



of

UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO MAGAZINE

BATTLE ON  
VIMY RIDGE

JOAN OF  
ARCHITECTURE

PHOTO  
CONTEST  
WINNERS

# AQUA MAN

Colin Russell  
Leads UofT  
Olympians  
on a Quest  
for Gold





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PHOTOGRAPHY: CHRISTOPHER WAHL

*Cover photograph of Colin Russell by Christopher Wahl*



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## City Builders

Two grads who have helped shape today's Toronto

AS MUCH AS CITY PLANNERS LIKE TO GUIDE URBAN DEVELOPMENT, A LOT OF growth happens organically. The late, great urban theorist Jane Jacobs believed this was how cities *should* evolve and criticized mid-20<sup>th</sup> century planning policies that sought to divide city land among industrial, commercial and residential uses. The great advantage of cities, she reasoned, was the mixing that took place – homes next to (or on top of) shops, and offices next to industries – to create interesting and innovative communities. As the journalist Robert Fulford once noted, Jacobs advocated for the “spontaneous inventiveness of individuals” rather than abstract plans imposed by governments.

In this issue, in separate stories, we profile two graduates of U of T's Faculty of Architecture who embody this idea of “spontaneous inventiveness.” Both graduated in the 1950s, but their careers took very different paths. John Daniels became a developer and worked on many large-scale projects – including the Eaton Centre and TD Centre – that helped turn a sleepy provincial capital into a modern metropolis. Joan Burt, one of the first two dozen women to graduate from the faculty since its inception in the 1920s, worked on a much smaller scale. She renovated old and decaying homes (or rows of homes), rejuvenating them and their neighbourhoods and thereby preserving some of the city's history while also making Toronto a better place to live.

Although Daniels may be best known for the city-changing projects he helped build with Cadillac Fairview, since 1983 his own company – The Daniels Corporation – has also specialized in home construction. The company is currently working on projects ranging from high-end condominiums at Festival Tower to the more affordable housing being created as part of the Regent Park redevelopment. Of all the developers working in Toronto, Daniels has been the most actively involved in the construction of affordable housing – a reflection, he says, of his own immigrant roots and desire to help the people who most need it. “Shelter is a basic human need and it's very rewarding to be able to provide shelter in its many forms,” he says.

While Jacobs touted individual inventiveness, nothing celebrates individual drive and determination quite like the Olympic Games. This year, at least five U of T athletes will compete in Beijing (four are profiled here, beginning on page 20; a fifth, swimmer Martyn Forde, qualified in late May as we were going to press). Some of the athletes were present at an event in April at Varsity Centre to celebrate U of T's history of extraordinary athletic achievement. It was an overwhelming display of sporting talent that included more than 50 athletes, coaches and medical staff from ages 24 to 94 who together had participated in every Olympics since 1936. The event also served to highlight the university's commitment to maintaining its strong record in athletics. As David Naylor notes in his president's message, U of T wants to do its part to ensure that Canadian athletes reach the medal podiums at the Olympics.

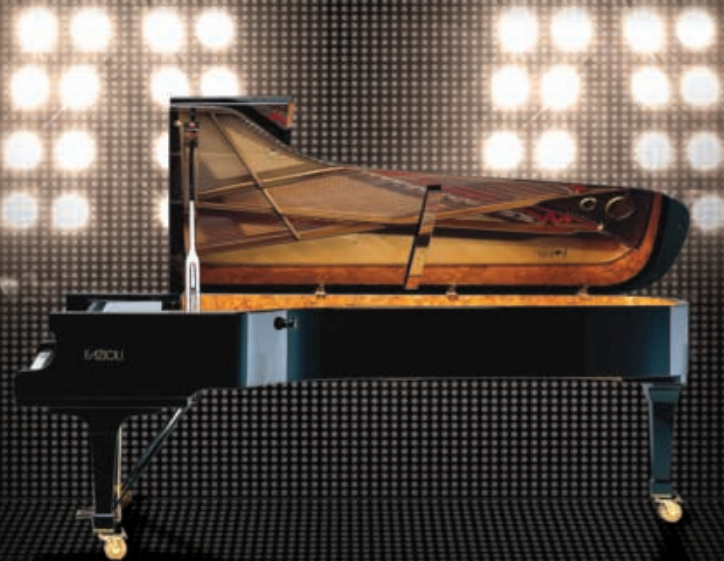
Finally, check out the three winners of The Great University of Toronto Photo Contest on page 32. The rest of the top 10 are included on our website, at [www.magazine.utoronto.ca](http://www.magazine.utoronto.ca).

**SCOTT ANDERSON**



# best (adjective)

1. of the highest quality, excellence, or standing: *the best work; the best materials.*
2. most advantageous, suitable, or desirable: *the best option.*
3. largest; most: *the best part of a day.*



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## Athletic Renaissance

UofT is creating opportunities for athletes at all levels

THE SUMMER OLYMPICS WILL SOON COMMENCE IN BEIJING, and excitement is already building for the 2010 Winter Games in Vancouver. As in the past, the University of Toronto will send several athletes and coaches to both events – a testament to our strong and proud Olympic legacy. At a recent Varsity Centre celebration, Brian Williams, the dean of Canadian sports broadcasters, introduced some 50 U of T athletes, coaches and medical staff who together had participated in every Summer Games since 1936. Over the past century more than 400 U of T community members have participated in the Olympics, winning a total of 94 medals, including 37 gold – a truly stunning record.

The Varsity event affirmed the university's commitment to providing the best athletic facilities for all students. At the core of this commitment on the central campus are the new Varsity Centre and the planned Goldring Centre for High-Performance Sport. The Goldring Centre has been very generously supported by the Goldring family of AGF fame with an \$11-million gift. In late 2006, the University of Toronto Mississauga opened the Recreation, Athletics and Wellness Centre (RAWC), a spectacular facility with great sightlines and workout spaces. The University of Toronto Scarborough is now headed in a similar direction. Its playing fields already host the Varsity Blues baseball team, but a major fitness and recreation centre is very much on the radar of

the U of T Scarborough leadership team.

Why invest in athletics and recreation? The reasons are varied.

First, hosting nationally and internationally competitive athletes is a great way for the university to give back to its community. The Varsity Centre has a world-class track and playing field, and the new Goldring Centre will offer top-tier athletes access to outstanding coaching, sport-specific and cross-training facilities and the David L. MacIntosh sports medicine clinic.

As well, our Varsity Blues teams foster a sense of community and school spirit, engage students in campus events, and galvanize broader participation in sports and fitness. These young athletes can be great role models. Since 1995, nine Varsity Blues have won Rhodes Scholarships. And compared to the rest of the student body, U of T athletes are significantly more likely to achieve honours standing.

More generally, our students, staff and faculty all deserve up-to-date and welcoming athletics facilities. Working out is a great antidote to the stresses of university life and the sedentary nature of academic work. A vibrant and varied athletics program, including strong intramural teams, is a wonderful way



### A Proud Record

University of Toronto is a provincial powerhouse in intercollegiate sports. The women's swim team has placed first in Ontario every year since 2000 and the field hockey team

has won five provincial championships. Since the decade began, UofT has placed tops in Ontario in 18 sports, and won a national crown in women's sports three times: in ice hockey, field hockey and cross-country running.

SPORT	Number of OUA Championships 2000-08	SPORT	Number of OUA Championships 2000-08
Badminton	1 Joint League	Lacrosse	2 Women's
Baseball	2	Rowing	1 Women's
Basketball	1 Women's	Soccer	1 Men's
Cross-Country	1 Women's	Squash	3 Women's
Curling	1 Women's, 1 Men's	Swimming	7 Men's, 8 Women's
Fencing	4 Men's, 1 Women's	Tennis	2 Men's, 4 Women's
Field Hockey	5	Track and Field	1 Women's
Ice Hockey	3 Women's	Volleyball	3 Men's, 4 Women's
Indoor Hockey	2	Water Polo	4 Men's

PHOTOGRAPHY: LAURA ARSIE



for students to connect with each other and strive for excellence outside of the classroom.

In that regard, it's important to remember that, whether at U of T Mississauga's RAWC, the Goldring Centre or the Varsity complex, the vast majority of people who will use the new athletics facilities will be U of T students and community members, not top-tier athletes. These facilities will host a huge range of intramural sports, including badminton, lacrosse and Ultimate Frisbee, to name a few. We are already seeing students, staff and faculty incorporating workouts into their daily routines at U of T Mississauga. Downtown, our plans call for another way to engage students. Next to the Goldring Centre will be the new Student Commons, an exciting initiative led by the undergraduate student union. By aligning these facilities, we anticipate that many students will visit the Goldring Centre after class to work out, grab a bite to eat at the Student Commons, relax with friends, and then come back to the Goldring Centre to watch a volleyball or basketball game at the internationally certified field house. (We've received a wonderful benefaction to support and name that field house; stay tuned!)

On one level, of course, the university is simply upgrading out-of-date facilities to meet the needs of our intercollegiate and intramural programs. U of T has long boasted one of the

largest and most successful university sports programs in North America. Today we have 45 men's and women's intercollegiate teams competing in 26 sports. (The university has been one of the forerunners in providing opportunities for women's sports and was the first in Canada to create a gender equity program in athletics.) Recent football troubles notwithstanding, U of T teams have excelled in numerous sports for a long time. Our Varsity Blues swimmers hold the record for most consecutive championships – 32 – of any swim team in Canada. And since 1972, the women's ice hockey team has captured a league-topping 17 Ontario conference championships (see facing page).

The addition of the Goldring Centre and first-rate track and field at the Varsity Centre speak to a new level of commitment. We are proudly stepping up to help put Canadian athletes on medal podiums in the Summer Olympics. But here, too, we have history on our side. Olympic excellence is in U of T's bloodstream.

Many alumni will visit U of T in June for convocation ceremonies. We hope you will take the time to visit Varsity Centre or RAWC and see for yourself what your university's renewed commitment to athletics is all about.

*Sincerely,*

**DAVID NAYLOR**

UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

## Annual General Meeting

Tuesday, June 24, 2008, 5:30 p.m. • Great Hall of Hart House

### GUEST SPEAKER:

**Mr. Steve Paikin (BA 1981 VIC)**

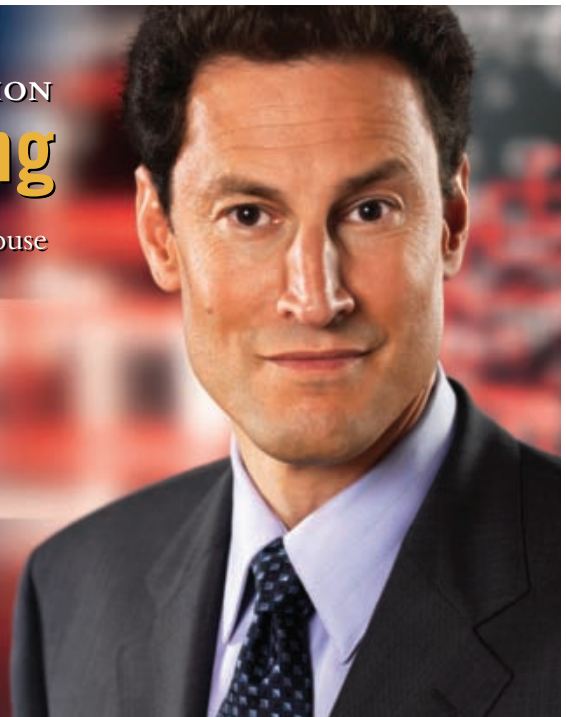
**Public Triumph, Private Tragedy: The Double Life of John P. Roberts**

The business portion of the meeting will include consideration of, and a vote on, by-law amendments. For details on the by-law amendments and for event information, please visit [www.alumni.utoronto.ca/events/campus.asp](http://www.alumni.utoronto.ca/events/campus.asp)

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Call the Alumni Hotline: **1-888-738-8876** or e-mail: [kim.graham@utoronto.ca](mailto:kim.graham@utoronto.ca).

A complimentary barbecue will follow in the Hart House Quadrangle.



# Caution on Carbon

Other pollutants warrant greater attention

The article “Smoke and Mirrors” (Spring 2008) suggests Canadians ought to “get serious” about Kyoto and that we should pay closer attention to the goods we import from “countries that ignore Kyoto.” I think it’s time we started looking at what other countries import from us.

It’s annoying that self-righteous Europeans and environmentalists, living in the lap of luxury, fail to understand Canada’s size and climate and don’t take into consideration Canadian resources that find their way to Europe and the rest of the world. The carbon dioxide emissions caused by the oil and gas we produce and sell to other nations ought to be given back to us in the form of carbon credits.

However, for my money, we are worrying about the wrong pollutant. During the time of the dinosaurs, when – I’m sorry to contradict the creationists! – there were no human beings on Earth, carbon dioxide was present in the atmosphere at many times greater than present levels. Far better we put the money into controlling gases such as nitrogen oxides and sulphur dioxide, which pollute both air and water. This is something we can control. Better yet, have governments promote population decrease. And convince David Suzuki to stop writing books made from forest products and flying all over the world to promote them. He preaches, but his “carbon footprint” is enormous.

I agree. It’s time we get serious.

*Mike Spence  
BA 1966 New College  
Victoria*

## SMOKE AND MIRRORS

So far Canada has taken no real action on climate change. It’s time to get serious about Kyoto

BY JOHN LORINC

IN FOUR SHORT YEARS, the Kyoto Protocol will expire, leaving behind the ineffectiveness of Canada’s six successive climate-change plans.

The numbers also tell the tale. While Canada committed to reduce greenhouse gas emissions to six per cent below 1990 levels by 2012, the reality is that we’re more than 30 per cent above that benchmark. And thanks to the oil sands, production in northern Alberta, our emissions continue to rise. During last November’s climate change summit in Bali, the European Union signalled it is looking for a successor to Kyoto that would reduce greenhouse gas emissions by as much as 40 per cent from 1990 levels by 2020. For Canada, that would mean cutting our current emissions by more than half.

Canada’s dismal record illustrates the failure of voluntary programs and clean-energy subsidies. Under both the Liberals and now the Conservatives, Ottawa has sought to reduce emissions using consumer incentives for fuel-efficient cars and energy-efficient homes, research, grants, and subsidies for transit and renewable energy projects, such as wind farms. Extensively, the current policy is that they’re all out in the future, says University of Toronto economics professor Don Dewees. “That’s a mistake because we wind up doing nothing.”

During its Kyoto holding, climate change experts increasingly stress the need for a more assertive approach.

Some politicians are taking heed. Earlier this year, British Columbia became the first jurisdiction in North America to impose a genuine carbon tax. Until recently, such moves were shied by how quickly public opinion is shifting. A poll conducted in February found that three out of four British Columbians support a carbon tax. “A year ago, I would have said, ‘Let’s not talk about a carbon tax because it’s politically hopeless.’ But that’s changing,” says Dewees.

As Canada heads toward the next round of climate talks, experts to propose an effective climate change strategy that will get us on track to meet our Kyoto commitments – without hobbling the economy.

### ESTABLISH A NATIONAL CARBON TAX

According to Dewees, Canada must move quickly to enact a national \$150/tonne carbon tax rather than continue to put off effective change. “A good plan will impose costs everyone will feel within a year,” he says.

The premise behind the carbon tax comes directly out of Economics 101. The earth’s atmosphere has a limited capacity to absorb carbon dioxide (and the five other major greenhouse gases), so this capacity must be treated as a resource with a tangible economic value. “Putting a price on the atmosphere is critical,” says Mark Jaccard, an economist at Simon Fraser University and co-author, with *Globe and Mail* columnist Jeffrey Simpson, of *Hot Air*. “The abatement of greenhouse gas emissions will not occur without it.”

But what is the right price? B.C.’s new \$10/tonne levy on carbon emissions will add less than three cents to the cost of a litre of gasoline and heating oil, although the tax will rise to \$30/tonne by 2012 – a ramp-up Dewees describes as “aggressive but possible.” Some proponents argue that Ottawa should set the rate at regular intervals to \$100 by 2030. Dewees believes a range of \$50 by 2020 is more realistic.

Then there is the question of what the government should do with the extra revenue. Some environmental groups, such as the Pembina Institute, argue that governments should use the carbon tax windfall to fund transit and renewable energy projects. But Dewees disagrees, arguing that the money should be returned to taxpayers either in the

## THE DIFFICULT DR. HOUSE

Regarding “The House that Dave Built” (Winter 2008), I encourage my students to watch *House* – because it clearly shows what is wrong with our health-care systems. *House* is one of a number of television shows that romanticize old-school notions of health-care practice. Dr. House is a bully. He bullies junior staff, other professionals and even his patients. Despite consistent recommendations for improvement, television medical shows glorify bullying, endorse finding others to blame and generally destroy the notion of effective teamwork in providing high-quality, safe health care. Are we reinforcing poor practice among a new generation of health-care practitioners?

