every day, and a shady duo tempt him to sell marijuana to earn some cash (which Peters declines). When he brings home an assignment to create a family tree, his grandmother, who speaks with a thick Jamaican accent, snorts, "Why do those *nosy* teachers want to know all about your family?" The audience

PHOTOGRAPHY: CHRISTOPHER WAHL

erupts into knowing laughter, but after the performance a former teacher comments that the scene illustrates how an apparently benign exercise can be perceived differently if your family doesn't include a mother or father.

When I ask Peters how closely the scene mirrors his own life, he replies that only the family's circumstances match his; he has never been enticed into selling marijuana. Peprah, whose family left Ghana and came to Canada 12 years ago, adds, "The scene was more about peer pressure. In my past, I've done a lot of things that I personally did not want to do. I only did them because my friends were doing them, and you don't want to look bad in their eyes."

As we stroll out of Balzac's Café and along the Distillery District's picture-postcard cobblestoned streets to the rehearsal room at the Young Centre, Peters tells me he wants to become an actor to show his grandmother that he doesn't need to become a doctor or a dentist to be successful. "I want to be different and do something out in the world," he says.

## JEFF KUGLER HAS NEVER MET OMAR PETERS

or Prince Peprah, but their stories are familiar to him. For almost 20 years, Kugler worked as a teacher, vice-principal and principal in Toronto's Regent Park neighbourhood. Most of the children came from families that had recently

immigrated to Canada. Some, like Peprah, spoke little or no English when they arrived. Teaching a class where the majority of kids are learning English is a huge challenge for teachers – but a new reality in many Toronto schools. Kugler says he – and the whole system – has had to adapt. "We can't continue to teach as if nothing has changed."

In 2005, Kugler left Nelson Mandela Park Public School to join the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education of the University of Toronto (OISE) as the executive director of the new Centre for Urban Schooling. It's the first academic centre in Canada dedicated to addressing the unique challenges facing inner-city schools. (The centre is forging links with schools in Toronto's low-income neighbourhoods, as defined in a 2004 United Way report that examined poverty by postal code.)

The job change has removed Kugler from the day-to-day demands of running a school and meeting parents and



Jeff Kugler

## A UNITED OISE

Faculty looks to the future as it celebrates 100 years of education at U of T

**T**he Faculty of Education at the University of Toronto was established in 1906 and accepted its first students the following year. After that, things got complicated.

For most of the past century, the teaching, research and graduate school functions occurred in separate institutions, under a variety of names. Only in 1996, when the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education (OISE) merged with the Faculty of Education at U of T, did the three functions finally come together in one place.

This has helped make each of the parts stronger, says Jane Gaskell, the dean of OISE. "Research enriches teacher education and the graduate program, and the graduate program enriches teacher education and research. That's the overarching purpose of saying hurray, 100 years, this is OISE now."

With 3,000 students, 6,000 teachers taking courses to upgrade their qualifications and 145 professors, OISE is the largest faculty of education in Canada and a huge international source of published research. Faculty members are studying everything from poetic literacy in adolescents, to the achievements of students who have immigrated to Canada from war zones.

Perhaps inspired by Toronto's multicultural fabric,

OISE researchers have also done groundbreaking work in second-language education and integrating students' native languages to enhance the classroom experience for all. "I think Toronto has more students born outside the country than any other city in the world," says Gaskell. "It's a very rich environment for thinking about language and education."

OISE pioneered the study of computers in the classroom to determine whether technology invites students to think in new ways. "The question is: How can we use computers to enrich what goes on in schools, to engage in collaborative learning?" says Gaskell.

The faculty has planned several events to mark the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of studies in education at U of T. The Centennial Celebration Party will be held on Friday, Nov. 16, at OISE's building at Bloor and St. George; faculty, staff, alumni and students are invited. Professor Rosemary Tannock, the Canada Research Chair for special education and adaptive technology, will speak in November as part of the Centennial Lecture Series. As well, the faculty has published a book, *Inspiring Education: Celebrating 100 Years of Studies in Education at the University of Toronto*, which is available through [www.100years.oise.utoronto.ca](http://www.100years.oise.utoronto.ca) and the University of Toronto Bookstore. — S.A



thrust him into the more theoretical world of academic research, teacher training and policy development. The goal of both jobs, though, is essentially the same: to help students succeed in school.

The hurdles are high. Extracurricular programs that the provincial government cut in the 1990s have not been fully restored. Parent involvement has declined. Discipline, bullying and violence continue to be problems in many schools, and zero-tolerance policies (which the province eased this September), removed the ability of teachers and principals to administer the school's code of conduct with discretion.

The Centre for Urban Schooling is partnering with inner-city schools to identify areas where research may shed light on particularly vexing questions. What are the most effective ways to handle classroom discipline? What programs best suit schools in communities with new immigrants? What policies help keep schools safe?

Although Kugler is not directly responsible for the centre's academic research – that job falls to Kathleen Gallagher, the academic director – he helped prepare a report last year for Ontario's Ministry of Education. To research *Improving Student Achievement in Schools Facing Challenging Circumstances*, Kugler and his co-investigators chose 20 schools as case studies and then identified elements that contribute to their success. They found effective leadership, a focus on literacy and a commitment to extracurricular activities to be common threads.

Kugler also co-chaired the task force that set up the Toronto District School Board's Inner-City Model Schools project to create a better learning environment for children from low-income families. As part of the project, the board selected seven schools – one from each of seven low-income districts in Toronto – to receive an extra \$1 million each for additional programs and staff. The first three schools were chosen in 2006, the remaining four this year.

Many other research projects are in the works. A new study involving 11 investigators from the centre, OISE and outside the faculty will look at the model schools from a variety of angles. The goal, explains Gallagher, is to assess whether “the purported desire to put students first has had an impact on the school, the students, and the relationship between the school and the community.”

Gallagher, who holds the Canada Research Chair in urban school research in pedagogy and policy, is also working with the Elementary Teachers' Federation of Ontario to

examine how a performance of David Craig's play, *Danny in the Basement*, about a child who is homeless in Toronto, affects students' and teachers' understanding of poverty. (The play is touring Ontario schools this fall.)

The power of theatre is particularly close to Gallagher, who taught high school drama for 10 years and recently wrote a book about the unique learning opportunities that arise in theatre classes.

**“There's not a lot in schools that helps kids believe that they matter. Drama places a frame of significance around something. It says what you think is important”**

Drama is not a required course at Toronto high schools, and back-to-basics critics of Ontario's educational system argue that, with limited resources for schools, it's a frill and should not be offered at all. But such a view fails to recognize drama as more than a diver-

sion or entertainment, says Gallagher, adding that standard literacy and numeracy tests – as favoured by the back-to-basics lobby – fail to capture the full benefits of theatre education. “The experience of making art has intrinsic value, which is not well understood in the current educational climate,” says Gallagher. “It's very difficult when something is not immediately measurable.”

To research her book, *The Theatre of Urban: Youth and Schooling in Dangerous Times* (University of Toronto Press), Gallagher spent three years observing and participating in drama classes in two schools in New York City and two schools in Toronto. In the words and actions of the students, she found evidence to suggest that drama classes foster personal and social development.

The book includes transcripts of conversations among students about race, gender and sexuality, violence and other issues in their lives. During these conversations, some students commented that drama, unlike other high school subjects, allows them to interact in interesting, important ways with other students.

“I've been in [classes like auto mechanics and gym], and I don't find

that people are as interested in making friendships as they are in drama,” says Stefan, a Grade 11 student in Toronto who is quoted in Gallagher's book. “I'm not really sure why, but drama class, it's really, I find that by the end of the year it's a well-oiled machine. A lot of people you didn't think you'd be talking to, and then you're best friends.”

Peprah told me that his experience with the theatre-in-education program taught him a lot about his own strengths and weaknesses and gave him better insight into how to settle disputes. “Because it's an ensemble work, the



Kathleen Gallagher

show would not go on unless you resolve the conflict,” he says. “In school, we don’t really learn conflict resolution. The principal deals with that.”

Even more importantly, though, Peprah says he has learned that taking a job doesn’t have to be a one-way ticket to dullsville. “I realized that there are actually people who love what they do. [Our co-op teacher] has this great passion for what she does. And when you’re passionate about what you do, you’re able to touch more people.”

The message couldn’t be clearer: theatre can be a powerful motivator for disaffected youth. “There’s not a lot in schools that helps these kids believe that they matter,” says Gallagher. “Drama places a frame of significance around something; it says what you think about this is important.”

### MOST TEACHERS AND PRINCIPALS AGREE

that social and behavioural problems must be solved before students can succeed academically. But what kind of discipline and codes of conduct work best in inner-city schools? What kinds of considerations need to be made in a multicultural environment?

Lance McCready, an assistant professor of urban education at OISE who is affiliated with the Centre for Urban Schooling, is interested in discipline and the pervasive belief that a lack of discipline is at the heart of why young black males tend to be less successful in school than their peers. “A lot of teachers, principals and administrators say poor

black male students, in particular, need more discipline and clearer expectations,” he says. “I find that really interesting.”