*Sandra G. Leggat  
BSc 1978, MSc 1985  
PhD 1998  
Melbourne, Australia*

I was pleased to read the article about how U of T law grad David Shore has been involved in the creation of the misanthropic doctor in the TV show *House*.

Regrettably, as a retired anatomist with longstanding medical experience, I must point out that it contravenes all clinical logic to see Dr. House limping about the set with his cane in the wrong hand!

All patients requiring the use of a cane to assist with walking on a traumatized lower limb use the cane in the opposite hand to prevent an excruciating limp, such as the one shown by Dr. House.

*Harry Lee  
BA 1972 Woodsworth, MEd 1975  
Perth, Australia*

## SEPARATION FOR PROTECTION

The article on Gregory Levey (“The View from Tel Aviv,” Spring 2008) states



that Israel built its security barrier “to separate itself from the West Bank Palestinians.” This is a small error, but one with ramifications.

In fact, the barrier was built solely to reduce the number of suicide-bomb attacks that killed so many civilians just a few years ago. How quickly we forget. By using that expression, the writer is unintentionally validating the “apartheid state” canard.

Before the intifada and the attendant epidemic of terrorism, there was considerable movement of people and goods between Israel and the future Palestinian state. That growing familiarity and normality was one of the saddest victims of the bombings.

*Andrew Gann  
PhD 1978  
Toronto*

### THE VALUE OF AID WORK

I am a former fieldworker with Médecins Sans Frontières, and although I never had the pleasure of working alongside Dr. Orbinski (profiled in “A Doctor in Kigali,” Spring 2008), his observations ring so familiar and so true. For me, the personal moment of transformation was Bosnia in 1994.

The motivation for being an aid worker is often as simple as wanting to help for the sake of helping. In the end, it was my conscience I had to answer to. I did what I could and saved who I could and that is what made living with my conscience bearable.

Over time, it is the small things – the faint smile from an aggrieved mother, the children waving, the sigh of relief from a tormented brother – that almost smother the bad memories. These are the gems worth more to me than all the accolades and prizes in the world.

*Aubrey Verboven  
BA 1992 New College  
Ottawa*

### SUPPORT FOR OUT-OF-TOWNERS

Deborah Wildish believes that U of T

should increase its capacity to support students commuting to school from within the Greater Toronto Area (Letters, Spring 2008).

However, support is also needed for Ontario families living in communities without universities, since our children who attend university must pay for both room and board *and* the direct costs of their post-secondary education.

If U of T does follow through with a strategy of enrolling more students from outside of Toronto, then I think the university should consider how those students will pay for their living expenses – and perhaps offer greater access to student loans or other financial assistance.

*Howard Bartlett  
BAsc 1959  
Sarnia, Ontario*

### ALZHEIMER’S PROGRESS

The article “Untangling Alzheimer’s” in

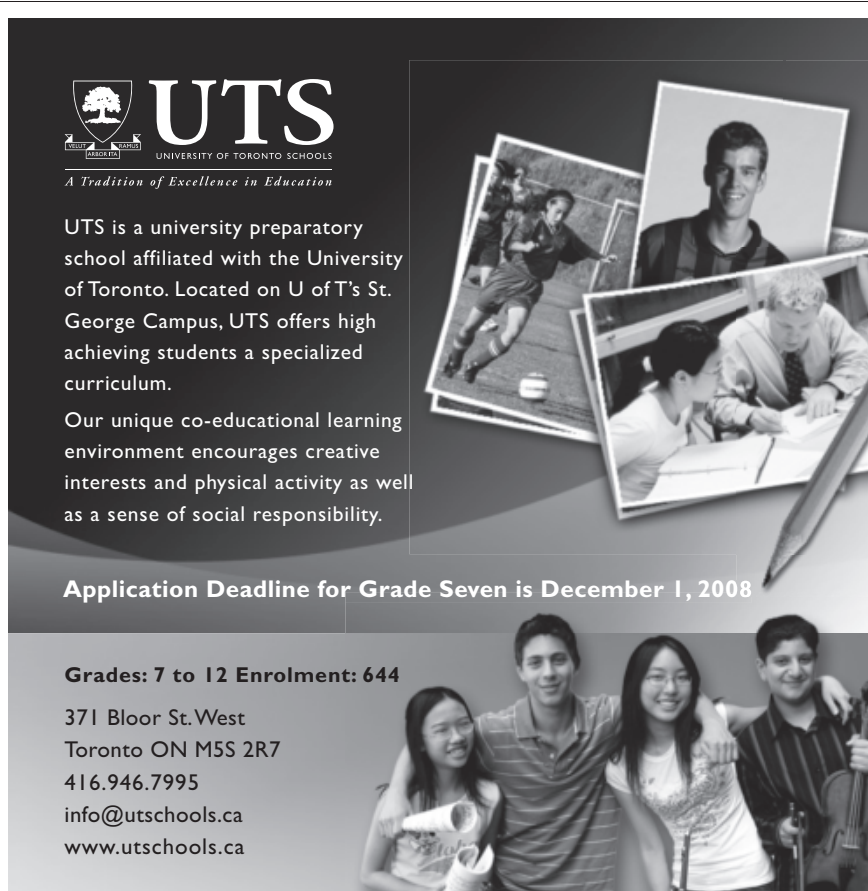
the winter issue brought back a flood of memories. My late husband, Arthur G. Reynolds (BA 1931 VIC, MA 1932), served the church and college. In retirement, I noticed a gradual change in his behaviour; the diagnosis was Alzheimer’s disease. I belonged to Toronto’s first family support group for the disease, led by Walter Lyons, a social worker at Baycrest Hospital.

Now, years later, I give thanks for the help we received and for the progress made in the study, understanding and treatment of Alzheimer’s.

*Elizabeth Reynolds  
Certificate in Clinical Nursing 1944  
Toronto*

### Correction

William McConkey (BSc 1987) did not receive the Order of Ontario, as was reported in the Spring 2008 issue. The award went to John William McConkey, who is not a U of T grad.



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## Home Smart Home

UofT professor Alex Mihailidis is designing a house with artificial intelligence that will help sufferers of dementia



Professor Alex Mihailidis and his students design “intelligent home” software

For most people, using toilets and washing their hands are such simple tasks they barely think about them. But for some sufferers of dementia and Alzheimer’s disease, they can seem confusing and overwhelming.

“What we typically see [with Alzheimer’s patients] is they go into the wash-room and just stand there, and don’t remember why they’re there,” says Alex Mihailidis, an assistant professor of occupational science and occupational therapy at U of T. Through his research in the Intelligent Environment Laboratory at the groundbreaking iDAPT (Toronto Rehab’s Intelligent Design for Adaptation, Participation and Technology facilities), Mihailidis is working on technologies that will restore a meas-

ure of independence and privacy to sufferers of dementia. iDAPT, a suite of high-tech laboratories still under construction, will be one of the world’s most advanced centres for research into disability and rehabilitation when it is completed in 2011.

Mihailidis and his colleagues have built an artificial intelligence system that can recognize when patients need help and prompt them with instructions. Cameras in the ceiling track the user’s movements and behaviour; computer software interprets what the cameras see, detects what kind of help is needed and provides spoken instructions or even video tutorials to prompt the patient to the next action. The software adapts to its user, learning what level of prompting

is required. “With one person it can provide a generalized cue, where it would say, ‘Dry your hands,’” says Mihailidis, “whereas another person might require a little more detail, so the prompt may be structured to address the person by name, and play a video that shows the person how to turn the water on or how to use the soap.”

Variations on this system are already in use in three Toronto nursing homes, and Mihailidis and his team are using those real-world experiences to refine the software further. He’s also developing a similar system to detect when a person has fallen down. Today’s commercially available medical-alert systems for elderly patients require that the person remember to put on their necklace or bracelet every day, and be able to activate it if they fall; with artificial intelligence and computer vision, Mihailidis’ system could recognize any sign of trouble and call for help on its own. He is also investigating how the system could help children with autism.

Mihailidis says the ultimate goal of his research is an “intelligent home” in which artificial intelligence means “the house understands your intent, and provides assistance to you in a non-invasive fashion.” Along with dementia sufferers, it could also help with everyday forgetfulness: “It’ll recognize that I’m walking out the door without my car keys,” says Mihailidis, “and it’ll say, ‘Alex, your car keys are in the living room.’”

— *Graham F. Scott*



# A Blast into the Universe's Past

IT'S not every day that a scientist becomes a movie star, but astronomy professor Barth Netterfield has embraced both roles – thanks to a feature-length documentary that premiered at Toronto's Hot Docs festival this spring, and will air on Discovery Channel Canada in late autumn.

"BLAST: Science Hanging by a String," directed by Emmy-winning filmmaker Paul Devlin, is named after a cosmological experiment that has taken Netterfield and his students halfway around the world over the last few years. The Balloon-borne Large Aperture Submillimetre Telescope flies high into the stratosphere, hanging from a giant NASA helium balloon. With much of the earth's atmosphere beneath it, the telescope can map distant stars and galaxies in unprecedented detail, helping astronomers understand how the first structures to appear in our universe formed and evolved. Many of



Professor Barth Netterfield

BLAST's components were built in Toronto by Netterfield and his students. "I think it's such a fun story," says Netterfield. "It's good to be able to share it."

The film's director had unprecedented access to the researchers: his brother, Mark Devlin of the University of Pennsylvania, is the lead investigator on BLAST. Paul Devlin follows the sci-

entists on their quest, as Netterfield and the team conduct trials in northern Sweden, the Canadian Arctic and finally Antarctica – often waiting weeks for a launch opportunity. (The project was a four-country collaboration between Canada, the United States, the United Kingdom and Mexico. About a dozen scientists, including students, were involved in any one launch attempt.) Along the way, they cope with extreme weather, malfunctioning equipment and smashed mirrors, as well as the boredom and frustration that comes from being thousands of miles away from friends and family. The final drama unfolds when a parachute doesn't detach when it's supposed to, dragging the telescope – along with BLAST's precious data-filled computer hard drives – some 220 kilometres across the ice.

"With science, most people only see the results," says Netterfield. "Here they can see what it's like to actually do it."

– Dan Falk

## When Inventors Emigrate

Engineers, scientists and other inventors who head to new jobs in other countries create a host of economic side-benefits for their new organization and country – as well as for the organization they left behind. That's because the expansion of these innovators' social and professional networks brings fresh ideas and know-how flowing to their current organization and back to their previous one, as they stay in touch with old colleagues. Eventually, this process broadens the knowledge base in the inventor's new country as well. These findings (based on empirical evidence from patent citations used to track the flow of ideas), are contained in a study by Alexander Oettl, a PhD student, and Ajay Agrawal, Peter Munk Professor of Entrepreneurship, both at U of T's Rotman School of Management.

Recruiting firms, however, only pay for the value they can capture themselves – not for the value that other local firms derive from the addition of new talent to the community. Economists refer to this extra value as an "externality" since it is external to the priced transaction between employer and employee (salary, for example). As a result, from a national welfare perspective, firms often under-invest in hiring the best foreign talent. Oettl and Agrawal argue that because certain recruits generate large positive externalities for a region, it may make sense for the government to subsidize these particular hires. And companies who lose prized employees to other countries can improve the "half-life" of the loss by maintaining or re-establishing relationships through such efforts as alumni networks. – Ken McGuffin

## Immigrants Choose Suburbs

Newcomers to Canada are more likely to settle in the suburbs than in the downtown areas of large cities, which previous generations of immigrants called home, a new study shows.

In *Diversity and Concentration in Canadian Immigration: Trends in Toronto, Montréal and Vancouver, 1971-2006*, researcher Robert Murdie analyzes information from the 2006 census and compares it with historical data. He finds that Toronto and Vancouver now attract a large proportion of Asian immigrants who tend to favour the suburbs, whereas Montreal's newcomers are more likely to hail from Europe and Africa and live in the city centre.

Continued on page 12

PHOTOGRAPHY: CHRISTOPHER SEMISCH

## Frequent Flyers and Sky-High Airfares

Loyalty has its rewards. But a recent study shows it has its costs, too, with frequent flyer programs driving airfares at key hub airports up by about five per cent. More expensive tickets, such as business class, have been pushed even higher – by about nine per cent.

Mara Lederman – the study’s author and a strategic management professor at Rotman School of Management – examined partnerships formed in the late 1990s between American Airlines and US Airways; Delta Air Lines and United Airlines; and Continental Airlines and Northwest Airlines. She found that after the partnerships took effect, fares increased at those airports



where partners dominated the flight schedule. For example, United experienced higher fares on its flights from Atlanta – an airport at which its partner, Delta, operates the majority of flights and where most people collect Delta frequent flyer miles.

This suggests that travellers were willing to pay more when they could earn their preferred airline’s frequent flyer points.

The findings suggest that a frequent flyer program could hike the price of a one-way flight out of a major hub airport by about \$7 to \$10, and at least \$25 for a one-way business ticket. Lederman adds that government restrictions on these programs could lower flight costs for consumers.

– Ken McGuffin

### Continued from page 11

Canada’s three largest cities attract 70 per cent of all newcomers to the country, a far higher share than in previous decades.

According to the study, the presence of family, friends or other people from the same ethnic background is the most important factor for newcomers choosing a city in which to live – far greater than the availability of a job or educational opportunity.

Murdie, a researcher with the Centre for Urban and Community Studies at U of T’s new Cities Centre, says many immigrants now choose to live in the suburbs because housing prices in downtown Toronto and Vancouver have soared out of reach and because lower-wage jobs have dispersed to the suburbs.

Murdie says the study raises questions for governments about how best to integrate

newcomers into Canadian society. The shift in immigrant origins from European countries to Asia and Africa has created challenges for service providers and municipal authorities in accommodating ethnic, racial and religious diversity. These challenges are concentrated in the three biggest metropolitan areas. Murdie wonders whether some immigrants would find it easier to settle and adjust to Canada if they chose smaller communities, where there is less strain on services.

He cautions that Toronto’s “inner suburbs,” especially, require “appropriate settlement services, adequate and affordable housing, educational opportunities and skills training” to avoid the social tensions being experienced in some Western European cities.

– Scott Anderson and Philippa Campsie

## From Earth to the Moon

Although she never dreamed of being an astronaut, Rebecca Ghent’s eyes have long been on the skies. An assistant professor of geology at U of T, Ghent specializes in the processes occurring on the surfaces of other planets. She most recently worked on mapping the nearside of the moon using radar pulses transmitted from a telescope in Puerto Rico. This March, NASA selected Ghent as one of 24 scientists to analyze data gathered by the Lunar Reconnaissance Orbiter. The unmanned spacecraft will launch later this year to find safe and scientifically profitable landing sites for NASA’s return to the moon. The Orbiter will carry a number of instruments, and Ghent will work on a team dedicated to the Diviner Lunar Radiometer, which will beam back thermal mapping measurements. (Rocks of different compositions and physical properties radiate heat differently. Thermal maps measure radiation patterns, which help scientists determine the composition and texture of materials on a planet’s surface.) Ghent’s focus is on craters, and specifically the particles ejected when meteorites collide with the moon. “You can get boulders the size of houses, all the way down to grains of sand,” notes Ghent. Researchers will use the data to help answer questions about the formation of the moon and the history of particles in the universe.