Last year, McCready began collecting information about discipline and classroom management policies from two of the inner-city model schools. He also interviewed teachers about the kinds of discipline problems they face. The teachers reported everything from “straight-up defiance,” to unwanted touching to hitting and fighting.

Primary school kids generally don’t bring weapons to school, but even relatively minor infractions can alter how teachers and principals perceive and treat individual students – “the feeling that they’re little criminals,” says McCready. “This can affect the family’s relationship with school officials. And that can set the stage for problems down the road.”

Although his research is still in an early phase, McCready



Lance McCready



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says his goal is to help schools develop equitable classroom management policies so “students feel heard, teachers feel heard” and disputes are resolved in mutually beneficial ways. “It doesn’t mean that everyone is happy all the time, but it also doesn’t marginalize certain students or populations.”

While research is a crucial part of the centre’s work, it’s only part of the equation; preparing teachers for challenging classrooms is also a significant component. Last year, OISE began offering an “inner-city option” to students enrolled in a one-year bachelor of education program. The option gives students the opportunity to gain teaching experience in schools in disadvantaged neighbourhoods. Starting in September, the centre is launching a similar option for secondary school teachers. Although the kinds of teaching techniques may not differ greatly, Kugler says the inner-city option provides teachers with a perspective that “sees kids’ strengths rather than deficits, community strengths rather than deficits and the importance of high expectations for kids.

“Imagine the impact on thousands of kids over the next 30 years as these teachers teach.”

In his own experience at Nelson Mandela, Kugler notes how important it is to integrate aspects of the students’ home life into their schoolwork. “We wanted to make sure that the experience the kids bring to school becomes a part of what happens at school.” Kugler cites the example of a Grade 5 teacher doing a lesson on immigration, who asks each student to interview and write about an adult in the school’s English as a Second Language program. “We’re acknowledging the experience of the people in the community as experiences that are valuable for kids to learn from.”

Prospective teachers and principals taking the inner-city option will also learn about effective programs in schools with a large immigrant community. Nelson Mandela, for example, created a space within the school where parents could bring their preschool children to play. A federal program operated out of another room, offering English instruction to both parents and children. George Brown College ran an upgrading class in the school for parents and other community members wanting to attend the college.

All of these programs involve parents in the school, which research shows leads to better results for their children. Many of the parents who live in Regent Park have had terrible experiences in schools of their own or very little schooling,” says

Kugler. “When you have a school filled with parents involved in these programs, it greatly affects the kind of communication you can have with parents about their child’s progress or lack of progress. There’s a completely different sense of a school as not being over there, but including us all.”

Although the focus of the Centre for Urban Schooling is local, Gallagher and Kugler hope its impact will eventually reach far beyond eastern Scarborough and northern Etobicoke. Gallagher is already setting up a research project with schools in India and Taiwan. In November, the centre will host an international symposium on redefining student engagement. The two-day event at Hart House will include international scholars and inner-city youths who will share their stories of succeeding in or of being “pushed out” of urban schools.

For youth, the difference between staying in school and dropping out can be something as simple as connecting with one good teacher or succeeding in a single course. “Three years ago, if you said that I’d be performing on stage, I would have told you to get out of my face,” says Peparah. “I wouldn’t have believed it at all.” ■

*Scott Anderson is the editor of UofT Magazine*

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# BEHIND ENEMY LINES

U of T grads John Kenneth Macalister and Frank Pickersgill trained as spies during the Second World War. An unlucky break brought their lives to a tragic end • BY ALEC SCOTT

**FOR** his 2002 history of the University of Toronto, Martin Friedland researched the contributions that U of T alumni made to the Allied cause in the two world wars. Among the 630 students and grads who died in the First World War and the 557 in the Second, one particularly affected Friedland. “Maybe because law is also my field, the loss of this promising young lawyer, J.K. Macalister, stood out for me,” says the former dean of U of T’s law school. “There was something about the photographs of him. And then what I learned about his story intrigued – and horrified – me. I still get a bit shaken when I think of him.”

The briefest description of John Kenneth Macalister’s attainments illustrates the promise Friedland saw. After graduating at the top of his law class at U of T, Macalister attended Oxford on a Rhodes Scholarship. He graduated from there with first-class honours, and went on to the bar exams in London where he placed tops in the empire. When war broke

out, Macalister signed up with the Field Security Wing of the British Intelligence Corps. After Continental Europe’s rapid fall, he enlisted with a new intelligence service, the Special Operations Executive, which had been set up to foment resistance in German-occupied territories.

“Set Europe ablaze,” instructed Winston Churchill. After a hasty training in spy-craft, the French-speaking Macalister was parachuted into the Loire Valley in 1943. Unfortunately, before he could set his little bit of the continent on fire, the Gestapo captured and imprisoned him.

In the war’s final days, a panicked Hitler ordered the execution of captive spies, such as Macalister, to prevent them from describing their appalling treatment. After hanging Macalister and 15 other captives in the bowels of Buchenwald – with piano wire attached to meat-hooks – the SS guards cremated the remains. It was Hitler’s aim to keep their fates a secret. In Macalister’s case, the führer and his minions failed. The Nazis disposed of his body, but they couldn’t destroy his story.

AT THE TOP OF THE J.K. MACALISTER FILE AT THE UNIVERSITY OF Toronto Archives is a clipping from an April 1945 edition of the *Guelph Mercury* – one which, despite its understated language, wields a wallop. “Notification has been received from the British War Office by A.M. Macalister, editor of *The Mercury*, and Mrs. Macalister... [residing on Metcalfe Street], of the death of their son Capt. John Kenneth Macalister on September 14, 1944. The parents had been notified previously that their only son had been missing in June.”

“The Macalisters sort of disappeared from Guelph after his death,” a high school friend, George Hindley, recalls during an interview from his home on the same sleepy, tree-lined street where the Macalisters once lived. “As far as I know, he was the last of that whole line.”

In high school, Macalister was a strong, but not stellar, student. In addition to history, he particularly enjoyed French – and the stylish, lively French teacher, Olive Freeman (who went on to marry John Diefenbaker and frequently sported Chanel at otherwise dowdy Ottawa events). Hindley, a top student, recalls: “You knew Ken was smart, but you didn’t suspect in high school that he’d be able to compete with the best in the province – let alone at Oxford.”

In 1933, the pair went off to U of T with many of the province’s best, Hindley to study classics at Victoria College, Macalister to study law at University College. “We didn’t see much of each other, being at different colleges,” Hindley says. “But I did appreciate him taking me out to dinner once early on. I was 16, a farm boy; he was a little older, more sophisticated, the son of a newspaper editor.”

In addition to excelling at his studies, Macalister threw himself into the extracurricular life of the university, joining the UC Literary and Athletic Society, playing rugby, debating at Hart House, serving as chief justice of the moot court, and chatting *en français* with the French Club. A working knowledge of French was viewed as helpful for English Canadians interested in entering politics – Macalister’s ultimate ambition.

IN 1937, MACALISTER BOARDED A STEAMER AND EMBARKED on the month-long journey to the U.K. to register in law at Oxford’s venerable New College. The small-town Ontario boy didn’t let the grandness of the stage affect the quality of his performance; he earned excellent grades in his first two years. In the summer break of 1939, still hoping to polish his French, he went to live with a family in Lisieux, Normandy. The daughter of the house, Jeannine Lucas, captivated him and, by the end of the summer, they married. Theirs was a brief idyll: in September, Germany sent its tanks into Poland, and Europe again found itself at war.

Macalister tried to sign up for the French military, but his nearsightedness disqualified him. He decided to return to England. When he left his wife with her family in France, they didn’t suspect that she was pregnant – or that the war would irrevocably divide them. It was an emotional time, a time of swift unions and equally quick, unintentionally final partings.

Back in Oxford, the armed forces’ recruiting board turned down Macalister’s application to join the military (again because of his poor eyesight) and encouraged him to complete his studies. He did so, graduating in spring 1940 with a first in jurisprudence, though any celebrations would have been cut short. In April, he received heartbreaking news from France: Jeannine had given birth to a stillborn daughter – their daughter.

He carried on with his studies. At the bar exams that year, he came first among the 142 from across the empire who sat the tests. Unsure what to do next, he contemplated returning to Canada. Hart Clark, another Canadian Rhodes Scholar at Oxford reported that it was unclear whether Canadians in Britain should enlist in Canada or England. Macalister wrote to a former U of T prof of his, W.P.M. Kennedy, to let him know he was at loose ends. The professor at once wrote back, offering Macalister a faculty job, but it was too late.

“In army since yesterday,” the young man telegraphed Kennedy in September 1940. “Sorry. Many thanks.”

AFTER THE FALL OF NORWAY, DENMARK, BELGIUM, HOLLAND, France and much of eastern Europe, the British war cabinet decided in July 1940 to set up an agency to encourage resistance – through sabotage and propaganda – in Axis-occupied territories. The Special Operations Executive (SOE) – that Macalister joined midway through the war – was like something out of a John le Carré novel. It was typically headed by a knighted Whitehall insider, known in the organization simply as CD. A bunch of Old Boys were appointed to run it.