– Tim Johnson



Professor  
Rebecca  
Ghent





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Province: \_\_\_\_\_ Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_ Tel: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_ Alumni ID number \_\_\_\_\_

Please send me additional information about individual trips: Yes  No

Please check off the trips for which you would like to receive information:

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- Thailand & Malaysia
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- Treasures of Southern Africa (South Africa & Zambia)
- Wonders of the Galapagos Islands
- Expedition to Antarctica
- Dubai
- Australia & New Zealand
- Legends of the Nile (Egypt)
- Alumni College in Peru
- Waterways of Holland & Belgium
- Alumni College in Chianti (Italy)
- Alumni College in Spain (Barcelona & San Sebastian)
- Alumni College in Bohemia (Czech Republic)
- Alumni College in Alaska
- Flavours of Burgundy & Provence (France)
- Cruising the Baltic Sea & Norwegian Fjords (Norway, Denmark, Poland, Lithuania, Latvia, Sweden, Estonia, Russia)
- Alumni College in Ukraine & Romania
- Alumni College in Iceland
- Alumni College on the Rhine River (Germany)
- Passage of Peter the Great (Russia)
- Celtic Lands (Ireland, Scotland, Wales, England, France)

- Ancient Wonders of the Mediterranean (Turkey, Italy, Greece)
- Croatia & Venetian Treasures (Croatia & Italy)
- Romance of the Blue Danube (Germany, Austria, Slovak Republic, Hungary, Serbia, Bulgaria, Romania)
- Vienna, Budapest, Prague
- Best of Tuscany & Italian Riviera (Italy)
- Amalfi Coast (Italy)
- Wonders of Southeast Asia (Bali, Singapore, Malaysia, Hong Kong)

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#### GREAT ADVENTURES

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Jan 18 - 26  
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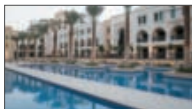
Jan 20 - Feb 2  
Treasures of Southern Africa  
(South Africa & Zambia)  
\$5795 + air



Jan 23 - 31  
Wonders of the  
Galapagos Islands  
From \$3475 + air



Jan 30 - Feb 12  
Expedition to Antarctica  
From \$5645 + air



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Dubai  
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(Italy)  
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May 13 - 24  
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June 2 - 10  
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June 7 - 18  
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Provence (France)  
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June 22 - July 4  
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Norwegian Fjords (Norway - Russia)  
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Alumni College in Ukraine  
& Romania  
From \$2195 + air



July 30 - Aug 7  
Alumni College in Iceland  
\$2995 + air



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Alumni College on the  
Rhine River (Germany)  
From \$2595 + air



Aug 21 - Sept 3  
Passage of Peter the  
Great (Russia)  
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Wales, England, France)  
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Mediterranean (Turkey, Italy,  
Greece) From \$4340 + air



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Croatia & Venetian  
Treasures (Croatia & Italy)  
\$1499 + air



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Slovak Republic, Hungary, Serbia,  
Bulgaria, Romania)  
From \$4095 + air



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Vienna, Budapest,  
Prague  
\$3195 + air



Oct 2 - 10  
Best of Tuscany & Italian  
Riviera (Italy)  
\$1499 + air



Nov 18 - 26  
Amalfi Coast (Italy)  
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Asia (Bali, Singapore,  
Malaysia, Hong Kong)  
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Masters Golf  
Tournament (USA)  
\$5250 US + air

## GREAT CAUSE



Oct 2 - 14  
Build a UoF School in  
Kenya  
\$5250 + air

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.

## The Jazz Singer

Commerce student Sophie Milman wins a Juno for *Make Someone Happy*

U of T commerce student Sophie Milman titled her latest album *Make Someone Happy*. But it's safe to say her distinctive vocal jazz recordings and live performances have made a whole lot of someones happy. After all, Milman recently won a 2008 Juno Award for Best Vocal Jazz Album. Her first CD was also nominated for a Juno, but she says winning for *Make Someone Happy* was particularly sweet because it is such a personal record.

"The song selection was all about my life story," she says. "If you look at the songs collectively, that's pretty much me. That's Sophie Milman, with all my happiness and sadness." Hence the sunny bossa nova version of "Undun," the sly flirtation of "Fever" and a mournful arrangement of the Hebrew-language poem "Eli, Eli." (All but one of the songs on *Make Someone Happy* are covers.) Milman immigrated with her family from Russia to Israel at age seven, then to Canada at 16, and her feelings of never quite fitting in led her to music. "I'm a Russian Jew, and twice an immigrant, so I have this melancholy in me," she says. "I think that comes through in the record."

Milman, 25, never formally studied music; her education was taking jazz albums out of the Toronto Public Library, memorizing



them and then returning them for another stack. After singing solo at a few high school music nights, a friend suggested she perform at Real Divas, a Toronto concert series. Three gigs later, she had a recording contract. Milman now has concerts booked well into the fall – including a week at the iconic Blue Note in New York – and studio time slated to produce her third album. On top of that, she’s determined to finish her bachelor of commerce degree at U of T’s Rotman School of Management. (She has only two courses left.)

“People ask me why I keep pursuing my degree – why not just quit? I have lots of gigs coming up, and the money’s OK, but I really love learning. I really enjoy the whole process of researching economics,” says Milman. “Travelling the world singing is fun, but it’s also unbelievably taxing and exhausting. Sometimes I do think, if I could just write papers for a living...”

– Graham F. Scott

## Uof T Nabs Record Number of Juno Nominations

Sophie Milman was the sole U of T student to garner a Juno Award – but she was not the only University of Toronto winner. (It was a record year for U of T nominations, with university members accruing 15 nods in seven categories.) **Christos Hatzis**, a professor of composition, won Classical Composition of the Year for his work *Constantinople*. (The recording features the Gryphon Trio, the Faculty of Music’s resident ensemble. Two of its members, pianist Jamie Parker and violinist Annalee Patipatanakoon, are U of T faculty.) This is the second Juno for Hatzis, an accomplished composer whose work is inspired by early Christian spirituality, his own Byzantine heritage and various non-classical music genres. Hatzis is now writing the

music for *Pauline*, an opera based on the life of poet, writer and actress Pauline Johnson. The libretto is being written by author Margaret Atwood (BA 1961 Victoria).

Classical soprano and 1998 Faculty of Music grad **Measha Brueggergosman** won a Juno Award for Classical Album of the Year: Vocal or Choral Performance. It was presented for *Surprise*, her solo album recorded for the elite Deutsche Grammophon label. Brueggergosman has performed with the New York Philharmonic and the London Symphony Orchestra, and some of her prestigious concert engagements include Carnegie Hall and a Royal Command Performance for Queen Elizabeth II.

– Elaine Smith

## Headz over Heels for Hip Hop

IT might not seem like University of Toronto students would need a club to appreciate hip hop: rap music is comfortably mainstream, in heavy rotation on the radio and selling out stadium concerts. The members of Hip Hop Headz, the U of T club devoted to all aspects of hip hop culture, beg to differ.

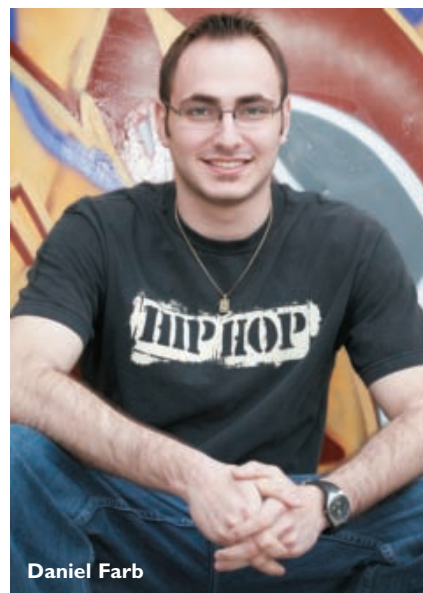
“In the mainstream media, you might hear about gangsta rap and a lot of materialist notions,” says Daniel Farb, president of Hip Hop Headz – or H3 as they’re often known – and who raps under the stage name MC FÜBB. “That’s fine, but we’re not advocating just that. We’re advocating the skills and talents involved, whether it’s breakdancing or rapping or DJing or graffiti or beatboxing.”

Farb, who will enter his fourth year in philosophy and psychology in September, says the hip hop scene in Toronto is diffuse and H3 exists to be a central gathering point for U of T stu-

dents interested in the culture. The group hosts graffiti sessions where painters can show off their technique on boards (not walls, Farb is quick to point out), screens hip hop documentaries, arranges concert trips, occasionally hosts freestyle battles (where rappers compete in front of a crowd to make up the best rhymes on the spot) and has even run breakdancing workshops.

“Hip hop is about self-expression; it’s like any other art form,” says Farb. And while it’s been successfully commercialized around the world, he says most hip hop doesn’t look like what you see on MTV. “A lot of people don’t seem to get that. The majority of what goes on in hip hop is all underground.”

Hip Hop Headz lost some momentum in 2008 with the graduation of its founding members, but Farb is actively recruiting student members and has an ambitious agenda for the coming year. Events, which are also open to alumni, will include a concert featuring popular



Daniel Farb

local artists on the St. George campus and a collaboration with Organized Sound, a music group at U of T Scarborough. (For more info, visit [www.hiphopheadz.ca](http://www.hiphopheadz.ca).) “That’s what it’s all about,” says Farb, “hip hop heads, getting together.” – Graham F. Scott

PHOTOGRAPHY: HENRIETA HANISOVA



## Visions of Mars

**Tanya Mars**, a senior lecturer and program supervisor in visual and performing arts at U of T Scarborough, has won a Governor General's Award in Visual and Media Arts for artistic achievement. Cited as one of Canada's most innovative multidisciplinary artists, Mars has been active in the Canadian alternative art scene since the early 1970s. Her dramatic, humorous and satirical works – ranging from performance to sculpture and video – have influenced an entire generation of artists. “My main interest is to make narratives that put women at the centre as opposed to the periphery. I'm trying to create images, strong images and positive images, of women,” she says. “I think I'll beat the feminist drum until the day I die.”



Tanya Mars

University Professors **Peter St George-Hyslop** and **Michael Sefton** are among the five winners of \$100,000 Killam Prizes. Administered by Canada Council for the Arts, the awards are Canada's highest recognition for career achievement in engineering, natural sci-

ences, health sciences, social sciences and the humanities. St George-Hyslop, a University Professor of medicine and director of the Centre for Research in Neurodegenerative Diseases, was cited for his transformative research into the causes and mechanisms of neurodegenerative diseases. His work has dramatically increased understanding of the molecular mechanisms underlying Alzheimer's disease. Sefton, a University

Professor of chemical engineering and former director of the Institute of Biomaterials and Biomedical Engineering, is a pioneer in the field of tissue engineering. His work today focuses on the creation of cardiac muscle to treat heart failure and pancreatic tissue to treat diabetes.

Professor **Rosemary Sullivan**, a Canada Research Chair in Creative Non-fiction and Biographical Studies at U of T, has been named one of five winners of the 2008 Trudeau Foundation Fellowship Prizes. Sullivan's latest book is *Villa Air-Bel: World War II, Escape and a House in Marseille* (HarperCollins Canada). She is also the director of U of T's MA Program in English in the Field of Creative Writing. The foundation funds outstanding scholars who make meaningful contributions to critical issues affecting Canadians and relating to international relations, environment, responsible citizenship, and human rights and dignity. The prizes are each worth \$225,000.

– Ailsa Ferguson and Jenny Hall

### New Digs for Law

It's been a busy decade for the Faculty of Law: the number of faculty members has doubled, and academic and curricular offerings have grown dramatically. And now the faculty's physical space will also increase, with a renovation and expansion led by Hariri Pontarini Architects. The additional 100,000 square feet will accommodate a conference centre for students and the law community, a constitutional centre, new student study space and faculty offices, and a new Centre for Professionalism, Ethics and Public Service. The projected completion date is spring 2012. “Our proposed design is about building community – to create a strong, central, uplifting space that gathers the entire school, enables accidental encounters and hosts celebrations,” says architect Siamak Hariri.



PHOTOGRAPHY: TOP: MARTIN LIPMAN, RIGHT: BRENT LEVIN; ILLUSTRATION: HARIRI PONTARINI ARCHITECTS

### Appointments

Professor **Bruce Kidd** (BA 1965 UC) will be leading the Faculty of Physical Education and Health for an additional two years; his appointment as dean has been extended until June 2010. Kidd has been instrumental in the revitalization of Varsity Stadium, and has also focused on promoting and strengthening the faculty.



Bruce Kidd

**Robert Cook** (BA 1971 UC) became U of T's first chief information officer in May. He is responsible for institutional-level information-technology services, such as computing network services and student information systems. Cook was previously the chief information officer at OISE/UT.

Professor **Angela Hildyard** (MEd 1973 OISE, PhD 1976) will serve a second term as vice-president (human resources and equity) beginning in July. Under her leadership, U of T has been named one of Canada's Top 100 Employers for three consecutive years.

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The laws regarding a driver's responsibility in the wake of a car accident vary from province to province. Generally speaking, though, these smart tips can help you deal with that situation.

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- **Stay put, do not leave the scene of the accident**
- **Make sure you are safe**
- **Move your car if appropriate**

### Get complete driver information

Even for minor fender-benders, it's a good idea to get other drivers' contact information. All drivers involved in the collision should exchange names, addresses, phone numbers, insurance company information, and policy numbers. Get the licence plate numbers of all vehicles involved, plus the make, model, and year.

### Get witnesses

Witnesses can be important if your collision case ends up in court or if the other driver disputes your version of events in the police report. Try to get the names and phone numbers of any bystanders who saw what happened.

### Call your insurance company

Contact your insurance company as soon as possible after the accident. A representative will guide you through the steps to file a complete claim, and provide you with information on how best to have your vehicle repaired. Working with your insurance company will speed up repair work and completion of your claim.

### Submit a report

Even if you don't need to call the police, you must still file an accident report within a certain number of days. (Check with your local authorities.) If you don't, the province has the authority to suspend your licence. Forms are available from your police station or auto insurance company.

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# COUNTDOWN TO

U of T athletes and coaches aim for Olympic gold





Swimmer Colin Russell will be competing in three events in Beijing

## IT'S NOT JUST ANOTHER MEET.

This August, when athletes, coaches and sports personnel gather for the opening ceremonies of the XXIX Olympiad, they will be honouring years of sacrifice and hard work. Those from U of T will also be carrying on a tradition: the university has been represented on virtually every summer, winter and Paralympic team ever fielded.

The first Canadian to win a gold medal (1900 steeplechase runner George Orton) was a U of T grad, and the U of T men's hockey team brought home gold in 1928. Well-known medallists such as decathlete Dave Steen, swimmer Marianne Limpert, figure skater Jeffrey Buttle and high jumper Greg Joy – as well as winning coaches such as Andy Higgins and Karen Hughes – have all passed through U of T's portals at one point or another. Will the stories that follow have similarly happy endings? Given their beginnings, it's highly possible.

### COLIN RUSSELL

FREESTYLE SWIMMER

"They may look funny – but they work!" That's swimmer Colin Russell, discussing the new full-body racing suit he may be sporting when he competes as a freestyler in Beijing. The James Bond-like garment was developed by Speedo in conjunction with NASA; since its introduction earlier this year, more than 30 new world records have been set. Will Russell set another?

It's highly possible. In the Olympic trials this past April, Russell beat world champion (in the 100 metre) Brent Hayden to win the 200 metre freestyle event. In Beijing, he'll also be competing in two other races – the 4x200 and 4x100 freestyle relays. "The Olympics has been a dream of mine for a long time," says the 6'3" strawberry blond, who's a dead ringer for Aquaman of comic-book fame. "Especially to be competing individually. As soon as I do that, I'll have accomplished everything I set out to do."

# BEIJING

PHOTOGRAPHY BY CHRISTOPHER WAHL



Rhythmic gymnast Alexandra Orlando

Talk of “magic” swimsuits obscures the incredibly hard work swimmers such as Russell, a second-year pharmacology major, actually put in. “Before I went to university it would be 20 hours a week, weights and swimming. When I went to Indiana [his first school] my training stepped up to 30 hours of weights, swimming and dry land, though that is really excessive for me. Now it’s about 18 hours.”

Russell, a native of Oshawa, Ontario, has maintained a rigorous training regimen since the age of seven, when he first started competing. And save for a six-month break caused by a dislocated elbow at age 11, he’s been remarkably injury-free – until the spring of 2006, when his shoulder started hurting at training camp. “I really don’t know why or how it hap-

pened; it was a trauma injury, it wasn’t overuse,” says Russell. The injury – a torn labrum – scared Russell, who at 23 felt he had only one shot left at the Games. Yet less than a year-and-a-half after surgery, he is bound for Beijing. “I surmounted my previous mark, and it was a big surprise to everybody,” he says.

In spite of his demanding schedule, Russell still makes time for cooking and video games, his two favourite hobbies. And this fall, he plans to swim for the Varsity Blues – though life may be very different after China. “Obviously nothing’s definite, but it’s a basic reality that we could win a medal,” he says. At which point, Speedo may come calling ... to get that endorsement in writing.

– Cynthia Macdonald

## ALEXANDRA ORLANDO

RHYTHMIC GYMNAST

"I'm kind of an old lady," says Alexandra Orlando, a U of T student who will be competing in her first Olympics this year at the ripe old age of 21. Orlando is going to be representing Canada in rhythmic gymnastics at the 2008 Games.

"I'm definitely the oldest rhythmic gymnast in Canada," says Orlando. Which is why it's such an accomplishment for her to be currently ranked ninth in the world – a career best. Rhythmic gymnastics is demanding at any age, but the strength, control and flexibility it requires makes it a sport largely dominated by teenagers. Contestants perform four routines using different pieces of equipment: rope, hoop, ball, clubs and ribbon, and each requires a different set of skills. Orlando's specialty is the ribbon, a long length of silk at the end of a baton.

"It's one of the most challenging pieces of apparatus, because it's never supposed to touch the floor, it's never supposed to touch your body and it's never supposed to stop moving," she says. "It's hard, but it's always been my favourite."

Orlando started gymnastics at age five, after her ballet teacher gently suggested she had a little too much energy to be a ballerina ("I was rambunctious," says Orlando). It was love at first leap. She now trains four hours a day, six days a week at Seneca College, does additional workouts with a personal trainer and still takes ballet four times a week. That's on top of her political science and economics studies at U of T, where she just finished her third year. "I'm fortunate to have a huge support system to help me get through it all," she says.

With Orlando's advanced age comes wisdom, especially useful in a sport made up mostly of hypercompetitive teenage girls. The atmosphere before a match, she says, is "a little cutthroat." Last year, "Some girl took her hoop and whacked me really hard on the leg. Our warm-ups are actually notorious – they're known for being brutal. On the carpet, the egos come out."

She doesn't worry too much about that kind of thing anymore. Instead, she's focused on perfecting her routines. She thinks she has a shot at a medal, but she's up against fierce competition. "I'm so excited. I'm a little freaked out," she says. "It's like, I've been working my whole life for this, and I'm going. I have my ticket. It's just crazy to me. You can't wipe the smile off my face. I kind of wish it was summer already." – *Graham F. Scott*

## NEIL ROSS

MOUNTAIN BIKING COACH

They say a good coach builds a fire within athletes, not beneath them. As coach of the Australian mountain biking team, Neil Ross oversees a group of athletes who are already pretty fiery: this sport is "one of the most painful, where abil-

ity to suffer and mental toughness are key characteristics to success," says the affable 35-year-old. In mountain biking, "athletes have to persevere and still have the courage to attack their rivals – then see if they can almost *force* them to give up."

With undergraduate degrees in biology and physical therapy and a master's in rehabilitation science from U of T, Ross understands exactly how much the human body can take. It helps that while studying, he also participated heavily as an athlete himself: besides starting a cycling club and a weight room at St. Michael's College, he was involved in cross-country skiing, water polo and rugby. Such activities "really contributed to my effectiveness as a coach," he says. "I got an incredible education in Canada, and incredible experience."

So then the question: why's a nice Ontario boy like him coaching for Australia? "A lot of my work in Canada was directed toward trying to create positions for coaching, and much of it was about trying to find funding," says Ross, who travelled extensively while road racing and mountain biking at the national and provincial levels. "Sadly, the Canadian system does lag somewhat behind several of our competitors. But Canada does an amazing job in coach education – it gave me the international experience that caused a nation like Australia to want to recruit me."

Ross says that Canada is ranked among the top five countries in the sport, proving that, with its endless supply of hills, valleys, trees and rocks, it's definitely a great place for a mountain biker to grow up. But training in a "somewhat urban environment," as Ross's Australian team has, may actually help them more in dealing with Beijing's biggest challenge: pollution. "At a test event last fall, all our athletes were able to finish, but at least half the Europeans dropped out with respiratory trouble," Ross says. "It is a concern."

Smog will be but one more obstacle for a coach who's already overcome several. "I took my athletics seriously, but didn't have the talent to go to the Olympics," shrugs Ross. "It's a huge milestone for a coach to be going, though – because frankly, a lot fewer coaches go than athletes!"

– *Cynthia Macdonald*



## SARAH CHARLES AND ROSANNAGH MACLENNAN

TRAMPOLINISTS

Many kids have trampolines in their backyards, but not many use them the way Sarah Charles did. "I used to spend 10 hours a day on it when I was young," says the 22-year-old Kelowna native, now in her third year as a physical education student. "My mom couldn't get me off it, except for lunch and dinner." All that bouncing around has finally paid off: eight years after switching to trampoline from general gymnastics, she's off to the Olympics.

Fellow competitor Rosannagh MacLennan started a dif-



ferent way: at the age of nine, she and her sister began tagging along to her older brothers' trampoline gym because her mom "couldn't find a babysitter," says the 19-year-old, now in her second year as a phys. ed. student. Having placed second in individual trampoline during a 2007 test event in Beijing, and third in the world during Olympic trials, she is definitely a good bet to win a medal. "Russia has the top girl in the world right now," says MacLennan, but "Canada is a very strong country, too."

Trampoline has only been a featured event in the last two Olympics, but Canada has won a medal each time (thanks to Karen Cockburn, MacLennan's partner in synchronized trampoline – a non-Olympic discipline in which both are longtime world champions). It's a thrilling sport in which competitors have to have good "air sense," maintaining perfect body orientation while rising up to 10 metres in the air and performing manoeuvres nicknamed Killer, Thriller and Suicide. "The tricks are fairly spectacular," MacLennan admits, with Charles adding: "Most people can't relate to how we do them ... it's like Cirque du Soleil, but in the Olympics."

So far, though, these athletes have no immediate plans to run away with the circus. Charles is contemplating medical school, while MacLennan hopes to compete in London in

2012 before possibly pursuing a career in sports marketing or health promotion. In the meantime, both are looking forward to the event of their lives. "It's the greatest, most monumental sports event you can go to," says Charles. "It's just a totally different scale of competition." – *Cynthia Macdonald*

## BYRON MACDONALD

CBC COMMENTATOR

Most world-class swimmers are lucky to make it to one or two Olympic Games. This summer, Byron MacDonald will participate in his eighth – although on seven of those outings, he's been in the TV studio, not the pool.

MacDonald, who swam for Canada in the 1972 Olympics, is head coach of the University of Toronto swim team. But since 1984, he's also acted as a TV commentator for CBC's Olympic coverage, calling every swimming event. That adds up to nine straight days of work (and up to 18 hours a day) in front of the camera, explaining the races, introducing athletes and analyzing results – most of it live and unscripted.



Aquatic events are generally over in one or two minutes so MacDonald, who is also a former Canadian Olympic coach, spends much of his time on air discussing the athletes' past performances, their personal histories and the technical challenges of the race. In order to provide that colour commentary, MacDonald keeps continually updated files with information on more than 400 swimmers from around the world. He pores over swimming magazines and unaired TV interviews from past Olympic Games, and talks to his fellow coaches. His own Olympic experience means he can also talk about the pressures of being down on the pool deck. "I'm supposed to bring that to the viewer, my experiences," he says. "I've seen some young kids who don't do that well at the Olympics because they freak out at 15,000 people cheering."

Even after working the studio for seven Olympics, MacDonald says live television can be daunting. "The majority of the time, everything works tickety-boo," he says. But on those rare occasions when something goes amiss – an event is suddenly cancelled, leaving a 10-minute programming gap, for instance – he and his colleagues have to think fast. All his research helps, but MacDonald still marvels at how professional broadcasters are able to jump in to carry the show. "I'm a lot better than I used to be, but I could never do what these guys do," he says. "They're like ducks on the water – calm on top and paddling furiously below."

– *Graham F. Scott*



Sarah Charles (left) and Rosannagh MacLennan



## DR. GAÉTAN TARDIF

PARALYMPICS ASSISTANT CHEF DE MISSION

You might think that being a doctor at the Paralympics would present some unusual challenges – so many athletes with different physical disabilities, pushing their bodies to the limit and most using some sort of assistive device. But Dr. Gaétan Tardif, who will be assistant chef de mission for the 2008 Canadian Paralympic team, as well as the 2010 team going to Vancouver, says the medical problem he sees most often is the common cold. “You take 4,000 athletes from all over the world,” he says, “then you pack them into metal tubes in the air for a few hours, and then you mix people from 150 countries in the same cafeteria – it’s almost inevitable.”

Assistant chef de mission is a new position this year for Tardif, who is director of U of T’s physiatry division and chief medical officer at the Toronto Rehabilitation Institute. He previously worked as a doctor for the Canadian Paralympic team, and was its chief medical officer at the 2006 Torino Olympics and the 2002 Salt Lake City Games. As assistant chef he is taking more of a leadership role this year, co-ordinating all aspects of the mission involved with the Canadian Paralympic team of 145 athletes.

Tardif says he likes the Paralympics because it has all the high-level athleticism of the Olympics without the stadium-sized egos. In many cases, the participants have “never been treated like elite athletes before,” Tardif says. Assisting them is truly rewarding, and it’s broadened his experience as a sports physician, he says. “The Olympics is exciting, but I don’t think it’s as exciting as the Paralympics.”

Tardif says he’s especially intrigued by goalball, a sport played only by the visually impaired. Teams of three compete to throw a ball into the other team’s goal; the ball contains bells, so the players locate it by sound alone. “It’s fascinating,” says Tardif. “It’s the only sport I ever go to where there isn’t a whisper of a sound in the audience while they’re playing. It’s dead quiet until somebody scores a goal, and then everyone erupts.”

– *Graham F. Scott*

## NICK THIERRY

EDITOR AND PUBLISHER, SWIMNEWS

Nick Thierry answers most questions about competitive swimming with numbers. Ask Thierry (BArch 1964), the editor and publisher of Canada’s *SwimNews* magazine, how the country’s swimmers will fare in Beijing, and he’ll tell you how each athlete ranks against the best swimmers in the world. Thierry keeps a spreadsheet showing how many Canadian swimmers have competed at every Summer Olympics since 1976, and can tell you how many records were broken at each Olympic trials since then.

Thierry thinks our prospects for Beijing are looking up. At trials in April, 27 swimmers qualified for the Olympics, breaking 11 Canadian records. That makes for the biggest team since 1992 (the last year a Canadian swimmer won Olympic gold), and the most records broken at trials since the 1980s. “The ship is turning around, there’s no question,” says Thierry, who has spent nearly 50 years in the swimming world, first as a coach, then as a statistician and editor. He’s been publishing *SwimNews* from his Toronto home since 1974. In more than 300 issues, he’s documented Canadian swimmers’ highs – two silver and six bronze medals at the 1976 Olympics in Montreal, and their lows – the 2004 Athens Games, where they failed to win a single medal.



Thierry, who was inducted into the International Swimming Hall of Fame in 2001, isn’t sure how many Canadian swimmers will grace the podium this year. The team is young, and he expects the Americans and the Australians to dominate the pool. He believes Canada’s best shot for a medal is in the men’s 4x200-metre freestyle relay. Why? It’s in the numbers: “We were second at the 2005 World Championships, and third in 2007. We’re better now.”

– *Katharine Dunn*

# BATTLE ON VIMY RIDGE AND OTHER STORIES

What a bullet-scarred book and eight other intriguing objects tell us about UofT

BY STEVE BREARTON

**THE** University of Toronto won the first Grey Cup in 1909. That's a fact. You can find the newspaper clippings about the match in an archive or read about it on the CBC website. But you can also see the actual game ball – looking slightly deflated, the hide scuffed and worn – in a display case at U of T's Athletic Centre on the St. George campus.

In *The University of Toronto: A History*, author Martin Friedland describes how a German shell almost killed former professor Harold Innis during the First World War. And if you visit the U of T Archives, you can ask to see the pocket-sized army manual – punctured by a small, round hole – that might have saved the young Innis's life.

Objects tell stories. And together, U of T's colleges, libraries and archives boast a wonderful storehouse of artistic and historical treasures. We sent writer Steve Brearton on an expedition – to unearth items that he felt would inspire won-

der and surprise, and tell us something we didn't already know about U of T. This is what he found.

## HART HOUSE WHO'S WHO

American senator John F. Kennedy raised hackles when he addressed a packed Hart House auditorium in the fall of 1957. The future U.S. president had been invited to U of T to speak on America's role as a world power, but it was his comments about women that kicked up the most fuss. Women had been excluded from attending the lecture because of Hart House's male-only membership rule, and Kennedy made it clear that, despite the protestations of female students (they picketed outside with signs proclaiming "Unfair!" and "We Want Kennedy!"), it was a rule with which he sympathized. "I personally rather approve of keeping women out of these places," he said during his speech. "It's a pleasure to be in a country where women cannot mix in everywhere."







**Former American president John F. Kennedy, Queen Elizabeth II and mountaineer Edmund Hillary have all signed the Hart House guest book**

Like almost all visitors to Hart House after 1919, Kennedy signed the guest book – adding his famous name to what is now surely one of the world’s great autograph books. (The original ran out of pages last year and has been replaced.) The leather-bound tome, with a frontispiece by Group of Seven artist Frank Carmichael, reads like a 20<sup>th</sup>-century who’s who: King George VI, American presidents Dwight D. Eisenhower and Ronald Reagan, writers W.H. Auden, Thomas Mann and Stephen Leacock, economist John Kenneth Galbraith, artist Henry Moore and mountaineer Edmund Hillary among many others. A poetry conference in 1975 yielded two Nobel Prize winners for literature – Seamus Heaney and Octavio Paz – along with noted Canadian poets Irving Layton and Al Purdy. Although a few eminent guests have signed the book on more than one occasion (Queen Elizabeth II signed it in

1981 and in 1951, when she was princess), only one person enjoys the dubious distinction of signing the book twice because he initially inked the wrong page. That was federal Liberal leader Stéphane Dion.

**THAIN MACDOWELL'S VICTORIA CROSS**

In the pre-dawn gloom of April 9, 1917, Canadian Army captain Thain MacDowell slipped over the top of his trench in northern France and began advancing toward Vimy Ridge. As heavy guns from his battalion rained shells down on German defensive positions, the 26-year-old MacDowell became separated from his fellow soldiers. Attended by only a pair of runners, he continued forward, lobbing a pair of hand grenades at two German machine gun nests that were guarding an underground dugout. MacDowell scored a direct hit. He approached the dugout and called down the tunnel for survivors to surrender. After receiving no response,

PHOTOGRAPHY: CANADIAN PRESS/AP/2; CANADIAN PRESS/EVERETT; MICHAEL VISSER



**Thain MacDowell is one of only 94 Canadians to have received the Victoria Cross**

he proceeded cautiously inside and confronted German troops. Thinking quickly, MacDowell shouted up to an imaginary force to convince his enemy that a substantive number of Canadian soldiers waited above. His ruse worked. Two German officers and 75 soldiers surrendered, and MacDowell sent the enemy troops out of the tunnel in groups of 12 so the runners could take them back behind Canadian lines. A military dispatch by MacDowell

indicates just how precarious his situation was that day: “[German] aeroplanes came over and saw a few of my men at the dugout entrance and now we are [under fire]... unless I get a few more men with serviceable rifles, I hate to admit, but we may be driven out.” Although wounded in the hand, he held the position for five days, until relief arrived.

For his bravery, MacDowell (BA 1915 Victoria) was awarded the Victoria Cross, Britain’s highest military honour. He is one of only 94 Canadians ever to have received the award. A replica of MacDowell’s Victoria Cross now sits on proud display among rows of glittering medals in Soldiers’ Tower at U of T. (The original was donated to Victoria University and is held there in safekeeping.) In 2006, Eugene Ursual, a military antiquarian dealer based in Kemptville, Ontario, appraised MacDowell’s Victoria Cross at more than \$350,000, but it’s what the medal represents that makes it truly valuable. “It’s the British Empire’s highest honour, and it represents the better side of humanity,” he says.

## TWO SIDES OF A.Y. JACKSON

In the 1920s, Canadian art collector Esther Williams frequently invited Group of Seven painter A.Y. Jackson to her summer home on Waubec Island in Georgian Bay, Ontario. In gratitude, Jackson created a double-sided oil painting on a wood panel specifically for Williams’ cottage. For more than two decades, the picture – almost three metres long and half-a-metre high – sat in a lintel that divided the dining room from a sitting area. Niamh O’Laoghaire, director of the University of Toronto Art Centre, explains that the panel exemplifies

**Group of Seven painter A.Y. Jackson created this double-sided oil painting for his friend Esther Williams**

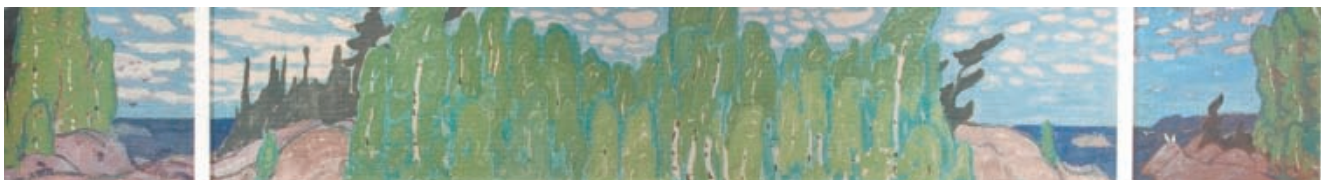
Jackson’s desire to make art a part of everyday life: “Placed in a rough-hewn island cottage situated in the very landscape by which it was inspired, the painting became an integral part of the daily experience of those who stayed there.”