Potential recruits met Selwyn Jepson, the SOE’s recruiting officer, in a stripped-down room at London’s Northumberland Hotel. Interviewing half in French and half in English, Jepson was looking for reflective men and women, not impetuous sorts. He told potential recruits that there was a one in two chance they’d die in the service – and told them to sleep on it before opting in or out. “I don’t want you to make up your mind too easily,” he is reported to have said. “It’s a life-and-death decision.”

In mid 1942, Macalister opted in and began five months of gruelling training across Britain. The recruits learned parachuting near Manchester and railway sabotage (using real locomotives) and firearm handling on Scotland’s northwest coast. At Beaulieu Manor near lush New Forest, ex-Shanghai



Macalister’s instructors in Britain’s Special Operations Executive rated him highly: “Quiet and reserved with plenty of acumen,” one wrote

police officers instructed them in methods of resisting interrogation and torture, and in ju-jitsu (so they could kill silently). Only about one in five who began the rigorous course completed it. Macalister's instructors rated him highly. "Quiet and reserved, but with plenty of acumen," one wrote. "He gives the impression of easy-going urbanity, while in reality he has a particularly tough scholar's mind, logical and uncompromising in analysis."

In the Scottish segment, the would-be spies had to choose a mission-mate, and Macalister and a fellow Canadian, Frank Pickersgill, banded together. A tall, genial Winnipegger who'd completed a master's in classics at U of T, Pickersgill had already escaped once from the Nazis. Before the war, in Paris, where he knew existentialist philosopher Jean-Paul Sartre, the freelance journalist didn't believe France would fall as quickly as it did and didn't get out in time. Just north of Paris, the Germans imprisoned Pickersgill as an enemy alien, but, with a metal file smuggled to him in a loaf of bread, he sawed his way out of his cell and escaped. With help from expatriate American writer Gertrude Stein, he fled to neutral Portugal and then shipped out to England.

Back with Macalister, Pickersgill was about to head back into the fray. The pair's superiors decided the Canadian duo would parachute into occupied France in June 1943, but, in the interim, awarded them a long leave in London. Here they fell in with a friend of Pickersgill's from the University of Manitoba, Kay Moore, who was working with the Free French Intelligence Service, and her Canadian housemate, Alison Grant, who was employed by MI5, the British security service. Despite the Blitz and the daunting mission in the offing, the foursome enjoyed a giddy romp, drinking tea and talking with each other and the many Canadians who frequented the girls' Belgravia townhouse. (So many Canadians visited the home that it became known as the Canada House Annex.) They spent their nights dancing at the Palais Royale or going to the cinema.

As quickly as Macalister had fallen for his French wife, Pickersgill tumbled for the remarkable Grant – a witty, attractive woman from an intellectual Scottish-Canadian family (her brother was the philosopher George Grant). She and Pickersgill agreed that if they survived the war, they'd get engaged, but who knew what would happen? They started planning the mission in France. It was important that Macalister and Pickersgill look like migrant nobodies after their drop, so Grant went with them to a down-market clothing store, bought coats and ripped the linings out. To make their clothes look older, they rubbed them in dirt. "It was all very amateurish, I suppose," Grant said later.

AFTER THE WAR, SOME HISTORIANS ACCUSED THE SOE OF operating ineptly, arguing that it was run by a bunch of bumbling upper-crust twits. No less an authority than American General Dwight D. Eisenhower, however, said the fledgling agency's efforts shortened the war by months. Certainly, though, the spymasters could have done a better job of planning the young Canadians' mission.

A few days before the drop was scheduled for the Loire Valley near Romorantin, the British parachuted explosives into the same region (to be used in sabotage), but the explosives went off when they hit the ground. More than 2,000 German soldiers poured into the area to investigate. The SOE's agent on the ground, Pierre Culioli, radioed London: Abort.

It's unclear whether the message got through. London went ahead with the mission (code name: Archdeacon), dropping Macalister (French code name: Valentin) and Pickersgill (Bertrand) in the woods on the moonlit night of June 15, 1943. Here they were met by Culioli and Yvonne Rudellat, one of the SOE's first female field agents. The plan was that Macalister and Pickersgill would lie low for a couple of days in the summer home of the pro-Resistance mayor of Romorantin, and then Culioli and Rudellat would drive them to a Paris-bound train. There, in the Gare d'Austerlitz, they would meet up with another agent who would help

them get to the Sedan region, northeast of Paris, where they were to set up a network of spies and saboteurs.

The mayor's son, Jean Charmaison, wrote a letter to Pickersgill's brother about the surprisingly free-ranging conversations he had with the young soldier-scholars. "We had long discussions under an oak tree – about science, art, literature, philosophy, while, time and again, German planes flew over at treetop level," he recalls. "Macalister was more of a talker and had a rather deep voice. He also had a limp... caused by a sprain he suffered on landing by parachute."

On June 21, Culioli and Rudellat picked up the pair, intending to drive them to a train station a few towns away. They passed one German security checkpoint, but at another, in the hamlet of Dhuisson, the men in the back seat were ordered out of the car and marched into the town hall for questioning. Culioli and Rudellat's papers and cover stories passed muster, so they waited nervously in the car out front for the Canadians to re-emerge.

When, instead, a Gestapo agent came out and approached the car, Culioli tore off. After a high-speed chase, during which the German soldiers managed to shoot the passenger Rudellat in the head, Culioli deliberately crashed his Citroën into a wall, hoping it would catch fire and that the trunk's incriminating contents would be consumed. It didn't ignite, and the



Journalist Frank Pickersgill had already escaped once from the Nazis when he and Macalister parachuted into France in June 1943



Germans found two radios, several letters addressed to undercover field agents in plain English – SOE's error – and the codes the pair were to use in radio communications with London. Contrary to orders, Macalister had written down the security checks – a breach of policy that had dire consequences.

No one quite knows how the Germans initially saw through the Canadians. Commander Forest Yeo-Thomas, an SOE agent imprisoned with them, claims it was Macalister's sub-par French; despite all the French lessons and his marriage to a Frenchwoman, his accent "was so faulty," the agent claimed, "that they could never hope to pass themselves off." Others point to a mole in the SOE's network who may have tipped off the Germans about the pair's imminent arrival. Either way, Macalister would spend the rest of his short life in Nazi-run prisons.

IN POSSESSION OF MACALISTER'S RADIO AND CODES, THE Gestapo duped the Brits into sending, over a 10-month period, 15 munition drops and more than a dozen agents, all of whom were immediately imprisoned. Hitler is reported to have been jubilant.

The Canadians, meanwhile, were moved from a prison in Blois to Fresnes, a dank, 19<sup>th</sup> century fortress-like prison on the southern outskirts of Paris. (On the wall of a cell is carved "Pickersgill, Canadian Army Officer.") Their captors tortured them. After the war, fellow captive Yeo-Thomas matter-of-factly reported, "Pick and Mac were given the usual beating up, rubber truncheons, electric shocks, kicks in the genitals. They were in possession of names, addresses and codes that the Germans badly wanted, but neither of them squealed." Both repeated what they'd been told to say: "I demand that you notify my family of the circumstances of my arrest." Pickersgill was shipped off to a prison in Poland (Macalister is believed to have been sent with him), then recalled to Paris for help in the ongoing effort to fool the SOE.

The Nazis wine and dined Pickersgill at the Gestapo's Paris headquarters in an effort to persuade him to assist them. Their implied message: if you co-operate, all this can be yours. Pickersgill didn't relent. Instead, he broke a wine bottle, used the jagged edge to slit a guard's throat and managed to escape by jumping out a second-storey window. The SS gunned him down in the street and imprisoned him again.

After several months, the British began to doubt whether the radio messages emanating from the so-called Canadian circuit were genuine. They sent a message they knew the pair would understand: "The samovar is still bubbling at 54A." This was the address of Moore and Grant's London home where they had consumed so much tea. The Germans' response, "Happy Christmas to all," was too vague; it didn't sound like Macalister or Pickersgill. This was one of the clues that led the British to conclude (after a few more months) that the radio messages were phony. Too late for the agents already served up to the Nazis, the SOE discovered their error.

They had lost an intelligence battle, but the Allies were starting to win the war. After D-Day, the Germans shipped the spies to Buchenwald, the notorious concentration camp in southeast Germany. Handcuffed back-to-back in pairs, 37 captured spies were crammed into two seatless boxcars for an eight-day journey. At Buchenwald, Yeo-Thomas remembers Pickersgill and Macalister discussing Picasso, ragtime music, cartoons, Mozart, Westerns and Shakespeare and singing "It's a Long Way to Tipperary" and "Alouette" to keep their spirits up. The body is more easily imprisoned than the mind. Sometime between September 9 and 14, 1944, as the Allies closed in, the Nazis executed Macalister, Pickersgill and 14 of their comrades.