Williams eventually sold the cottage – and the painting along with it – to Ernest Howard. The Howard family left the picture where it was, but when the time came to sell the cottage, son Ernest Howard Jr., a Canadian art enthusiast, decided to keep the Jackson panel. He framed the piece himself with wood from a local lumberyard, and hung it in his own home. “My father knew A.Y. had a following,” says Howard Jr., a graduate of Trinity College and a retired investment executive. “But to him, the painting just belonged to the cottage. It didn’t hold any great value.” In 2004, the younger Howard donated the painting to U of T.

The university owns 16 other works by Jackson and dozens of others by Group of Seven artists. But this unusual painting may say the most about the group’s style and purpose. “The Group was against the notion of what National Gallery of Canada curator Charles Hill has called ‘precious objects in gilt frames,’” says O’Laoghaire. “[This] is not only a beautiful painting, but a fabulous and rare exemplar of that Group of Seven ideal.”

## SIX-STRING WONDERS

When Professor Joëlle Morton and early music ensemble Scaramella perform at Hart House, the instruments often garner as much attention as the musicians. Scaramella’s co-stars are a collection of six exquisite stringed instruments from the 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> centuries called viols. “It’s extremely rare to have an opportunity to play a viol,” says Morton, a professor in the Faculty of Music and an authority on the history and development of string instruments. Typically found in museums, the viols came to Hart House in the 1930s through the Massey Foundation and an anonymous donor. They arrived at U of T in a beautiful wooden box thought to be a dowry chest inscribed with the name Margaret Platts and the date 1673. They are now kept in a climate-controlled display case at the Gallery Grill Lounge. Among the superbly crafted instruments are a six-string bass viol by Hamburg’s master instrument maker Joachim Tielke and a French pardessus – the smallest member of the viol family of instruments – by Parisian Louis Guersan. Most closely related to the guitar family, viols were second in popularity only to the lute in Europe during the Renaissance and Baroque eras. In the 17<sup>th</sup> century, the instruments were a favourite of wealthy, cultured householders who sometimes hosted performances of several viols.



PHOTOGRAPHY: MICHAEL VISSER; BOTTOM: COURTESY OF THE ESTATE OF THE LATE DR. NAOMI JACKSON GROVES





U of T early music ensemble Scaramella performs using these 17<sup>th</sup>-century instruments called viols



Memorabilia from the first Grey Cup game, in 1909. The Varsity Blues defeated the Parkdale Canoe Club 26-6

The viols' quiet, mellow sound suited them to the relatively small rooms of affluent homeowners, but ultimately led to the instrument's demise. "Viols weren't loud enough to play in a concert hall," notes Morton. The violin subsequently shed its status as vulgar upstart, replacing the viol as a lead instrument.

## RUMBLE IN ROSEDALE

In a display case on the main floor of University of Toronto's Athletic Centre sits a football. It's worn, could use a little air and looks as if it belongs at the bottom of a utility cupboard. But this is no ordinary piece of pigskin – it's the game ball from the first Grey Cup. Together with an enormous silver shield proclaiming the Varsity Blues Canada's football champions and mini-cups presented to triumphant team members, it is also a reminder of the university's early dominance of one of Canada's oldest and greatest athletic traditions. In 1909, Canada's governor general Earl Grey donated a silver cup to be awarded to Canada's top amateur football team. That December, almost 4,000 spectators turned up at Rosedale Field to watch the Varsity Blues play the Parkdale

Canoe Club. With U of T's school song, "The Blue and White," ringing through the stands, halfback (and future Argos great) Smirle Lawson led the collegiate squad to a 26-6 victory over their West Toronto rivals, completing a perfect season for the Blues.

Toronto sports commentators considered the first Grey Cup game an anticlimax. The Blues had beaten interprovincial champions the Ottawa Rough Riders the previous week in what most observers had deemed the "real" final. In a report on the Grey Cup game, *The Globe* noted that a majority of spectators had "confidently expected that Varsity would trample over the Parkdalers to the tune of about 40 to 3." But when the students led only 6-5 at half-time, the paper said the team had "surpassed themselves in the game against Ottawa and could not be expected to play two such brilliant contests in one season." The Blues wore "the Paddlers" down in the second half and, in the end crushed their opponents by 20 points. U of T's championship team claimed the Grey Cup in each of the next two years, but in 1912 lost their bid for a fourth straight title to the Hamilton Alerts. The Blues recorded their final Grey

PHOTOGRAPHY: MICHAEL VISSER; BOTTOM: COURTESY OF THE ESTATE OF THE LATE DR. NAOMI JACKSON GROVES





Cup championship in 1920, and amateur teams stopped competing for Earl Grey's mug in 1954.

## TRAPPED IN THE ICE

British Navy lieutenant Owen Stanley set sail from England in June 1836 on a journey he would later characterize as “the most unfortunate expedition to the Northern Regions that has ever returned to tell their sad tale of ice and cold.” Stanley’s illustrated diary entries from when he was science officer aboard the HMS *Terror* convey the fear and wonder he felt as the ship explored the forbidding landscape of northern Hudson Bay. In August 1836, with a bearskin blanket beside his bed and a knapsack with warm clothing at the ready should ice crush the ship, Stanley described feeling the “horror of an arctic winter” before him. “Here end all new hopes,” he wrote on September 23 from Foxe Channel, near the southwest shore of Baffin Island. The *Terror* remained stuck there in pack ice for 10 months, but during those long Arctic nights Stanley sketched pictures of daily life on the expedition and the subtle wonders of the Arctic environment.

“[Stanley] recognized the inherent beauty of the North,” says Richard Landon, the director of the Thomas Fisher Rare Book Library, which holds copies of Stanley’s manuscript journal and a

volume of his drawings. “There’s a real sense of the climate and danger.” Among these early images of the Arctic are drawings of the *Terror* held fast in the ice and watercolours of “Christmas Amusements” – the ship’s crew in masquerade – as well as landscapes with skilful treatments of the soft Northern light. The *Terror* limped home in September 1837 with the loss of two crew members, and without having discovered anything, except, perhaps, the possibility of wresting beauty from uncertainty and pain.

Owen Stanley’s illustrated diary entries convey the fear and wonder he felt aboard the HMS *Terror*

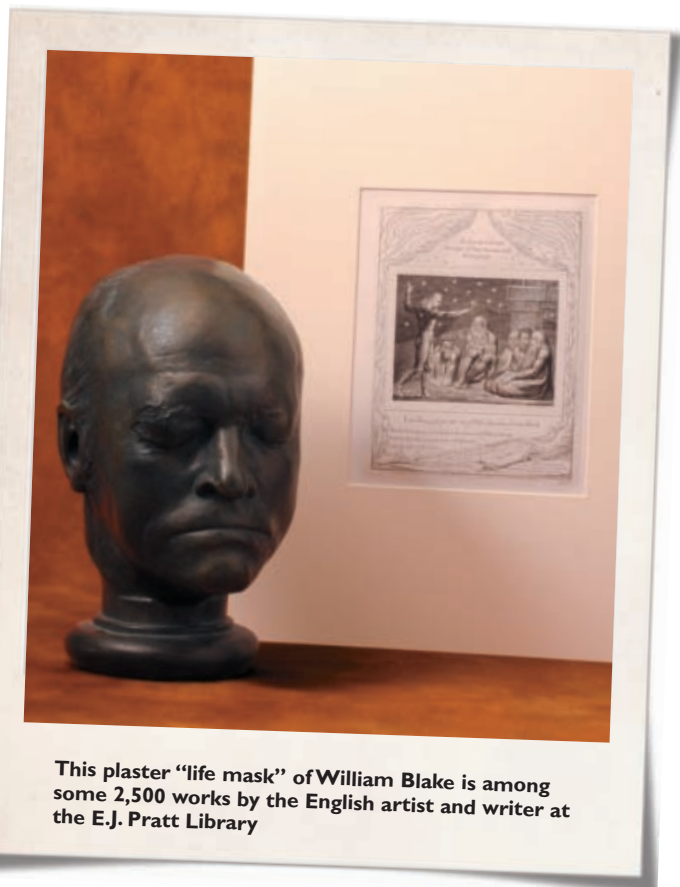
## ALL THINGS BLAKE

University of Toronto professor and literary critic Northrop Frye (1912-1991) once suggested that William Blake’s prophetic poetry formed “what is in proportion to its merits the least read body of poetry in the language.” It may also be true that the E.J. Pratt Library’s collection of wondrous art and ephemera by the English writer and artist is among the least known on the St. George campus. The Bentley Collection (a gift to the university from U of T English professor emeritus G.E. Bentley Jr.) boasts some 2,500 works by and about Blake and his Romantic contemporaries. The collection includes a striking plaster “life mask” of Blake’s head, a unique illuminated printing of Blake’s *The Marriage of Heaven and Hell* from



British Navy lieutenant Owen Stanley drew this image of the HMS *Terror* trapped in ice near Baffin Island in 1836

PHOTOGRAPHY: MICHAEL VISSER



This plaster “life mask” of William Blake is among some 2,500 works by the English artist and writer at the E.J. Pratt Library

about 1790 and a pencil drawing of a crowned boy from about 1820.

During his lifetime, Blake enjoyed only minor success, but his boldly expressive and visionary work has influenced more recent artists such as Beat poet Allen Ginsberg and musician Bob Dylan. Bentley notes that when he began collecting Blake's early editions in the 1950s, few critics considered Blake even one of the major Romantic poets. That changed over the next few decades, thanks in part to Frye's critical treatise *Fearful Symmetry*, which was published in 1947 and is widely credited for fostering renewed interest in Blake.

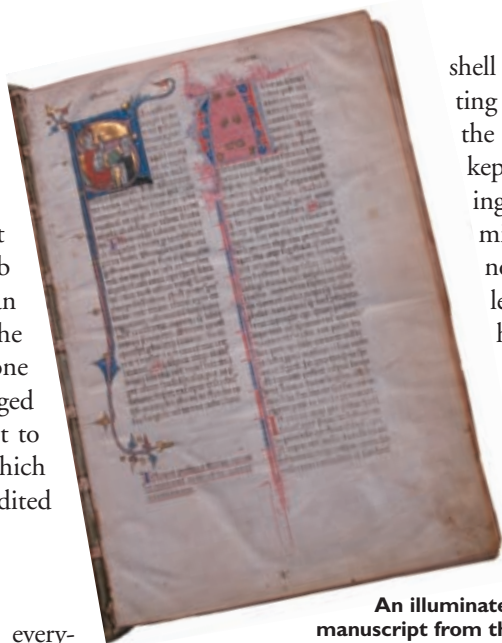
### ILLUMINATING READING

"A medieval library wouldn't have had everything," says James Farge, the librarian at the Pontifical Institute for Medieval Studies, located at St. Michael's College. "But it would have had enough to educate the monks and university students who used it." Like its predecessors from the Middle Ages, Farge's collection of theological, philosophical and historical texts, manuscripts and early printed books isn't exhaustive, but boasts "just enough" of the very best to attract interest from medieval scholars the world over.

In the library's Joseph Pope Rare Book Room, lined floor-to-ceiling with print and manuscript books, Farge wrestles with a large manuscript, completed in 1329, and carefully opens its aged sheepskin pages. In the upper left corner of the first page is a small picture – an illumination – of Bernard Gui, the bishop, historian and Grand Inquisitor in the Toulouse area in France, presenting the manuscript to Pope John XXII. Gui may be known to contemporary readers through Umberto Eco's *The Name of the Rose*, which depicted him as a villain. The manuscript, written by Gui, is a history of the lives of the Roman emperors, Catholic saints and popes. "Manuscripts ... [had] a variety of purposes and this is a collection of historical writings by a man who had quite a reputation as an historian," says Farge. "It also tells the story of how Gui decided to make a present of his works to a pope, hired a scribe to produce a handsome manuscript and was ultimately thanked personally for his gift."

### BATTLE ON VIMY RIDGE

Many are familiar with the groundbreaking theories of former U of T professor Harold Adams Innis, but less well known is the story of his near-death experience during the First World War. Innis had enlisted in the Canadian Army as a gunner in the fall of 1916, but was reassigned as a signaller. Signallers, or spotters, watched where artillery shells landed and sent back correcting information so the next shells could reach their mark. On July 7, 1917, at Vimy Ridge, a German



An illuminated manuscript from the Joseph Pope Rare Book Room

shell caught Innis in the right thigh, cutting a round hole through the cover of the compact Field Message Book he kept in his trouser pocket. The resulting injury was serious – it ended his military career – and the book, which now belongs to the Harold Innis collection at U of T archives, may well have saved his life.

A vast collection of documents from Innis's personal life and career – including his innovative work in economic history, media and communication theory – fill 150 boxes at the archives. Together, they present an intimate and compelling portrait of this great Canadian thinker, as well as insights into the people he influenced.

Marshall McLuhan greatly respected Innis's work on communication, and in one box is a March 1951 letter from McLuhan to his senior U of T colleague that offers a tantalizing glimpse of McLuhan's emerging theories. "The whole tendency of modern communication... is toward participation in a process," wrote McLuhan. "There is a real, living unity in our time, as in any other, but it lives submerged under a superficial hubbub of sensation."

*Steve Brearton is a writer in Toronto.*



A German bullet punctured this book, which Harold Innis was carrying in his trouser pocket when he came under fire on Vimy Ridge in 1917





# Photo Contest Winners

## THE JUDGES

**Claire Dawson** is creative director and co-founder of Underline Studio, a Toronto design agency whose clients include Dyson Canada, Harry Rosen, U of T and Random House of Canada. Underline has gained international recognition for intelligent and engaging design, winning awards from the Advertising and Design Club of Canada, the National Magazine Awards, *Communications Arts* magazine, the American Institute of Graphic Arts and *Applied Arts* magazine.

**Liam Sharp** has been shooting photographs for advertising, corporate and editorial clients for more than 20 years. His specialty is bringing the subtlety and power of studio lighting to real-world locations. He has worked extensively in the U.K. and Canada, as well as the U.S, China, Papua New Guinea and Kenya. His work has been featured in *Graphis*, *Applied Arts*, *Report on Business* and *U of T Magazine*, among many other publications.

**Pascal Paquette** is a visual artist who works mostly in painting and photography, but also in video and site-specific installation. He has exhibited internationally and is co-founder of The Culture Lobby, an extensive photography-based project taking place in the Western Balkans. He is also a designer and photographer for the Division of University Relations at the University of Toronto.

Thanks to our sponsor, TD Meloche Monnex, for providing the prizes. Kyle Ng received a Canon Digital Rebel XTi Kit, Nasir Haider a Nikon Coolpix S700 and Janet Yu a U of T prize pack.





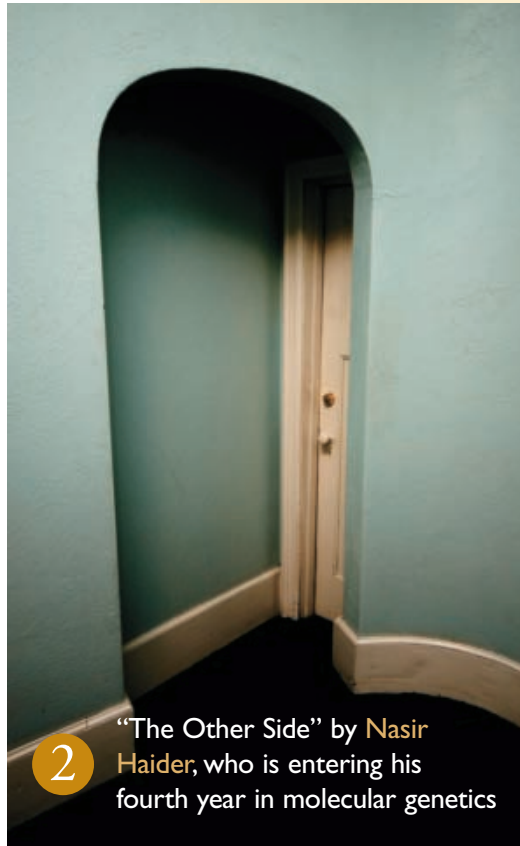


**1** “Fellow Photographer”  
by Kyle Ng (BSc 2007)

KYLE Ng captured his winning image on King’s College Circle during last year’s Nuit Blanche celebration. The spiky-haired photographer in the picture was shooting “Event Horizon,” an installation of a UFO crash landing in King’s College field by artists Jennifer Marman and Daniel Borins. Ng says he was aiming to convey the sense of amazement the artwork inspired among fellow photographers.