THE EXECUTIONS WERE ORDERED IN A LAST-DITCH EFFORT TO expunge the pair from history, but the opposite happened. Several of the Canadians' fellow inmates survived, and through them, their story has emerged. At every stage of Macalister's journey he is remembered. In Guelph, there's a park named after him with a maple representing his time in Canada, an oak his British sojourn and a linden his time in France. At U of T's Soldiers' Tower, both Macalister and Pickersgill are listed among the lost, and there's a garden nearby in their joint honour. On the war memorial in Rhodes House at Oxford, on a plaque at Beaulieu Manor in the New Forest, on the cenotaph at Romorantin, near where they parachuted down – on each Macalister's name is carved. In 1995, the former principal of University College, Douglas LePan published an epic poem on the man, *Macalister or Dying in the Dark*.

Pickersgill's great amour, Alison Grant went on to marry diplomat George Ignatieff and became the mother of two boys, Michael, the writer and politician, and Andrew, the executive director of an organization advocating for peace in Israel and Palestine.

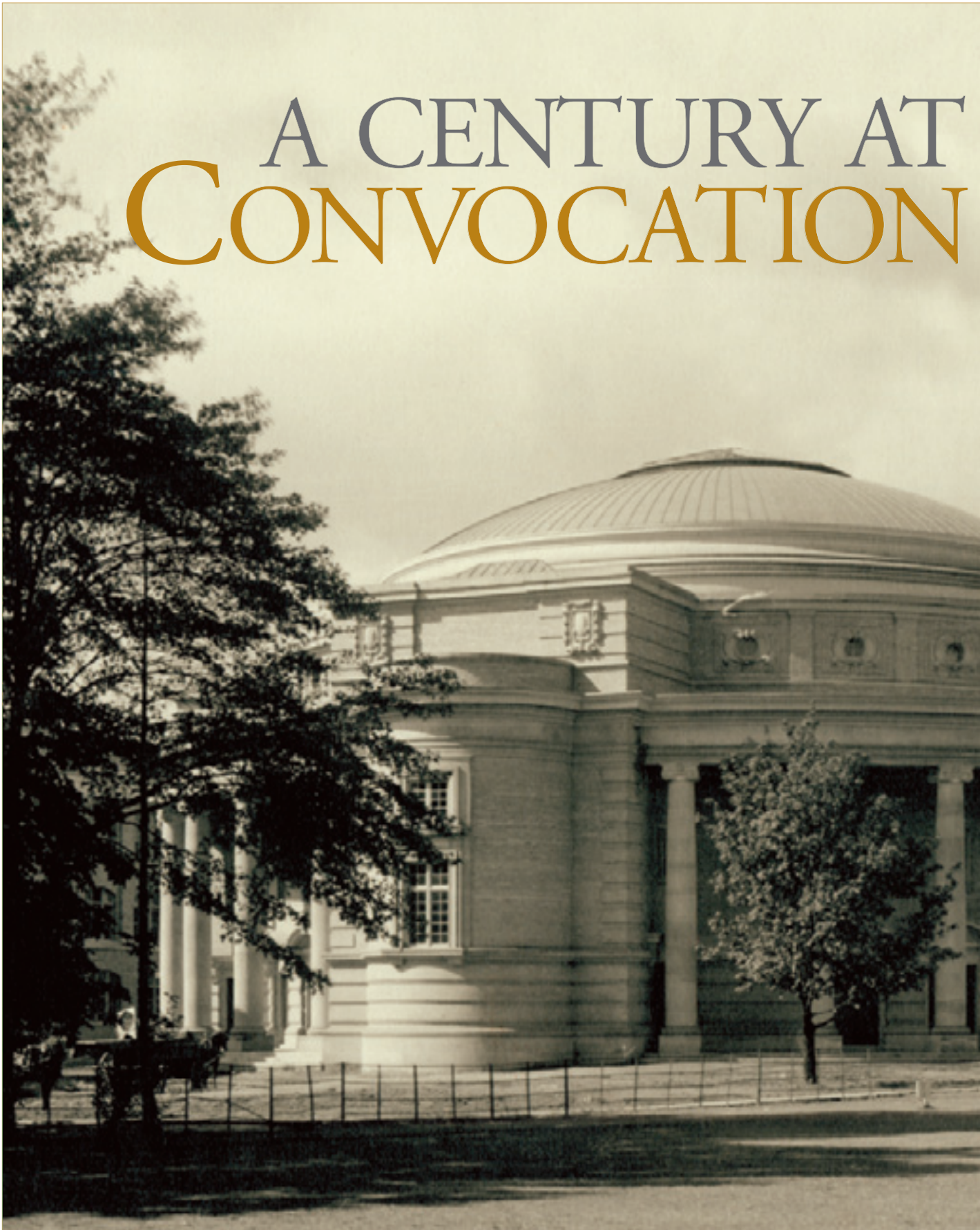
"Frank was so right for her," says Andrew Ignatieff. "Though she went on to live a very full life, she never got over her relationship with Frank. However, she never spoke of him. She always wore a bracelet that I'm pretty sure Frank had given her.

"There are some things a mother can't even share with her son," she said when I asked [her about Pickersgill]. Even when she had Alzheimer's and seemed to have forgotten almost everything, she had to have that bracelet on her." Recently, when I interviewed Andrew in a Starbucks in Toronto, he held up his wrist. There, welded to a silver cuff, was his late mother's fragile bracelet.

Jeanine Macalister never remarried, but did become a social worker in Paris. In 1981, she wrote a committee of John Kenneth's high school classmates in Guelph – Hindley among them – to thank them for setting up a scholarship at Guelph Collegiate Vocational Institute in her husband's name. "I have been deeply touched," she writes in her rudimentary English, "by all his friends did to keep alive my husband's memory." ■

*Alec Scott (LLB 1994) is a writer in Toronto.*

# A CENTURY AT CONVOCATION





# HALL



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*The educational  
experience has changed  
dramatically over  
the past 100 years,  
but U of T grads from  
all generations still share  
one thing in common:  
a degree bestowed  
at Con Hall*

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BY GRAHAM F. SCOTT

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**FRANK DARLING, ONE OF TORONTO'S MOST** renowned architects of the early 20<sup>th</sup> century, designed Convocation Hall in the classical style of ancient Greece, echoing the historic foundations of higher learning. The circular structure was conceived to be the geographic and metaphorical centre of the university, providing a focal point to unify the growing campus.

It's doubtful whether Darling would have imagined, as he drew up his architectural plans, that the campus would eventually grow so large that individual classes would fill Con Hall's 1,730-seat auditorium. In fact, when the building was completed in 1907, fewer than 4,000 students attended U of T. Were Darling alive today, he might also be surprised to learn that today's U of T students come from around the world, speak dozens of different languages and study a huge variety of subjects on *three* campuses. But what these students have in common – as did students in Darling's day – is a love of learning, and the chance to walk across the dais under the great domed roof of Con Hall on graduation day.

PHOTOGRAPH BY UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO ARCHIVES





Members of the university community gather at Convocation Hall in April 1915 to bid farewell to the UofT No. 4 Base Hospital team, prior to their departure for Thessaloniki, Greece

*Alexander Thom Cringan believed women as well as men should have an equal opportunity to pursue higher education.*

*He sent one son and eight daughters to U of T*

To mark Convocation Hall's 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary, we sought out the stories of families that have sent multiple generations to U of T. Their experiences may be different, but they've all shared the fleeting thrill of striding across the stage at Con Hall, diploma in hand.

### THE CRINGANS



Alexander Thom Cringan (left), Lillias Waugh Cringan

The Cringan family's association with U of T starts with Alexander Thom Cringan, who was both a student and teacher here. Educated in music in London, England, A.T. Cringan moved to Toronto in 1886 and became the music director for the Toronto Board of Education. Then in 1899, he earned his bachelor of music at U of T. Cringan is best known for his groundbreaking work recording and transcribing the music of the Iroquois in Ontario. Among the earliest ethnomusicology research performed in Canada, Cringan's wax cylinders and tapes, recorded between 1897 and 1902, are kept today at the Canadian Museum of Civilization.

Of Cringan's 11 children, one son and eight daughters attended U of T. "He was a firm believer that women as well as men should have an equal opportunity to pursue an educational and professional life," says Alex Cringan, A. T. Cringan's grandson and a 1948 graduate of U of T's forestry program. The family made the most of the opportunity to attend U of T, and went on to careers in teaching, music and medicine. A.T. Cringan's eldest daughter, Lillias Waugh Cringan, was the one of the first women to practise radiology in Canada.

With so many Cringans preceding him to U of T, Walter Cringan (BSc 1976 Victoria) reports that it hardly occurred to him that he *could* go elsewhere. "It never really

entered my mind," he says.

Now, Walter's daughter Sarah is following in the family's footsteps and has just completed her second year of a bachelor of music at U of T. She plays the French horn. "I knew a couple of family members went here," she says, "but I didn't know to what extent." Sarah isn't quite sure what her long-term ambitions are yet but says she's thinking about teaching, just like her great-great-grandfather, A. T. Cringan.

### THE ANGELOS

Wendy Angelo's faculty no longer exists, and the building where she went to class is now a clothing boutique. Still, she feels at home on the U of T campus.

"So many things have changed," she says. "And yet, you feel like you belong there. You don't feel like an outsider when you go back."

Angelo (BSc 1975 Woodsworth) started her studies in the Faculty of Food Science in 1969, when it occupied the Lillian Massey Department of Household Science building at the corner of Queen's Park and Bloor Street West. Although she enjoyed her studies, her heart had been set on attending the University of Guelph for its well-regarded food science program. But because Angelo was the oldest of three sisters – and their father was determined that each would receive a university education – going away to school would have been too expensive. In the end, she says, she grew to love U of T, where both her father and grandfather had attended. Today, Angelo teaches high-school family studies and food science.

The family has worked in the food business for generations. Angelo's grandfather, Wilmot Alvin Davidson, received both his bachelor's and master's degrees in chemistry from U of T prior to the First World War, and spent his career with the Canadian government researching food safety. Wilmot's son Kenneth Davidson (Angelo's father) worked at General Foods

# THE MEN AND WOMEN WHO NEVER CONVOCATED

*A special ceremony honours wartime grads*

Most University of Toronto graduates have passed through Convocation Hall to receive their degree – but not all. During the Second World War, formal convocations were suspended and many students began army training within days of their last class. On May 31, to commemorate the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Convocation Hall, the University of Toronto hosted a special convocation ceremony for these alumni, finally giving them the chance to walk across the dais, shake the chancellor's hand and brandish a diploma for their families.

"There were none of us under 80 years old," says Kim Krenz, who earned a master's degree in chemistry in 1942. "And let me tell you, going up for the degree was quite a production, with canes and walkers and wheelchairs." A few uncooperative hips and knees aside, the 25 men and eight women agreed that it was a meaningful experience.



Chancellor David Peterson and President David Naylor congratulate James Gray

"I was glad I did it," says Krenz.

Lyman Henderson completed a bachelor of arts in 1942 before shipping out to France as an artillery officer. He says he found the ceremony more affecting than he'd anticipated. "I went to the ceremony thinking it was a bit of a lark," he says. "I came to scoff and remained to pray – I thought it was very effective, well-organized and quite beautiful." At the end, the crowd gave the graduates

a standing ovation.

"I didn't think we deserved the ovation at all," says Krenz, stoically. "All we were getting was a degree, and thousands and thousands of other grads have them. We just happened to do it during the war. But it was very moving, all the same." – *Graham F. Scott*



Wilmot Alvin Davidson (left), and Peter Angelo

(today known as Kraft), negotiating labour agreements. He completed his business diploma part time while working at the company and graduated in 1951.

"He and my mom had been married just before he went overseas in the Second World War," says Angelo. "He came back very gung-ho about university, but ended up having to do it part time because he had a job and a wife and three children in quick succession." As a young girl, Angelo recalls her father coming home from work and locking himself upstairs to study for the night. "He was a big supporter of U of T," says Angelo, who, along with her sisters, Judith and Carolyn, entered U of T in rapid succession.

In June 2006, Angelo watched her son, Peter, cross the stage at Convocation Hall to collect his bachelor's degree in chemical engineering and applied chemistry. Peter is now earning a master's degree at U of T and working on a novel way to coat paper with electronic films.

"It's almost a hundred years since my grandfather graduated," she says, "so it's pretty neat that we all ended up in the same place."

## THE KINGS

So far, four consecutive generations of the King family have graduated from the University of Toronto medical school,

although the family association with U of T actually stretches back much further – to before Confederation. John King earned his master's degree from U of T in 1865 and his law degree three years later. His eldest son, William Lyon Mackenzie King, attended U of T and later became Canada's longest-serving prime minister. His youngest son, Dougall Macdougall King, studied medicine at the University of Toronto and served as a medic in the Boer War in 1902.

A passion for medicine runs in the family, but so did tragedy. "My husband's father, Dougall, never lived to practise," says Margery King. She met her husband, William, at the University of Toronto in 1934 while pursuing a master's degree in psychology. "Dougall died when my husband was only nine, and my husband died when our son was three. So I think, to some extent, they were all carrying on the tradition of studying medicine because their father had." Margery's son, William, received his medical degree from U of T in 1965, and his son, Nelson, followed in his footsteps, graduating from medicine in 1991.

Last fall, Margery King's great-granddaughter, Sarah, began her first year at the University of Toronto, the sixth generation of her family to do so. It's a fine family tradition, but some things aren't like they used to be. "The cost!" says Margery King with a laugh. "When I was doing my master's degree between 1934 and 1936, I think the fee was \$125 per year, and I worked as an assistant marking papers for \$200 a year. So things have changed in more ways than one."

PHOTOGRAPHY: TOP: GREG THERMAL; LEFT: COURTESY OF THE ANGELO FAMILY

*A portrait of Larratt Smith, a former  
vice-chancellor of U of T, hangs in  
Croft Chapter House at University College*

### THE LARRATT-SMITHS

While pursuing an MBA at the Rotman School of Management in the 1970s, Hugh Larratt-Smith didn't have to stray very far from St. George Street to see concrete evidence of his family's historical connection with U of T. A portrait of his great-great-grandfather, Larratt Smith, a former vice-chancellor of the university, hangs in Croft Chapter House at University College.

Larratt Smith trained as a lawyer in the 1840s at what was then King's College, but he was an entrepreneur at heart. He landed a senior role at Consumers Gas Company and became a wealthy Upper Canada businessman. His home was a 30-room mansion on a sprawling Summerhill estate, where he lived with his second wife and 12 children.

Hugh Larratt-Smith recalls his ancestor's portrait on campus as being a powerful reminder of the importance of education. "His family had not been well off, and he felt that his U of T degree had been a springboard to a successful career," says Hugh.

One of Larratt Smith's seven sons, Goldwin Larratt Smith, graduated from U of T with an MA in 1890 and later joined the family law firm Smith, Rae and Greer. Goldwin's son Bethune Larratt Smith extended the tradition of family lawyers into a third generation. Another of Goldwin's sons, Anthony, studied at U of T, but was killed in the Second World War. His name is inscribed at Soldiers' Tower.



Larratt Smith

The string of Smith family lawyers ended with Hugh's father, Michael Larratt Smith, who left U of T's Faculty of Applied Science and Engineering in the late 1940s, before earning his degree. Hugh's mother, Joan Eliot, earned a BA in 1951.

Hugh's sister, Diana MacNeil (BA 1980 Victoria) and her husband John MacNeil (BA 1981 Victoria) have a son, Michael, who will be starting second year of mechanical engineering this fall. If he wants, he can visit the portrait of his great-great-great-grandfather, which still hangs in Croft Chapter House. Or, he can read a book about him: *Young Mr. Smith in Upper Canada* (University of Toronto Press), based on the diaries that Larratt Smith kept for 70 years, is in the stacks at Robarts Library. — *Scott Anderson*

### THE GOLDRINGS

The Goldring family means business. Warren Goldring (BA 1949 University College, LLD Hon. 2003) is co-founder of the



investment firm, AGF Management. His son Blake (BA 1981 Victoria) is chairman and CEO of AGF. And Warren's daughter Judy (BA 1988 Victoria), is the company's general counsel and senior vice-president, law and corporate affairs. In all, four out of Warren Goldring's five children attended U of T.

The Goldrings' first connection to the university was Cecil Charles Goldring, Warren's father, who earned his bachelor's, master's and doctor of pedagogy degrees from U of T.

"In those days, you scrambled for your education," says Warren. "My father spent very little time in the way you or I might have during university. While he was taking courses, he worked the whole time." C. C. Goldring became the first superintendent of schools, and then the director of education, for the City of Toronto. Cecil Goldring's brother, Leslie, also received his doctor of pedagogy degree from U of T and taught in Toronto's school board.

Warren Goldring attended U of T "along with thousands of ex-servicemen who were much older and wiser than I was," he says. After fighting abroad, the veterans of the Second World War were determined to get their education, and Goldring describes the atmosphere at U of T during that time as intensely serious. "I was a young student compared to these much more mature people," Goldring says. "And I think I got a better education as a result of it."

Warren Goldring's children Jill (BA 1979 Victoria, MLS 1989) and Bryce (BA 1987 UTSC) also attended U of T, but daughter Jane bucked family tradition by attending the University of Western Ontario. However, Jane's eldest daughter, Caitlin, is now in her third year of her studies at — where else — U of T. ■

*Graham F. Scott is a freelance writer in Toronto. His aunt, Barbara Wickens, graduated from U of T in 1976.*



## SOCIAL WORK RECEIVES \$15 MILLION

*“Groundbreaking” gift will benefit society’s most vulnerable, says dean*

**A** Toronto couple with a deep commitment to social justice and the welfare of children has donated \$15 million to the Faculty of Social Work at the University of Toronto. The gift is the largest ever made to a social work faculty in North America.