Judges commented that the photographer beautifully captured a specific moment that focuses not on the event itself, but the event’s impact on the audience.

WHILE roaming around Convocation Hall one day after class, student Nasir Haider came across this alcove and doorway and wondered what lay behind it. “There are all these nooks and crannies,” he says. “And doors that you don’t know where they lead.” Using a friend’s

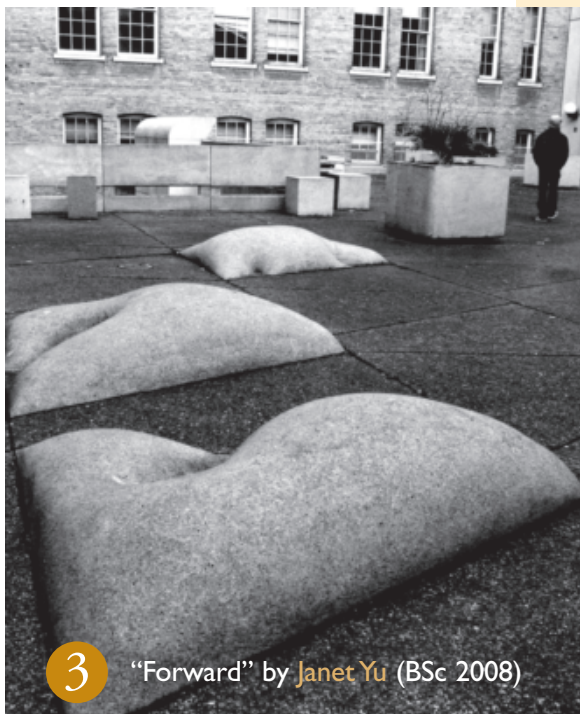


**2** “The Other Side” by Nasir Haider, who is entering his fourth year in molecular genetics

camera, Haider snapped a shot and was later surprised by the quality of the image. “I didn’t realize how good it was until I blew it up on my computer.”

One judge described Haider’s photo as painterly and mysterious. “There’s something about the photo that makes you feel uneasy. It’s as if you’re in a fairy tale, in a hallway where the floor tips down and the walls move and you’re not sure if the doorway leads to safety or danger.”

JANET Yu took this photo between the Medical Sciences Building and the McMurrich Building last fall after a day of studying at Robarts with a fellow photographer. She started taking photos six years ago, but only recently joined the University of Toronto Photography Club at the



**3** “Forward” by Janet Yu (BSc 2008)

Scarborough campus. “What I love about photography is how it allows you to capture and express your vision in life, and share it with others,” she says.

One of the judges said Yu did a great job of portraying how the concrete shapes interact with the environment. “Contrasting them with the figure in the background allows you to imagine how people have had to change their paths to accommodate the presence of the shapes.”

# JOAN OF ARCHITECTURE

While everyone else was tearing down historical buildings and throwing up mega-developments, architect Joan Burt spoke up for preservation, saving entire rows of houses in downtown Toronto. Fifty years later, she's still designing homes that blend old with new **BY ALEC SCOTT**

They say you can't fight city hall, but Toronto architect Joan Burt has spent much of her career doing so – often successfully. She's probably the single greatest friend the Victorian row home has had in this city, saving many of them from demolition in the period when they were most threatened – the 1960s and 1970s – then renovating and modernizing them, making them better places to live. She's always operated on the fringes of the architecture profession. There are no bank towers with her name on them; nor does she have any libraries or art galleries to her credit. But her impact on this city has been major.

In May, Burt marked 50 years of operating her own firm, Joan Burt Architects. You'd think that she would be winding things down at this stage of her career, but the 77-year-old agrees to meet on a Sunday because the week is packed with deadline-driven, paying work. "I can't tell what age Joan is," says a client, for whom Burt is building a large estate home and guest house on the Niagara Escarpment. "It doesn't seem to matter. She has so much energy."

It's typical of Burt that she is not celebrating her half-century in the business. "I'd never thought of doing anything about it," she says over brunch, with one of the breezy laughs that frequently punctuate her conversation. "You know, I'm not much of a one for trips down memory lane. It's the present and the future that I really care about."

But the past has its uses, too, and the story of Burt's progress in the architecture profession highlights both changing views about the preservation of historical buildings and the growing clout of women in a traditionally male-dominated field. Burt was the only woman to graduate from the University of Toronto's architecture school in 1956, and just the 21<sup>st</sup>

woman to make it through the program since the first one, Esther Marjorie Hill, did it in 1920. "There were six women when I started in the program, and I was the only one to finish," she says matter-of-factly. A new book, *For the Record: the First Women in Canadian Architecture* (Dundurn Press), documents the travails and triumphs of female graduates of U of T architecture from Hill's era, the 1920s, to Burt's, the 1950s, and demonstrates just how long it has taken women with the academic credentials to rise through the profession's ranks.

Fanfare greeted Hill's graduation as the first "girl architect" in Canadian history (that's what the papers called her), but, unable to find architectural work after she completed the degree, she initially earned her living teaching in a rural school and advising Eaton's clients how to decorate their homes. She made ends meet through the Great Depression by teaching weaving and glove-making. Although she did cobble together some architectural or quasi-architectural work over time – adding to a motel or sitting on a town planning board – her career was far from brilliant.

Many of the women who followed Hill were consigned to teaching or interior design positions; if they married well, female graduates could use their training to design the family cottage, or, if they found someone congenial while studying at the faculty, they could marry him and work alongside him in the practice.

Burt is among the first of those documented in *For the Record* to open the profession's door herself, then walk through and keep on going unaided. She has never relied on anyone else to support her or funnel work to her, though she, too, has had to improvise. She ran an antique shop in the 1960s and taught at the Ontario College of Art from the '60s





Joan Burt on  
Berkeley Street  
in Toronto



to the '80s. But unlike most of her predecessors, she's managed to make the actual design and creation of buildings the centre of her work life. A modernist house she built in the hills above Guelph occupies the book's front cover.

While almost everyone else in Toronto was tearing down historical buildings and throwing up mega-developments, Burt was coming up with practical ways of revitalizing dying downtown neighbourhoods, without resorting to the bulldozer. If Jane Jacobs talked the talk, becoming the leading proponent of allowing cities to develop almost organically, Joan Burt walked the walk. And Burt was on the ground a good decade before Jacobs' ideas hit the mainstream. "She went out and found the work, coming up with the ideas for the projects like developers do and then designing them like architects do," says Joan Grierson, the editor of *For the Record*. "It was very novel. I don't know of anyone else who was doing it."

When persuaded, eventually, to revisit parts of her past, Burt takes me to a Toronto quite different from today's multicultural metropolis – a much smaller city dominated by the Anglos, of course, but also one with pockets possessing some real, slightly haphazard charm.

There were few signs growing up that Burt would go into the profession – or that she'd always remain so self-sufficient. She had a middle-class upbringing in the Kingsway, the only child of a businessman and homemaker. She developed a passion for sailing at her all-girls summer camp, Glen Bernard – a pursuit, like architecture, attractive to those whose imaginations work in three dimensions.

Her parents assumed she'd go to university and take a general degree. But she bucked their expectations right from the start: to her father's considerable dismay she switched academic streams at U of T from sciences to architecture. "He understood the sciences, could have seen me taking a job in medical research even," she says. "But architecture? No. He didn't speak to me for a long time. And he never really came around."

Although many of her professors were proponents of spare, less-is-more modernism, two among them turned Burt on to old buildings. New Zealand ex-pat Eric Arthur, who'd go on to write the quintessential book about Toronto's architectural heritage, *Toronto: No Mean City* (1963), had his pupils doing measured drawings of historically important, local structures to learn how they were put together. "He was fond of Georgian architecture of English origin. They're lovely drawings, still in the archives, I believe." And Cambridge-educated Tony Adamson taught architectural history. "He showed us slides that he'd taken of great buildings, and his information was first-hand, not out of a book."

Her male classmates tended to treat her with chummy familiarity. "When they went to the burlesque on Queen Street, I was invited." Did she attend? "Oh, of course. Sure." Big laugh, rakishly cocked eyebrow.

A trip to Europe in the late 1950s rounded out Burt's edu-

cation. "Yugoslavia was still recovering from the war," she recalls. "It was so expensive just to live there. Housing and work were in short supply. The students were so political, in a way we weren't in Canada. It was a real eye-opener." She declines to label herself a socialist, but her trip helped push her toward her eventual prime focus, creating homes for those of modest, not lavish, means. "I enjoy the challenge a small budget presents." A jaunt to Scandinavia taught her to place a high premium on good design. "They didn't have many things but they might think nothing about spending a month's salary on a bowl that you use in the kitchen."

Burt, who never married, found companions who shared her interests in social justice and aesthetics in the bohemian Gerrard Street Village (between University and Yonge) where she moved toward the end of her schooling. Demolished to make way for a nurses' residence and hotel, the basic workers' row houses there were stuccoed, with fronts bellying right up to the sidewalk. "They were very colourful, in blues and yellows and pinks, wild colours," she fondly recalls. "They had just a door and one window in front and were very charming."


On the street behind the house Burt was renting, Av Isaac set up his trend-setting gallery – which later relocated to Yorkville. Next door lived painter Albert Franck ("a quiet and humorous man"), whose canvases often featured Toronto street scenes. Down the street was Millie Ryerson, the dancer and staunch pacifist. Burt had found her people, and this vibrant, artsy district would become her template for a successful urban neighbourhood.

But securing a place in the architecture profession would prove more of a challenge. As part of the post-academic training needed to register as an architect, Burt did a two-year placement at Mathers & Haldenby. (In 1951, the firm completed the art deco Bank of Nova Scotia building at King and Bay, and would later produce Robarts Library.) "Since I was a lady, I did everyone's kitchens," she recalls, without animus. "It was a good office."

She then persuaded the developer Irving Grossman to let her come in and organize his portfolio, even though he said he had no work. When commissions did begin to come in, Burt was of course on the spot, ready to help out. She also assisted developer Irwin Burns on detailing The Colonnade (at Bloor and Avenue), an unusually playful modernist building. "I could never make up my mind on the bathrooms," she remembers.

However, after registering as an architect in 1958, she had no job awaiting her nor the prospect of obtaining one. She fished for a curatorial position at the Art Gallery of Ontario, but her interviewer encouraged her to try to make her way in the practice. "He said, 'Listen, you get in there and swim.'"

Easier said than done. She had no familial contacts – even if her father had endorsed her career choice. So she opted for an odd specialty – repurposing old buildings to save them from a terminal decline. This bucked against the demolish-first, design-second approach taken by most of her contempo-



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aries. It was a risky business, but she went about it cannily.

First, Burt identified a row of houses in decline, if not yet falling down. Then she'd find a developer willing to fund a radical renovation of the entire row, owners willing to sell, and buyers prepared to purchase, and often live in, the finished properties. Where most architects deal with a single client, she always had to deal with many, herding them toward a destination like the proverbial cats.

Her first such row was on Belmont Street, then a forlorn lane, halfway between Yorkville and Rosedale. She brought her former employer, the developer Burns, onside. "I'd tried to convince him to invest in another house in Yorkville years earlier, and he said, 'What are you going to do with that old building?'" Of course, Yorkville real estate shot up in value after he passed on her recommendation, so this time he got on board. The houses, originally built in the late 19<sup>th</sup> century for labourers in a nearby brickworks, had become shabby, structurally and aesthetically suspect.

Shirley Uyesugi, who worked at an ad agency across the street and later became a client of Burt's, recalls, "I'd sometimes seen one house renovated, but never a whole street." Nice ironwork gates were added up front to unify the complex, and all the brick houses were painted the same beige ("I wouldn't necessarily do that today"); the insides were gutted, sensitively modernized.

The project, completed in 1962, succeeded: a small, festering spot of urban blight was eliminated, and some rather handsome buildings on the verge of dereliction were saved. "At that stage of Toronto's development," Uyesugi asserts, "that row would almost certainly have been torn down. Now it's a highly desirable street. It started people thinking about moving downtown rather than out of the city." So impressed with Burt's work was Uyesugi that she later employed her to transform an Orangeville schoolhouse she and her husband bought into a home.

Next, in the late 1960s, came a row of Victorians on Alpha Avenue in Cabbagetown. The city was planning to extend Regent Park north and intended to demolish many old homes, including those on Alpha. This was to be the first of Burt's many fights with city hall. The bureaucrats made the mistake of issuing her a building permit before arranging for the demolition of the area. The city tried to revoke the permit, but Burt fought it. Through publicity and a series of angry meetings, she and her co-conspirators got the city to shelve the Regent Park expansion plan. "I don't know exactly what happened, but they closed their development office and backed off." A neighbourhood was saved.

Then came rows of houses on and around King Street East (most notably on Wilkins Avenue and Berkeley Street), on Clarence Square, on Norway Avenue and on Waverley Road – a list that includes many of the prettiest little byways in today's city. With respect to the Berkeley Street project, she again locked horns with the city who wanted to rezone the row from

mixed-use to residential. "Before, you could work, you could have a little factory, you could live," she says, with, even now, some of the fight coming back into her melodic voice. "It was very successful and pleasant. This everything-the-same-thing is boring." Again, she took a Jane Jacobs perspective – the mixed-use neighbourhood was working, why monkey with it?

In addition to deserving kudos for tenacity, Burt has demonstrated over time her ability to sniff out up-and-coming urban neighbourhoods – where good bargains are still to be had. Those houses she saved in Cabbagetown and sold for \$6,500 are probably worth 100 times as much now. "She has an intuitive sense of which areas in the city and areas in Southern Ontario will be developed next," says Mel Quirt, one of her former Ontario College of Art students and an interior designer with whom she often collaborates. "And she's always been right." In a sense, she discovered what ingredients make an urban neighbourhood work because she saw them in the place she spent her salad days, the now long-gone Gerrard Street Village. Today, for instance, she sees promise in the Junction, in parts of Weston and the area north of St. Clair and just east of Jane.

What does Burt think of post-millennial Toronto? She's sad, like most people, about the way we've developed our waterfront. "You used to come off the QEW, and see the lake and it was beautiful," she says simply. And the financial district turns her off. "Maybe it's my age, but I never want to go down there." Still, there's much to admire in our bigger, more diverse metropolis, and Burt is a resolutely forward-looking person.

A week after I brunched with her, I toured Marianne McKenna's important addition to the Royal Conservatory of Music on Bloor Street, which is set to open this fall. Burt, I reflected, is a transitional figure. She marks the halfway point between the "girl architect" Hill, who barely got her foot in the profession's door, and the current generation of female practitioners, some of whom, such as KPMB's McKenna, are joining the trade's mainstream and taking on important public projects. "What the women who went before me had to face," McKenna says with a grimace.

But Burt isn't one to complain. She's mastered all the details connected to her trade, from the ethereal, designing, to the solid, laying bricks. "A German bricklayer taught me. I could show you how if you have a moment. I'm not fast, but I know how to do it." A small laugh.

"It was sheer accident that I went the way I did. I picked a corner that nobody else was into: renovation. That wasn't the thing. Doing big projects was the thing." A little chuckle.

"I guess I stumbled into something," she concludes. Another laugh, a last one, a fitting way to end our brunch. Joan Burt insists on picking up the tab.