The donation from Lynn Factor, a social worker for 25 years, and her spouse, Sheldon Inwentash (BCom 1978 New College), will establish 50 graduate student scholarships and five endowed chairs. In recognition of the donors, the faculty will be renamed the Factor-Inwentash Faculty of Social Work.

**Continued on page 42**

**Sheldon Inwentash  
and Lynn Factor**

## Goldrings Give \$15.1 Million to Varsity, Victoria and Soldiers' Tower

Members of a Toronto family known for their sound investment strategies have committed \$15.1 million to the University of Toronto to support athletics, student life and Soldiers' Tower.

Warren Goldring (BA 1949 UC, LL.D 2003 Hon.), who founded AGF Management Limited, and his family have donated \$11 million to the Varsity Centre – the largest individual gift ever made to athletics at a Canadian university. They have also given \$4 million to Victoria University to upgrade and expand its student centre, and \$100,000 to the restoration of Soldiers' Tower, U of T's memorial to students, graduates and faculty members who gave their lives during the First and Second World Wars.

The funds for Varsity will provide much-needed new resources for intramural and varsity athletics programs, and support the construction of the new Goldring Centre for High Performance Sport. The facility, to be built on the west side of Devonshire Place, will include a field house for basketball and volleyball, strength-training equipment, and state-of-the-art sports medicine and research labs. "It will be a full-service athletics research,

teaching and performance centre," says Bruce Kidd, dean of the Faculty of Physical Education and Health. The complex will help to ease congestion at the Athletic Centre at Harbord and Spadina, which was built almost 30 years ago and is "maxed out," says Kidd.

At Victoria University, plans are underway

get involved in extracurricular activities. "We hope this will give commuter students a home on campus," he says.

Warren, his son Blake Goldring (BA 1981 Victoria), chairman and CEO of AGF Management, and daughter Judy Goldring (BA 1988 Victoria), AGF's general counsel

and senior vice-president, law and corporate affairs, all believe in the importance of getting students to participate in the non-academic side of university life. "The best university experience should provide students with opportunities to meet and socialize, and pursue a lifestyle that encourages fitness and well-being as a means to supporting their academic pursuits," says Blake.

Supporting Soldiers' Tower was especially important to Blake, who serves as an honorary colonel of the Royal Regiment of Canada. "It's essential that we maintain Soldiers' Tower – not just as a memorial to the students and faculty who paid the ultimate sacrifice during the two world wars – but also to remind us of the many freedoms we enjoy today thanks to these fallen soldiers."

– Scott Anderson and Ruta Pocius



Blake (left), Warren and Judy Goldring

to renovate and expand the student centre on Charles Street West near Queen's Park to make more room for lounges and offices for clubs and other student groups. Jason Hunter, dean of students for Victoria University, says the Goldring Student Centre will provide all students, but especially those who commute to campus, with a venue to

expand, and will foster research in such important areas as children's mental health and child welfare and protection, as well as immigration and the law, says Regehr. "The kind of preventive work done in child welfare is hugely beneficial for Canadian society, as well as the kids and families who are actually being helped."

Factor has worked for much of her career in child protection and child welfare. "Social workers are concerned with the least advanced in our society," she says. "With our gift we hope to advance the profession and cause of social work."

Inwentash, a Bay Street financier, says the gift has given him an opportunity to thank U of T for the education he received, and he hopes it will shine some attention on a sometimes-overlooked but much-needed profession. "With this gift we have the chance to give something back to this great university."

– Ruta Pocius and Scott Anderson

### Continued from page 41

Dean Cheryl Regehr calls the gift "ground-breaking," and says it will help the faculty attract a diverse and talented group of students as it expands its master's program from 215 to 355 places. "The scholarships will help ensure that the additional graduate spaces are accessible to students from all backgrounds," she says.

The five new chairs will help maintain the student-professor ratio as the faculty

expands, and will foster research in such important areas as children's mental health and child welfare and protection, as well as immigration and the law, says Regehr. "The kind of preventive work done in child welfare is hugely beneficial for Canadian society, as well as the kids and families who are actually being helped."

# The Complete Cowboy Junkies

Call it a fan's ultimate collection. The Canadian alt-country band Cowboy Junkies have donated their entire archives – including almost everything they have ever recorded – to the Media Commons at the University of Toronto's Robarts Library.

The vast collection spans 20 years of Cowboy Junkies' history, beginning in 1985. It offers a behind-the-scenes look at the band's creative process, from lyric sheets and songwriting tapes to band rehearsals and studio-session outtakes. "It's like the literary papers of an author that show different drafts of a book," says Brock Silversides, director of the Media Commons. "They really saved everything."

While musicologists will find plenty to listen to – more than 1,700 recordings, including live shows, every album the band released commercially and one, recorded in 1990, that they didn't – the archive will also appeal to students of entertainment law and music business professionals. Among the band's papers are its contracts, as well as documents related to an audit the Junkies forced on RCA Records over royalty payments.

For students of popular culture, the collection also boasts 13,000 photo-



Toronto band Cowboy Junkies

graphs – taken both of and by the band – fan mail, tour posters, a video of the band's 1989 appearance on *Saturday Night Live* and hundreds of press clippings. There's even a stash of pre-Junkies history: recordings by guitarist and songwriter Michael Timmins' earlier bands, The Hunger Project and Germinal.

Timmins formed Cowboy Junkies in Toronto with his sister Margo on vocals, brother Peter on drums and bassist Alan Anton. The band is best known for its 1988 album *The Trinity Session*, recorded live in a single day on a single microphone in the Church of the Holy Trinity in Toronto.

Michael says the archival tapes include all the "jabbering between songs" from *The Trinity Session* and an early cover of Lou Reed's "Sweet Jane." The material was stacked in basements and offices and the band grew concerned that the audiotapes, in particular, wouldn't survive. When they found out that U of T had a climate-controlled vault and was interested in acquiring music, the decision to donate was simple, he says.

U of T's Media Commons also houses the complete archives of Canadian bands Blue Rodeo and Triumph.

– Scott Anderson

## Public Policy's Crucial Role

*Finding solutions to global problems is a challenge, but so is implementing them*

A grad who has dedicated his career to addressing the complexities of global development has given U of T's School of Public Policy and Governance \$1 million, to be divided between student scholarships and a visiting scholar fellowship.

Paul Cadario (BASc 1973), a senior manager with the World Bank in Washington, says public-policy experts are crucial: they determine how to apply solutions to pressing global concerns, such as climate change, health care and energy production. "The big problems

of our age all have certain technical solutions, and the world will eventually figure them out," he says. The challenge will be "to mobilize the will to put the solutions into place and implement them soundly."

U of T's School of Public Policy and Governance launched last fall and welcomed its inaugural class of 25 students this September. Graduates of the two-year program earn a master's degree in public policy. Director Mark Stabile says the university will match the scholarship portion of Cadario's gift

to create 10 awards a year worth about \$6,000 each. Finding a donor to support scholarships was a high priority for the school. "Making sure the program is accessible is really important," says Stabile. "We want to make sure that the most qualified students can attend this program, regardless of whether they intend to pursue high-paying careers."

The first Cadario Scholarships will be awarded next year, while the Cadario Visiting Scholar will be invited for the following academic year. – Scott Anderson





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UNIVERSITY OF  
TORONTO

## The Road to Freedom

**ON** a cold January evening in 1982, two Iranian Revolutionary Guards

burst into the Tehran home of 16-year-old Marina Nemat and placed her under arrest. Her crime? She had criticized the Islamic government in her school newspaper and had asked her calculus teacher to teach math instead of propaganda. The young woman was taken to the notorious political prison Evin, where she was blindfolded, handcuffed and tortured, her soles whipped with a cable.

Nemat was also sentenced to execution. Set in front of a firing squad, her life was spared at the last moment by a guard named Ali. He gave her the option of marrying him and living under house arrest. The alternative, he threatened, was to arrest her parents and execute her boyfriend. The 15-month marriage ended only after a rival political faction assassinated Ali.

Twenty-five years later, Nemat has detailed her experiences in *Prisoner of Tehran* (Viking Canada). After immigrating to Toronto with her husband, Andre (the **Continued on page 46**



PHOTOGRAPHY: MIKE ANDRECHUK

Marina Nemat



## Continued from page 45

boyfriend Ali had threatened to execute), and son in 1991, the couple had a second son and moved to a house in the suburbs. But after the death of her mother, Nemat experienced nightmares and violent flashbacks. “There was a jumble of images in my head, and I couldn’t take it anymore,” she says. “I either had to go jump off a bridge or do something really stupid, or I had to make sense of all the memories. Being a reader, the most logical thing that came to mind was putting it on paper.”

Nemat found time to write most afternoons after waitressing the lunchtime shift at Swiss Chalet. She would head over to Second Cup, buy a hot chocolate and write in her notebook for an hour before picking up her sons from school. She didn’t intend to publish her writings. But Nemat’s nightmares continued, and she realized it was because many of her memories were still secret. (No one in her family – including her parents – had ever asked her about her experiences in prison.) In 2002 Nemat enrolled in U of T’s School of Continuing Studies, where she took classes ranging from grammar to non-fiction, and earned a certificate in creative writing over five years. Instructors helped her revise her manuscript (there were seven drafts in total), and introduced her to an agent.

Nemat’s book is now a bestseller in Canada, and has been published in 17 languages. She is writing her first novel, about an Iranian woman who has a baby while imprisoned. But her biggest success, perhaps, is creating her own psychological freedom by breaking out of “a cycle of hatred.”

“I have watched good people turn into bad people – very bad people,” says Nemat. “And I have watched them do terrible things to each other because they hate one another. When you watch that, you feel helpless. And if you are lucky enough, you are able to separate yourself from that hatred, you are able to overcome all the reasons to hate and pull yourself out of it. I don’t know how it’s done. How does a human being pull himself or herself out of the cycle of hatred? People do it all the time. I’m not the only one.” – *Stacey Gibson*

PHOTOGRAPHY: JOHN HRYNIUK

## New UTAA President Brings International Perspective

**P**aul Cadario (BASc 1973) may not live in Toronto – he’s a senior manager at the World Bank in Washington, D.C. – but the new president of the University of Toronto Alumni Association (UTAA) still feels a close affinity to his alma mater. And during his two-year term as president, Cadario aims to strengthen the ties between the alumni community and U of T. “We need to look at alumni engagement as a lifelong activity,” he says.

In particular, Cadario sees an opportunity to raise the association’s profile internationally and with young alumni. This will mean looking at ways to engage grads beyond their college, faculty or division. “The student experience at the university today is related to other aspects of students as people, whether it’s ethnic groups, the gay and lesbian community, or membership in clubs or sporting organizations,” says Cadario, who is the first openly gay president of the UTAA and the first president to live outside of Toronto.

At the divisional level, he’d like to expand on existing areas of alumni involvement. Cadario himself served on the dean’s advisory board for the Faculty of Applied Science and Engineering. “There are enormous opportunities for alumni to enlist and support the work that President Naylor has led on the student experience.”

Cadario has a long history of involvement with the University of Toronto. He was an alumni governor on Governing Council from 1985 to 1994, is president of the Associates of the University of Toronto and is an advisory board member for the School of Public Policy and Governance. He is also a mentor for the Joseph L. Rotman School of Management.

Former UTAA president Michael Deck (MBA 1990) handed over the reins to Cadario at the UTAA’s annual general meeting in June. The following members of the board of directors were elected for a two-year term: **Matthew Chapman** (MBA 2000), the former senior vice-president of operations at Workbrain Corporation; **Francoise Ko** (BSc 1997 St. Michael’s, MSc 2001, PhD 2006), a senior analyst at Courtyard Group; **Bonnie Stern** (BA 1969 New College), cookbook author and founder of the Bonnie Stern School of Cooking; **Eira Thomas** (BSc 1991 UTM), the CEO and a director of Stornoway Diamond Corporation; and **Evelyn Sue Wong** (BSc 1972 New College, MBA 1974, MIR 1980), an employee relations consultant in Singapore.

The other UTAA board members this year are: president **Paul Cadario**; treasurer **Carl Mitchell** (BSc 1984 St. Michael’s), chief information officer of MED e-care Healthcare Solutions; **Cynthia Good** (BA 1974 UC, MA 1975), director of the Creative Book Publishing Program at Humber College; **Rudyard Griffiths** (BA 1993 Trinity), founder and director of the Dominion Institute; and **Lorraine McLachlan** (BA 1994 UTSC), president and CEO of the Canadian Franchise Association. **Wendy Cecil** (BA 1971 Victoria), chairman of the President’s International Alumni Council, and **Rivi Frankle** (BA 1968 UC), interim vice-president and chief advancement officer at the University of Toronto, are ex-officio members. – *Scott Anderson*



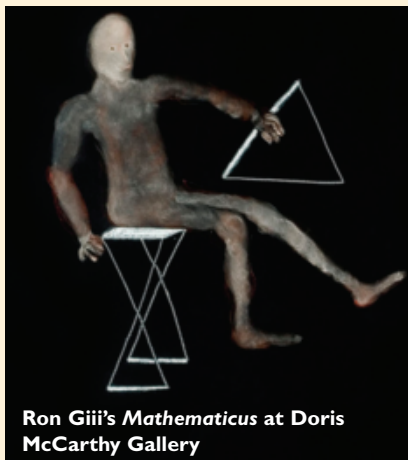
Paul Cadario



## ALUMNI EVENTS

Sept. 25. London, England. **Seventh Annual Network Canada Alumni Night.** A social evening for alumni from Canadian higher-education institutions. Prizes, speeches, cash bar, light snacks. [www.alumni.utoronto.ca/events/regional/regional.asp](http://www.alumni.utoronto.ca/events/regional/regional.asp)

Sept. 27. New York. **15<sup>th</sup> Annual Canadian Universities Alumni Reception.** Open bar, food table and live music. Advance registration. The Roosevelt Hotel on Madison Ave. and 45<sup>th</sup> Street. [www.canadianassociationny.org](http://www.canadianassociationny.org) or [events1@canadianassociationny.org](mailto:events1@canadianassociationny.org).



**Ron Giii's *Mathematicus* at Doris McCarthy Gallery**

Oct. 1. Montreal. **Alumni Reception** hosted by Prof. David Naylor. Reception: 6-8 p.m. President's remarks: 7 p.m. Montreal Museum of Fine Arts in the Hall of Mirrors. 1379 Sherbrooke St. W. [www.alumni.utoronto.ca/events/regional/regional.asp](http://www.alumni.utoronto.ca/events/regional/regional.asp)

Oct. 5. Seattle. **The 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Canada Gala.** 6 p.m.-1 a.m. The Westin Seattle. 1900 5<sup>th</sup> Ave. [www.alumni.utoronto.ca/events/regional/regional.asp](http://www.alumni.utoronto.ca/events/regional/regional.asp)

Oct. 11. **Food for the Imagination.** Food and conversation with Bonnie Stern and Prof. J. Edward Chamberlin, author of *Horse: How the Horse Has Shaped Civilizations*.

Nov. 15. **Food for the Imagination.** An evening with Bonnie Stern and nutritionist Fran Berkoff. Learn about healthy foods and how to make them delicious – and then enjoy the results.

Each Food for the Imagination event is \$135 (fee includes dinner). 6:30 p.m.-9:30 p.m. The Bonnie Stern School of Cooking, 6 Erskine Ave. Contact Sabrina Chang at (416) 978-5881 or [sm.chang@utoronto.ca](mailto:sm.chang@utoronto.ca)

Nov. 8. **Engineering Alumni Association Awards Banquet,** honouring distinguished alumni. 6 p.m. 89 Chestnut St. (416) 978-4941 or [butera@ecf.utoronto.ca](mailto:butera@ecf.utoronto.ca) or [www.engineering.utoronto.ca/informationfor/alumni/distinction.htm](http://www.engineering.utoronto.ca/informationfor/alumni/distinction.htm)

Dec. 4. Boston. **Fourth Annual All-Canadian Wine Tasting.** Open to alumni of all Canadian universities. 7 p.m. Les Zygomates Wine Bar-Bistro.

May 29-31. **Spring Reunion 2008** honours graduates of years ending in 3 or 8, with special events planned for alumni celebrating their 25<sup>th</sup> and 50<sup>th</sup> anniversaries, as well as the Chancellor's Circle Medal Ceremony honouring the 55<sup>th</sup>, 60<sup>th</sup>, 65<sup>th</sup>, 70<sup>th</sup>, 75<sup>th</sup> and 80<sup>th</sup> anniversaries of graduation. All alumni are welcome to the President's Garden Party. 1-888-738-8876 or [spring.reunion@utoronto.ca](mailto:spring.reunion@utoronto.ca)

## U of T Scarborough

Sept. 26. **Perspectives on Leadership Speaker Series.** Guest speaker: Charles Cutts (BA 1969), president and chief executive officer of the Corporation of Massey Hall and Roy Thomson Hall. Lecture: 5-7 p.m. in AA 112, Arts and Administration Building. Reception: 7-9 p.m. Ralph Campbell Lounge, B-380, Bladen Wing. 1265 Military Trail. To register, e-mail [advancement@utsc.utoronto.ca](mailto:advancement@utsc.utoronto.ca). For more info, (416) 287-5631, [tull@utsc.utoronto.ca](mailto:tull@utsc.utoronto.ca) or [www.utsc.utoronto.ca/~advancement/alumni/](http://www.utsc.utoronto.ca/~advancement/alumni/)

## REMEMBRANCE DAY CEREMONIES

Nov. 9. **Soldiers' Tower.** Carillon prelude: 10:10-10:30 a.m. Service of Remembrance: 10:30-11 a.m. Reception at Hart House will follow. The Memorial Room will be open until 3 p.m. 7 Hart House Circle. (416) 978-0147, [soldiers.tower@utoronto.ca](mailto:soldiers.tower@utoronto.ca) or [www.alumni.utoronto.ca/groups/tower.asp](http://www.alumni.utoronto.ca/groups/tower.asp)