*Alec Scott is a 1994 graduate of the Faculty of Law and a relative of Elisabeth Whitworth Scott, the first woman to have designed a major public building in Britain.*



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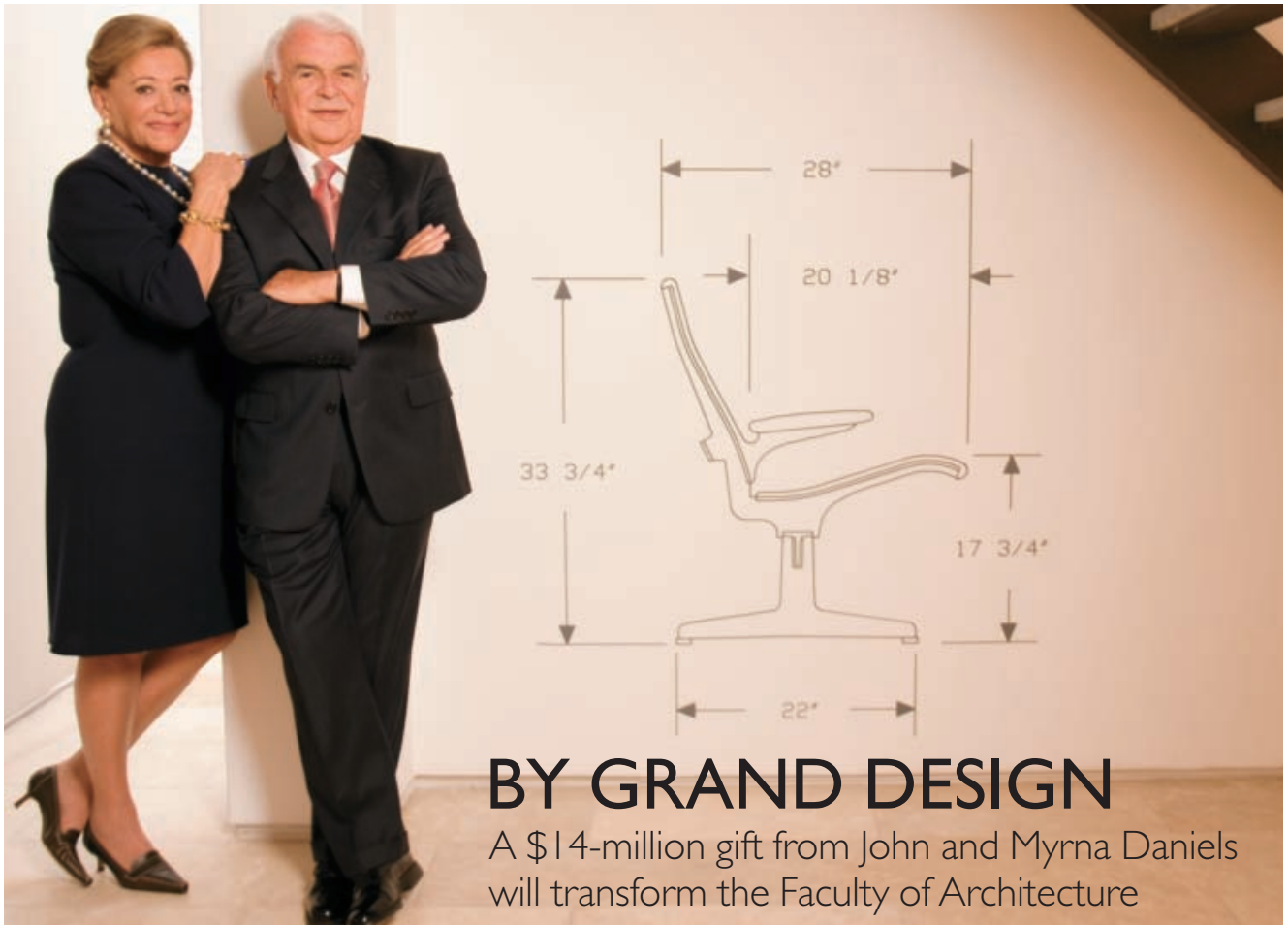
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## BY GRAND DESIGN

A \$14-million gift from John and Myrna Daniels will transform the Faculty of Architecture

A Toronto real estate developer who arrived in Canada as a youth with little more than raw talent and a determination to succeed has made an historic gift to U of T's Faculty of Architecture. John Daniels (BArch 1950), the founder and chairman of The Daniels Corporation, has donated \$14 million to the faculty, which will be renamed the John H. Daniels Faculty of Architecture, Landscape, and Design.

The longtime developer – whose credits include such Toronto landmarks as the Eaton Centre and TD Centre and the Mississauga community of Erin Mills – says his education at the faculty laid the foundation for a highly rewarding career, enabling him now to give

something back. “This school means a great deal to me,” says Daniels. “It’s the basis for my success.”

Like many immigrants, Daniels created his own opportunities. He arrived in Canada from Poland with his parents and two siblings when he was 12. The family didn't have a lot of money, but his father, a teacher, impressed upon his children the importance of education. (All three went to university.) Daniels, who had always shown an interest in drawing, sculpture and painting, attended Central Technical School in downtown Toronto, where he picked up drafting as a career backup plan. “In those days it was important to have a trade,” he says. Despite not speaking a word of English when he arrived in Canada, Daniels

became editor of the school magazine, *The Vulcan*, and class valedictorian.

An interest in designing buildings led him to enrol in architecture at U of T. It was 1945, and he and other students used to commute daily in a beat-up old Greyhound bus they dubbed the “Green Hornet” from downtown Toronto to Ajax, where they attended classes in a converted munitions factory. (The faculty moved back to the main U of T campus the following year.)

Daniels had always demonstrated artistic talent, but soon developed an entrepreneurial streak as well. In his fourth year at U of T, he and two classmates borrowed funds to buy a piece of land in North Toronto on Glengrove Avenue – at that time a dirt road. They

divided the land into six lots, and started a small construction company called Modern Age – reflecting their preference for modern split-level homes with flat roofs and radiant heating. Much of the bricklaying, carpentry and plastering they did themselves. As the homes took shape and were then sold, Daniels realized that it wasn't strictly designing homes that interested him, but rather building them. "It satisfied me tremendously – the ability to envision something and then actually create it," he says. "This is what I wanted to do."

After graduating in 1950, Daniels worked at an architecture firm for a year before venturing out on his own. Before long, however, his desire to build led him to co-found Cadillac Development Corporation. He served as the company's chairman and CEO, and later, as chairman of the Cadillac Fairview Development Corporation, worked on high-profile real estate developments in cities across North America. He has collaborated with a number of internationally renowned architects, including China's I.M. Pei and Canada's Arthur Erickson.

In 1983, he set up his own company, The Daniels Corporation, and, in a sense, returned to his roots – as an entrepreneur specializing in home construction. Although the company takes on a range of projects, Daniels says the construction of affordable housing has always been important to him – reflecting his own family's background as immigrants. His company is currently involved in the redevelopment of Regent

Park. "My experience has mostly been in building projects where we're looking after people with the lowest income levels. For many immigrants, it's difficult enough to get by, or buy a home, and almost impossible to send their children to university," he says.

This is why Daniels and his wife, Myrna, have provided \$5 million to support scholarships at the Faculty of Architecture. The John and Myrna Daniels Scholars will be awarded annually, with preference given to students who are the first in their family to attend university. "I hope I can help a lot of young people pursue the kind of dream that I was able to bring to life," says Daniels.

The rest of the gift – the largest ever to a Canadian architectural school – will support a planned \$21-million renovation and expansion of the five-storey building at the corner of College and Huron, which the school has occupied since the 1960s. George Baird, dean of the John H. Daniels Faculty of Architecture, says the donation will help the faculty solidify its position among the top architectural schools in North America. The John and Myrna Daniels Scholars will double the faculty's financial-aid capacity, boosting its ability to recruit the country's top students, and should reduce the number of students who have to take a job during the academic year. "We prefer them not to work so they can concentrate on their studies," says Baird.

The renovation to the century-old building will see the fifth floor expanded to accommodate seminar rooms, a conference centre and faculty offices, and perhaps a sixth floor added. A courtyard on the third and fourth floors will be filled in to create more studio space for students. A new elevator will also be installed and the entire building will be made more energy efficient. "The gift will really impact virtually every aspect of our operations here," says Baird. He anticipates work on the project to occur over the next three to five years.

Ron Daniels, a former U of T law dean (now the provost at University of Pennsylvania) and a nephew of John Daniels, praised his uncle's desire to create educational opportunities for first-generation Canadians and the positive social impact of the gift. "[In my uncle's story] you see in a very vivid way the transformative ability of higher education to catapult people forward."

– Scott Anderson

## A Nobel Gesture

Dr. Oliver Smithies, one of three scientists who won the 2007 Nobel Prize in Medicine, is giving a quarter of his award money to U of T to create a visiting lectureship. Three other universities are getting equal shares of the funds.

Smithies attended Oxford University in England, but landed his first job with Toronto's Connaught Laboratories, an affiliate of the University of Toronto, in 1953. Connaught produced insulin, and Smithies, who had trained as a chemist, recalls he was allowed to pursue research in any field of inquiry "as long as it had something to do with insulin." While working at Connaught, Smithies devised a process called starch gel electrophoresis, which acts as a "molecular sieve" and is now used in the form of polyacrylamide gel electrophoresis to separate DNA or protein molecules. The discovery provided a basis for Smithies' later Nobel-winning work in genetics, but it was a personal connection that cemented his ties to U of T. George Connell and Gordon Dixon, graduate students in biochemistry, worked with Smithies; Connell went on to become U of T's 12<sup>th</sup> president.

Smithies says the idea for the visiting lectureships was inspired by Linus Pauling, a two-time Nobel Prize winner, whom he had heard deliver a series of profoundly affecting lectures at Oxford in 1948. "It left me with a feeling I remembered for the rest of my life," he says. Smithies hopes his gift will leave today's students similarly inspired.

– Scott Anderson



The Daniels' gift will boost studio space for students



## U of T Launches School of Public Health

\$20-million gift from Paul Dalla Lana creates new medical hub

The University of Toronto will throw open the doors to a new School of Public Health this September, following a \$20-million gift from Paul Dalla Lana, the founder and chairman of NorthWest Healthcare Properties REIT.

The Dalla Lana School will be a hub for health researchers and educators dedicated to preventing disease and promoting public health. Research and instruction at the school – the largest of its kind in Canada – will focus on issues such as obesity, the West Nile virus and the performance of the health-care system, among other public health concerns.

The school's first director will be Canadian-born epidemiologist Dr. Jack Mandel, who currently serves at Emory University's Rollins School of Public Health as chair of the department of epidemiology. "I'm proud to help launch such a vital new Canadian institution that will tackle international challenges and opportunities in public health," Mandel said at an event in



April to announce the creation of the school. "U of T is uniquely positioned to be a leader in this field."

Although often associated with the prevention and control of infectious diseases, the field of public health covers a wide spectrum of common diseases and conditions – including Alzheimer's, cancer, diabetes and stroke. Mandel's research specializes in the connection between certain cancers and the environment, work and lifestyle. Clinical trials he conducted have demonstrated

the benefits of colorectal cancer screening in reducing the number of cases and deaths from the disease.

The school will work with the faculties of dentistry and nursing, the department of health policy management and evaluation and U of T's affiliated hospitals, as well as local, provincial and national governments and public health agencies. It will offer graduate programs in biostatistics, epidemiology, environmental and occupational health sciences, public health administration and global health.

Professor Catharine Whiteside, dean of the Faculty of Medicine, said the school will become an important centre for public health research in Canada and set a high standard for educational excellence. "The appointment of Jack Mandel as the Dalla Lana School's inaugural director builds on a rich tradition at U of T of attracting international leaders, creating new knowledge and providing a peerless educational experience for our students." – *Christa Poole*

## Raising the Bar

Law grad Cathy Spoel provides a boost for track and field

When Cathy Spoel recalls her best days as a U of T law student, she doesn't reminisce about Falconer Hall. She thinks of Varsity Arena and Back Campus field, where she often competed in intramural sports. "The law school women fielded a lot of teams," says Spoel (LLB 1981). "We had two ice hockey teams, field hockey, soccer, basketball, volleyball, squash, water polo. And I played on almost all of them!"

Since then, Spoel has given up team sports for the solitary but equally demanding triathlon. And she has turned her fond-

ness for U of T athletics into a \$250,000 gift to support coaching in the track and field program.

Spoel, a longtime fan of the U of T track program, has contributed much more than dollars to U of T athletics over the years, says track and field head coach Carl Georgevski. He describes Spoel as "an amazing resource" and communicates with her regularly about the future of the program, which includes both a varsity team and training for high school athletes. "I think there's a real lack of access to good sport activities for kids in downtown Toronto," says Spoel. "Anything

that can be done to bolster participation in a sport like track and field is terrific."

With track athletes now practising on the state-of-the-art John L. Davenport Track at Varsity Centre, the timing of Spoel's gift couldn't be better. "Now we have great facilities and stability for our coaching," says Georgevski, whose sights are set on sending athletes to the Olympics. His program already boasts five nationally carded athletes – rising stars who have gained significant government support to pursue their Olympic goals. "We're looking really good for 2012 and 2016." – *Althea Blackburn-Evans*



Filmmaker, award-winning video artist,  
international exhibitor and U of T alumna  
**AGE 24**

Photo: ISTOICA.com Original story: the Varsity Magazine, January 29, 2008, thevarsity.ca

*Alison S. M. Kobayashi*

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## MS CHATELAINE

New editor-in-chief Maryam Sanati brings an international perspective to the popular women's magazine



stories are the stories I want to tell in the magazine.”

Born in Iran, Sanati and her family fled in 1978 just prior to the Islamic Revolution, when she was nine. She remembers her early feelings of “otherness” in Canada and hopes to expand the magazine’s international perspective. “I think we have to connect to stories of other women in other places and explore that cultural understanding,” she says. “Some struggles are the same, and some are entirely different.”

Sanati took the helm just as *Chatelaine* launched a massive redesign for its 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary, reconfiguring everything from features to fonts. Sanati, who studied English at Victoria College, knew from a very early age that she wanted to pursue journalism. “My mother had plans for medical school, but my parents were extraordinarily supportive,” she laughs.

Shortly after graduating from U of T, Sanati took on an internship at *Toronto Life* magazine and worked her way up to an associate editorship. Five years later, she moved on to stints at the now-defunct *Shift* magazine and the *Globe and Mail* before landing at *Chatelaine* as deputy editor a year and a half ago.

The 38-year-old still has plenty of time to conquer the rest of the publishing world. But for now, she’s happy with the balance she’s striking – including a six-month maternity leave during which she’ll pen a column. “I’ve been telling all of my bosses that I’ll be here forever and ever,” she jokes. “It sounds cliché, but it’s one of the best jobs in journalism.”

– Sarah Treleaven

**W**e’ve only spoken once, but I would trust Maryam Sanati (BA 1993 Victoria) to babysit my kids, edit the first draft of my novel, keep a big-time secret and offer level-headed advice. She’s friendly, intelligent and confident – like a big sister – and that makes her perfect for her new role as editor-in-chief of *Chatelaine* magazine.

PHOTOGRAPHY: CNW GROUP

Sanati, who took over as editor in early March, will don the hat of the Canadian everywoman. She’s due to give birth to her first child in June and is trying to juggle a busy life – a balancing act mirrored by her diverse readership. “I have it pretty easy compared to many women in Canada who struggle with making choices where they have limited options,” she says. “Their



## Peace Offering

Losang Rabgey (BA 1993 UC, MA 1995) believes education does much more than create opportunities for children. As the executive director of Machik – an organization she co-founded with her sister, Tashi (BA 1992 UC), to create schools on the Tibetan Plateau – she believes education is the work of peace.

Rabgey, 39, was born in a refugee settlement in India after her parents had escaped Tibet in 1959 following the Chinese occupation. The family eventually settled in Lindsay, Ontario, and Tibetan culture was fostered at home with language, history and traditional music instruction. (Losang learned how to play the lute-like *dranyen*.)

In 1987, the family returned to visit relatives in Tibet. It was a turning point for Rabgey, as she witnessed the disparity in opportunities between the two countries. She went on to earn a BA in sociology and environmental studies and an MA in anthropology at U of T and a PhD from the University of London. Shortly after, she started Machik and established the Ruth Walter Chungba Primary School in Chungba, an

isolated Tibetan township in China's Sichuan province. She chose Chungba because her father grew up there. (Her mother is from a region close to Nepal.)

Also, she explains, "it was outside of the Tibet Autonomous Region and that is where it was acceptable for [members of a] diaspora to work."

Through Machik, Rabgey and her sister – who is equally involved in the organization as strategic director – helped produce the first collection of Tibetan women's writing. They have also sponsored social entrepreneurial programs, including seminars for both Chinese and Tibetans on geo-tourism (which promotes a region's natural features) and established greenhouse projects to feed schoolchildren.

In 2006, Rabgey received the prestigious National Geographic Emerging Explorer Award given to professionals making a difference globally. Last year, she was honoured as a Young Asian Leader by the Asia Society. But it's not the awards that light up her face. It's connecting communities, preserving cultural heritage and building new bridges into a future only a few can see – which she believes will create a more peaceful society.

– Polly Nell Jones



Losang Rabgey

## Young Achievers

Alumnus **James Fraser** (BA 1996 VIC, MA 2000) has devoted his career to humanitarian and international development work. In 2004, Fraser and Dr. James Orbinski (MA 1998) founded Dignitas International, which develops community-based care and treatment pro-

grams for those living with HIV/AIDS in Africa. Fraser, the executive director of Dignitas and an associate researcher at University of Toronto's Centre for International Health, was recently named to the Caldwell Partners' Top 40 Under 40 list in recognition of his work.

Six other U of T community members also made the list, which is managed by Caldwell, an executive search firm, and published in the *Globe and Mail* each spring. Alumni honourees include **Atul Humar** (MSc 1999), director of the Transplant

**Continued on page 47**

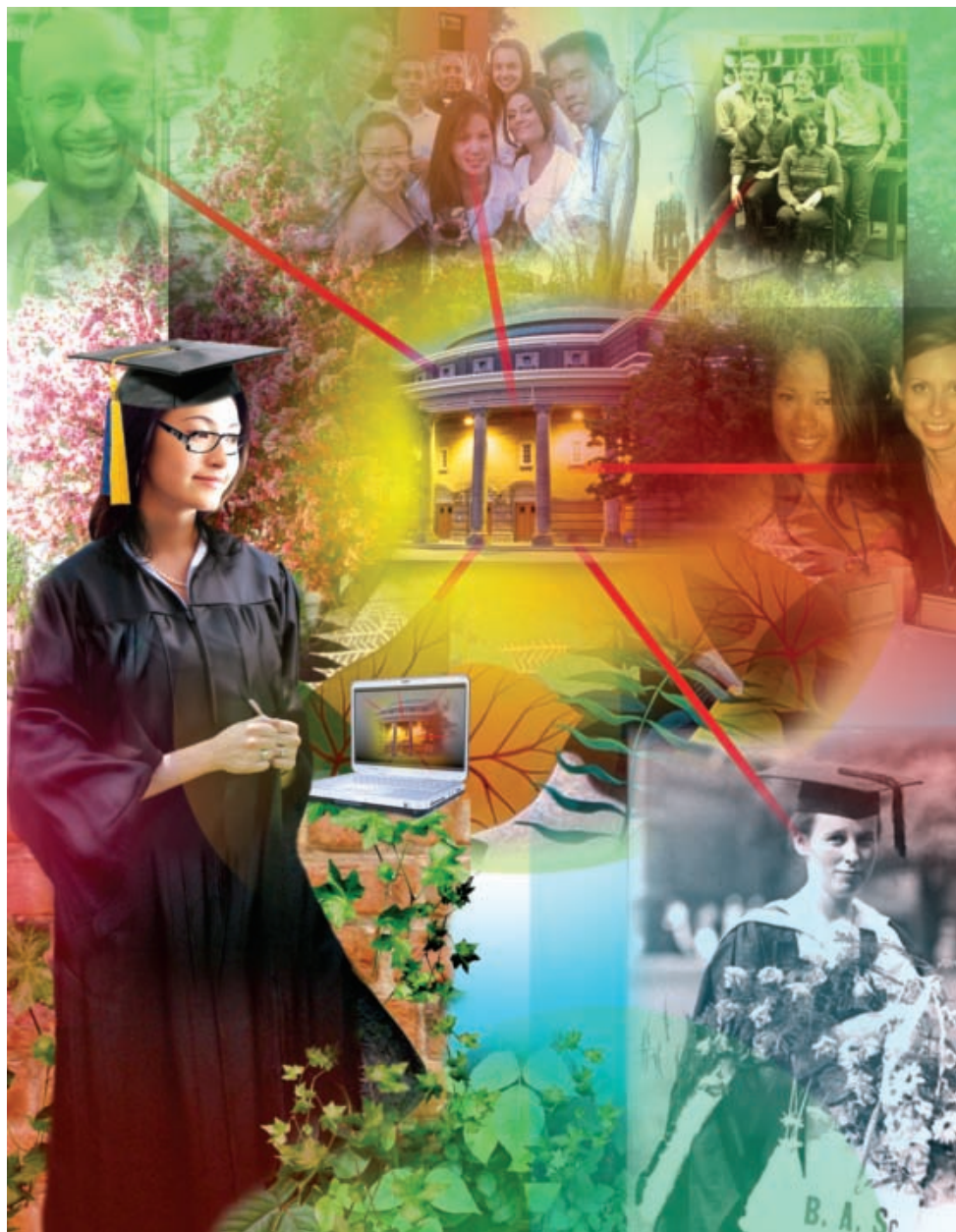
## New Look and New Features for Alumni Website

The University of Toronto is looking to stake a larger claim in the digital lives of its graduates with a revamped alumni web space that embraces online social networking.

The overhauled site, at [www.alumni.utoronto.ca](http://www.alumni.utoronto.ca), provides a venue for alumni to connect with former classmates and to tailor the information they receive from the university. “This is about much more than creating a website with some bells and whistles,” says Brendan Dellandrea, manager of the Alumni and Friends web space. “It’s about connecting people to the university and to each other – and customizing the experience for individual alumni.”

The site will bring together all of U of T’s alumni services and benefits in one place, and serve as an information hub for the university’s colleges and faculties. Alumni who graduated from Victoria University and then took an MBA at the Joseph L. Rotman School of Management, for example, would automatically receive notices about events such as the Victoria Book Sale and the Rotman Speaker Series when they log on.

The alumni web space also includes the new “Alumni Circle,” a section that resembles popular social networking sites, although U of T’s version is geared more toward professionals and career-building; no Scrabble or virtual gifts here. Privacy is also more rigorously protected. The Alumni Circle is open only to U of T alumni, and members can contact each other only through the system’s “notes” feature; no phone numbers or e-mail addresses are provided. Members have strict control over what information goes into their profile and who can access it.



As with other social networking sites, Alumni Circle allows users to create lists of friends and share photos. But the U of T version also enables users to write a blog or send updates – about a recent trip, the publication of a book,

the birth of a child – to a “Class Notes” section that can be searched by college, faculty and graduation year. On their profile page, in addition to their personal interests and educational and work background, alumni can add con-



tent from elsewhere on the web – their favourite news site, Google calendar or links to YouTube videos, for example.

Perhaps most importantly, says Dellandrea, social networking through U of T offers a new way for alumni to make professional contacts and gain valuable career help. He cites the example of a law grad moving from Toronto to Vancouver who wants to meet other U of T law grads living on the West Coast – or a grad working with an NGO in Africa who wants to hear from alumni who have had similar experiences. A possible boon to job-seekers and employers, the Alumni Circle will also allow users to create and search resumé. “It’s a much more interactive experience than has been previously available to U of T alumni,” he says.

Launched in a test version in May, the renovated Alumni and Friends web space will continue to grow and evolve, says Barbara Dick, executive director of alumni affairs. She expects to add syndicated blogs by alumni writers, more formal career services and resources, and podcasts of major lectures by U of T professors and visiting scholars. “Not everyone can make it down to campus to hear an interesting lecture, but almost anyone can listen to a podcast of it,” says Dick. “The Alumni and Friends web space will expand the number of ways alumni can continue their relationship with the university and their academic life.” – *Scott Anderson*

#### Continued from page 45

Infectious Diseases program and professor of medicine at the University of Alberta; **Brendan Caldwell** (BSc 1991 Trinity), president, CEO and portfolio manager of Caldwell Securities; and **Paul Salvini** (MASC 1998, PhD 2003, MBA 2004), an adjunct professor in U of T’s department of civil engineering, and chief technology officer and vice-president of Canadian operations at Side Effects Software Inc. Salvini manages the evo-

**A**T June convocation ceremonies, 16 special guests will be awarded honorary

degrees, including: **Dr. Sheela Basrur** (MD 1982, MHSc 1987), Ontario’s chief medical officer of health and assistant deputy minister of public health from 2004 to 2006, who helped shepherd Toronto through the SARS crisis; **Jon Dellandrea** (BA 1973, MED 1980 OISE, DEd 1987 OISE), U of T’s former vice-president and chief advancement officer, who oversaw the university’s successful \$1 billion fundraising campaign; **Michele Landsberg** (BA 1962 UC), an award-winning journalist who advocates for women’s

rights, human rights, education and the environment; and **Oliver Smithies**, a co-winner of the 2007 Nobel Prize in

Medicine or Physiology.

**Ayan Hersi** (BA 2007 Woodsworth) and **Rose Patten**, former chair of UofT’s Governing Council, have been named recipients of YWCA Toronto Women of Distinction Awards. Hersi is being honoured as this year’s young woman of distinction for her work in AIDS education, anti-violence advocacy and anti-racism at U of T and

abroad. She has spearheaded human rights training for women in Africa. Patten is BMO Financial’s senior executive vice-president, head of human resources and senior leadership adviser, and is being celebrated for her corporate leadership. Patten was the first woman to sit on BMO Financial’s executive committee, and is known for promoting policies that attract and retain women at senior levels in business and foster work-life balance. At U of T, her work has inspired a mentoring program in her name.

## Kudos



**Rose Patten (top) and Ayan Hersi**



**David Mock, dean of the Faculty of Dentistry (left), presents awards of distinction to Frank Stechey (centre) and Irwin Fefergrad of the Royal College of Dental Surgeons of Ontario in May**

lution and promotion of Houdini, a 3-D animation tool that has been used to create special effects in movies such as *Spider-Man 3*.

Other U of T members honoured include Professor **Peter Zandstra** of the Institute of Biomaterials and Biomedical Engineering. His work as Canada Research Chair in Stem Cell Bioengineering has led to advances in tissue and cellular engineering, gene therapy and organ transplantation. Professor **Mihnea Moldoveanu** is the director of the

Desautels Centre for Integrative Thinking at the Rotman School of Management. He is also the founder and chief technical officer of Redline Communications, a leading supplier of broadband wireless access products. **Reza Satchu** co-founded and runs New York-based capital management company Stellation Asset Management and teaches a popular entrepreneurial course in U of T’s economics department.

– *Jenny Lass*

PHOTOGRAPHY: CENTRE/RICHARD LAUTENSTON/TORONTO STAR, BOTTOM/ALEX HINWELL



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## ALUMNI EVENTS

June 24. **U of T Alumni Association Annual General Meeting.** Broadcaster, author and journalist Steve Paikin (BA 1981 VIC) will speak about his recent book *Public Triumph, Private Tragedy: The Double Life of John P. Roberts*. Great Hall, Hart House. 7 Hart House Circle. 5:30 p.m. Meeting will be followed by a barbecue in the Hart House Quad. Visit [www.alumni.utoronto.ca/events/campus.asp](http://www.alumni.utoronto.ca/events/campus.asp) or contact Kim Graham at [kim.graham@utoronto.ca](mailto:kim.graham@utoronto.ca) or (416) 978-4759. Registration required by June 16.

August. **Carillon Concert Series** at Soldiers' Tower. Wednesdays in August. For dates and times, contact (416) 978-0544 or [soldiers.tower@utoronto.ca](mailto:soldiers.tower@utoronto.ca).

## EXHIBITIONS

### U of T Art Centre

June 28. **Drive By: A Road Trip with Jeff Thomas.** First Nations artist Jeff Thomas explores the meaning of "Indianness" in contemporary urban Canada through his photographs.

July 22 to Aug. 15. **Kim Ondaatje: Paintings 1950-1975.** Ondaatje, who had committed herself to painting full time by the early 1960s, later became an award-winning printmaker. She has directed two art films and three documentaries, and published three books of photography.

Tuesday to Friday, 12-5 p.m.; Saturday 12-4 p.m. 15 King's College Circle. [www.utac.utoronto.ca](http://www.utac.utoronto.ca) or (416) 978-1838.

## SPORTS

July 8. **2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Kidd-Crothers Classic.** Cheer on the Varsity Blues track and field team as they take on elite runners and jumpers from Canada and around the world. 1-10 p.m. Varsity Centre, 299 Bloor Street W. For ticket information, visit [\[blues.ca\]\(http://blues.ca\) or contact Ivan Canete at \(416\) 946-0527 or \[ivan.canete@utoronto.ca\]\(mailto:ivan.canete@utoronto.ca\).](http://www.varsity-</a></p>
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## THEATRE

### Hart House Theatre

July 16 to Aug. 2. **As You Like It** by William Shakespeare, presented by Canopy Theatre Company and Hart House Theatre. Directed by Lada Darewych. Shakespeare's whimsical, pastoral comedy is staged at a unique outdoor theatrical venue. BYOB: Bring Your



MaPs project presents "Playing in the Streets – A Celebration of Theatre and Public Life: The Renaissance to the 21<sup>st</sup> Century" on June 13 and 14

Own Blanket. Tickets \$10 (\$8 for students/seniors). PWYC Wednesdays. Performances run Wednesday through Saturday, 8 p.m. Philosopher's Stage at Philosopher's Walk. 80 Queen's Park. For more info, [www.canopytheatre.ca](http://www.canopytheatre.ca). For tickets, (416) 978-8849 or [www.uofttix.ca](http://www.uofttix.ca).

## FESTIVAL

June 13 and 14. **Playing in the Streets – A Celebration of Theatre and Public Life: The Renaissance to the 21<sup>st</sup> Century.** This festival grows out of the Making Publics project (MaPs) on the development of public life in Renaissance Europe – especially research on how "common" people and marginal groups developed a collective identity and claimed a place in the public sphere by producing and enjoying works of art. The festival will invite the public to think about and play with ideas of theatrical performance, collective identity and "making publics" in the

Renaissance and in modern Canada. This festival is a collaboration between many partners, including Victoria University, various U of T groups, McGill University, Toronto organizations and more. Free and paid events. June 13: 3:30-11 p.m. at Bader Theatre and Emmanuel College Chapel. June 14: 12:30-11 p.m. at Victoria University Chapel and Hart House Theatre. For more info: <http://makingpublics.mcgill.ca/playingstreets.html>. Tickets available at [www.uofttix.ca](http://www.uofttix.ca).

## CAMPS

June to Aug. **SCI-Camp**, for students completing grades 1 to 6, brings science and engineering concepts to life with hands-on activities. Taught by undergraduate students. Weekly day camps from June 30 to August 22. Monday to Friday, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. 15 locations across the GTA, including all three U of T campuses. \$255 per week, \$950 for four weeks. (416) 978-3872 or [engineering@ecf.utoronto.ca](mailto:engineering@ecf.utoronto.ca). [www.engineering.utoronto.ca](http://www.engineering.utoronto.ca), click on SCI-Camp.

June to Aug. **Jr. DEEP**, for those completing grades 7 and 8, introduces students to more advanced science and engineering concepts through fun and interactive activities. Week-long courses from June 30 to August 22. Monday to Friday, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. 15 locations across the GTA, including all three U of T campuses. \$275 per week, \$975 for four weeks. (416) 978-3872 or [engineering@ecf.utoronto.ca](mailto:engineering@ecf.utoronto.ca). [www.engineering.utoronto.ca](http://www.engineering.utoronto.ca), click on SCI-Camp.

July to Aug. **DEEP Summer Academy** is designed for motivated high school students around the world. They will learn about innovative areas within science, engineering, technology and business. Residence option available. Week-long courses from July 7 to August 1. Monday to Friday, 9:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. St. George Campus. \$275 per week, \$975 for four weeks. (416) 978-3872 or [engineering@ecf.utoronto.ca](mailto:engineering@ecf.utoronto.ca). [www.engineering.utoronto.ca](http://www.engineering.utoronto.ca), click on DEEP.

## The Silver Streak



PHOTOGRAPHY: MICHAEL VISSER

During the Olympic Games, tales of determination are written by champion athletes. A medal displayed at the University of Toronto Athletic Centre is a reminder of one such occasion – when UofT rowers battled “Yale’s great crew” at the 1924 Paris Olympics.

Varsity football star Warren Snyder (MD 1927) and student Bob Hunter (BA 1928 VIC, MSc 1929) led the University of Toronto Rowing Club men’s eight. In the preliminary heats, the crew finished second to the heavily favoured Americans. However, they beat Argentina, Australia and Belgium in the second trials, giving them a shot at Olympic glory.

On Thursday, July 17, the gun fired to signal the start of the final race. Italian, English and American eights powered off the line, but the Canadians missed the sound and sat motionless for valuable moments. Stroking hard to catch up, UofT pulled even with Yale at 1,500 metres. The American crew crossed to victory in a record time of six minutes 33.4 seconds; the University of Toronto boat trailed by a mere two lengths and claimed silver.

UofT’s rowing club had formed in 1919 (at the time, the men’s eight had only one experienced oarsman) and had travelled far in five years. “Close second to Yale, with a half century of rowing behind it,” noted the *Toronto Globe*, “is an honour indeed.”



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