Nov. 9. **The Meeting Place,** U of T Scarborough. [www.utsc.utoronto.ca](http://www.utsc.utoronto.ca)

## OTHER EVENTS

Sept. 23. **Parents' Day** at University of St. Michael's College. 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Brennan Hall. (416) 926-7281 or 1-866-238-3339, or [ken.schnell@utoronto.ca](mailto:ken.schnell@utoronto.ca)

Sept. 29. **Nuit Blanche.** The City of Toronto's "all-night contemporary art thing" returns to the St. George campus. Filmmaker Atom Egoyan supervises big-screen projections and live performances in the walkway between Morrison Hall and H.G. Phelan Playhouse, Mark Neremberg transforms the Faculty of Music lobby into an "electronic forest" and French artist Thierry

Geoffroy creates a participatory installation called "Emergency Room" in the U of T Art Centre and UC quadrangle. Art and performances throughout campus. 7 p.m. till sunrise. (416) 978-8638 or [www.arts.utoronto.ca/nuitblanche.htm](http://www.arts.utoronto.ca/nuitblanche.htm)

## U of T Mississauga

Oct. 19. **Official opening of the Recreation, Athletics and Wellness Centre,** one of U of T Mississauga's newest buildings, with students, staff, faculty, alumni and dignitaries in attendance. 1-3:30 p.m. (905) 828-5454 or [sue.prior@utoronto.ca](mailto:sue.prior@utoronto.ca)

## EXHIBITIONS

### Doris McCarthy Gallery

Sept. 11 to Oct. 21. **Ron Giii: Hegel's Salt Man** honours the career of Ron Giii, a senior artist whose works provide a thoughtful perspective on figurative representation, philosophy and surrealism. Opening reception is Sept. 19, 5-9 p.m. (A free shuttle bus departs 401 Richmond St. W. at 6:30 p.m.) Free. Tuesday to Friday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.; Sunday, noon-5 p.m. 1265 Military Trail. (416) 287-7007, [dmg@utsc.utoronto.ca](mailto:dmg@utsc.utoronto.ca) or [www.utsc.utoronto.ca/dmg](http://www.utsc.utoronto.ca/dmg)

### Thomas Fisher Rare Book Library

Sept. 24 to Dec. 21. **Humane Letters: An Exhibition of Bruce Rogers, Craftsman and Artist.** Monday to Friday, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. 20 St. George St. (416) 978-5285, [www.library.utoronto.ca/fisher/exhibitions/current.html](http://www.library.utoronto.ca/fisher/exhibitions/current.html)

## U of T Art Centre

To Dec. 9. **The Virgin, Saints and Angels: South American Paintings 1600-1825 from the Thoma Collection.** Free. Tuesday to Friday, 12-5 p.m., Saturday, 12-4 p.m. 15 King's College Circle. (416) 978-1838 or [www.utoronto.ca/artcentre](http://www.utoronto.ca/artcentre)

## LECTURES/CONFERENCES

Sept. 30 to Oct. 3. **International Congress on a Global Vision of Forestry in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century,** developed by the Faculty of Forestry on the occasion of its centennial. Registration: \$500. Student registration: \$125. The Toronto Marriott Downtown Eaton Centre, 525 Bay St. (416) 978-5480 or [a.veneziano@utoronto.ca](mailto:a.veneziano@utoronto.ca)

Sept. 25. **On Miracles of Nature: Mental Time Travel.** Lecture delivered by University Professor Emeritus Endel Tulving, department of psychology. Part of the University Professor Lecture Series. Free. 7:30 p.m. George Ignatieff Theatre, 15 Devonshire Place. (416) 946-7950 or [www.artsci.utoronto.ca](http://www.artsci.utoronto.ca)



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## Halloween Hijinks

A monk, marijuana and a memorable date

### HALLOWED WEED

At the end of October 1974, the Student Law Society held a Halloween party at Falconer Hall, next to the old planetarium. Falconer Hall is home to the law school's administration offices and is a heritage mansion noted for its solarium. Although often used for seminars, the solarium is a great place to throw a party.

I cannot remember whether I was dressed as a beaver or a bumblebee, those being the two costumes my fiancée made for me around that time. One student came dressed as priest, with white collar, dark jacket and pants, and carrying a Bible – a very special Bible. He conversed with people as if he were in fact duly consecrated.

When the time came for him to leave a conversation, he would open the Good Book, revealing a small hollow where he had cut out the centre portion of each page and laid several hand-rolled marijuana cigarettes. He would then offer one, with his blessing.

This story was told again and again during my years at law school, and it even came up at reunions. But as far as I know, the little wrapped packages were never tested in any scientific way to prove that they were in fact what they appeared to be.

*Rich Devenney  
LLB 1976  
Toronto*

### STRAIGHT TO HELL

I have fond memories of the Halloween parties at the townhouse residences at U of T Scarborough. During my third year as a student of medieval history, we cooked up a memorable toga party. While everyone else was going over the top in debauchery, I tied a hideous olive

green bedspread into monk's hooded robe. I tote a small Bible, waved my arms about zealously and condemned every partygoer I met to the innermost circle of hell.

*Carol Shetler  
BA 1981 UTSC  
Oshawa, Ontario*

### BLIND DATE

In 1960, I attended a truly memorable Halloween party on campus. I met my blind date, Anne Baldwin (BA 1962 Trinity), at St. Hilda's residence on Devonshire Place. From there, we proceeded to the Sigma Chi fraternity house on Huron Street to carve a pump-

kin, dance and socialize. We had a very good time, and the last dance finished with a hug and a kiss. At around midnight, I returned Anne to the grasp of a vigilant St. Hilda's doorperson, after another kiss on the doorstep. I never had a date with anyone else after that. Anne and I married four years later. It's scary how a Halloween party can change two lives!

*Richard Potter  
BA 1962 UC, LLB 1965  
Milford, Ontario*





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**Trinity College 32<sup>nd</sup> Annual Book Sale, October 19 to 23.** Proceeds to the Graham Library. To help with the sale or for book pickup, please call (416) 978-6750.

**University College Alumni Book Sale, October 12 to 16.** Friday, Sunday, Monday: noon to 8 p.m. Tuesday: noon to 4 p.m. Saturday: 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Proceeds to library and students. For more information and book pickup, please call (416) 978-0372.

**Victoria College 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Book Sale, September 27 to October 1.** Attention all book lovers! Discover thousands of books at our sale. Proceeds to Victoria University Library. Book donations and volunteers welcome. For more information, please call (416) 585-4471.

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The Adult Disabled Downhill Ski Club of Toronto is looking for enthusiastic skiing volunteers for our Saturday program, starting January 2008. Lift tickets/transportation are provided. Skiing is at a private club. Please contact Fred Gaby at (416) 445-6160 before November 6.

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- If you are considering establishing a charitable bequest, the University would be pleased to talk with you and/or your legal counsel. We can provide sample bequest wording to ensure that your gift can be used as you intend. This is the best way to avoid future complications.

### Donor Examples

#### The Estate of Mary Verna Simmonds

Mrs. Simmonds' estate provided a \$25,000 bequest to support the Joseph L. Rotman School of Management, establishing the "Mary Verna Simmonds Rotman MBA Fellowship in Social Change." The fellowship is a fitting reflection of Mrs. Simmonds' life-long interest in business. She and her late husband, George, owned a high-end men's clothing store in St. Catharines, Ontario.

#### The Estate of Louise Wilhelmina Rae

A bequest from Mrs. Rae's estate went to the University of Toronto at Mississauga. A \$2,000 legacy will augment the Dr. James J. Rae Scholarship, and approximately \$600,000 from the estate residue will establish bursaries for part-time UTM students. Mrs. Rae's bequest was in memory of her late husband, Dr. Rae — an alumnus and the first registrar of Erindale College, now UTM.

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## Heavens Above



PHOTOGRAPHY: HENRY FEATHER

U of T's Faculty of Law visitors often find themselves cooling their heels in the "fireplace foyer" of Flavelle House, the heritage building that forms the law school's entrance. The ones who look up might find themselves wanting to stay a little longer.

Four angels – painted in the delicately tinted colours representative of art nouveau – stare serenely down from the ceiling. The painting style, which evokes stained glass and is among the best of its kind in Toronto, is a throwback to the late 19<sup>th</sup>-century Arts and Crafts movement.

The ceiling – completed shortly after Flavelle House opened in 1902 – is the work of Gustav Hahn, a German emigrant who painted murals in many prominent Toronto buildings. Renovators discovered Hahn ceiling panels lining the Ontario Legislature chamber at Queen's Park in 1994; they had been covered in horsehair and canvas since 1912. Those recently restored murals and the Flavelle House ceiling are now included in the Toronto Inventory of Heritage Properties.

Hahn was head designer at Elliott and Sons in Toronto, which specialized in church interiors, for two decades. In 1995, his artwork at St. Paul's Avenue Road United Church was destroyed by fire. This leaves only his Flavelle House ceiling mural intact, and ensures harried law students can cast their bleary eyes up to the heavens for a tranquil moment.



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